



CBCITY Libraries Staff Professional Development during Lockdown 2021

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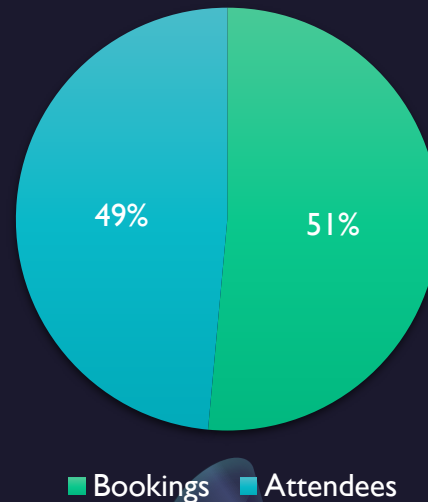


Stage 1-
Basic RA Training – Attendance = 51%

Stage 2-
Advance RA Training- Attendance = 49%



Percentage of attendees





Definition of Readers' Advisory



A reader-focused service in which knowledgeable, non-judgmental library staff help readers with their reading needs. Using knowledge of fiction and non-fiction material, of the library collection, and print and electronic reference tools, the readers' adviser helps the reader answer the question 'What do I read next?'

Who reads and why?



*“Women read more for comfort
and empathy;
men read more for doing,
or about doing.”*

Do you agree?

Questions to ask readers



Who is it for?

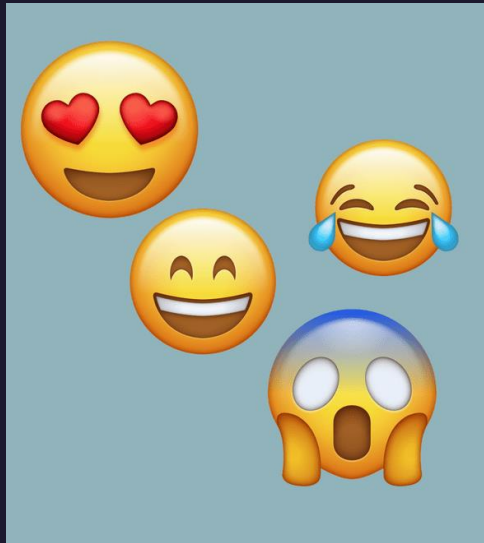
Establish early who the item is for. Is it for the reader to whom you are speaking, or is the reader asking on behalf of someone else? If the item is for someone else, how old is that person? What are their circumstances? What special requirements might they have?

Open questions

In conversations with readers, it is preferable to ask open-ended questions, that is, questions that can't be answered with a 'yes' or 'no', so that you get the reader to talk, to describe what he or she likes.

The notion of 'appeal characteristics',

Understanding what appeals to you personally will aid you in your search for your next great read. Such characteristics might include storyline, tone, pace, setting, characters and writing style.



Readers' advisory framework

Meet & greet

- Affirm you can help
- Put customer at ease
- Be aware of how much time is available (yours/customer's)

Customer request

- Establish the requirement (Open questions)
- Clarify the requirement (Closed questions)

Results

- Know your collection; work together; use reference tools; explain what you are doing
- Offer self-help resources to the customer (catalogue, guides, websites, databases)
- Suggest multiple titles, authors
- Follow-up, seek feedback

Keep up-to-date with resources and how to use them effectively.
Measure and improve performance.

Let's Explore together

[Whichbook.net - http://www.whichbook.net/](http://www.whichbook.net/)

[Literature Map: http://www.literature-map.com/](http://www.literature-map.com/)



STAGE 2

Advance

READERS' ADVISORY
TRAINING



RA Advance Training – Stage 2 started with some refreshers :

READERS' ADVISORY IS ABOUT

- Finding the right book for the right person at the right time
- Helping readers find the best, most enjoyable reading that matches their needs, interests and reading level
- Connecting readers and authors/writers

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Activity 1

Pre Training

Participants were asked to explore 5 resources

Find 5 titles in [Indyread](#)

Find 5 titles in [Libby](#)

Find 5 titles in [Amazon](#)

Find 5 titles in [Borrow Box](#)

Find 5 titles in [Bookbrowse](#) URL:

[Read-Alikes](#) : Books similar to recommended books, and authors with similar writing styles.
[\(bookbrowse.com\)](#)

They were required to find 5 titles in each resource.

Then they will fill the information in the provided 5 lists

For example:



LIST 1 - INDYREAD

LIST 2 - Amazon

TITLE	Heard of/Know about	Read/Skimmed	Unfamiliar
EMMA BY Jane Austen	yes know about from my school times	Read	N/A
To Kill a Mockingbird	Yes heard on radio first	Read it	N/A
About a boy	Not heard	Skimmed	Yes
A game of thornes	Yes heard a lot about it	N/A	Yes
Coma	Know about	Read	N/A

TITLE	Heard of/Know about	Read/Skimmed	Unfamiliar
The turn of the key	n/a	Read	n/a
Sister's keeper by Judy Piccon	no	skimmed	yes
Kiss the girls by Jhon Grrsham	yes	Skimmed	no
Can't hurt me by David Goggins	no	skimmed	yes
Da Vinci Code by Dan Brown	Yes	Read	no

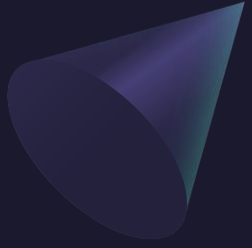
- Using the five lists, answer the following questions: **(USE CHAT BOX)**

- a. how many have you heard of or know something about?

- b. How many have you skimmed or read?

- c. How many are unfamiliar to you?





Locate **a TITLE** that appears on at least 3 of the 5 lists:



Can you identify the genre?



**What are likely appeal factors
(why readers would enjoy it)?**

Can you give at least 2 read-alike authors or books for that title?

Activity 2:

Analyze your Reading List

a. What genres do you tend to read?

b. Of the books you've read, what did you love the most? What genre(s) are those titles in?

Activity 3:
EXERCISE

Use your library catalogue and eresources

**HOW WOULD YOU HELP A CUSTOMER
WITH FINDING AN ITEM TO TAKE HOME?**

Pick genre Romance in Libby





- Search **Indyread** for patron who wants a story driven novel to read.

Use
GoodRead -
Find a
historical
fiction

– what appeal
factors, you
find in that
novel from 4
doorways

RA for Gamer patrons

What are the ways to dialogue with your gamer patrons and help them know where to start in your collection.

Players who enjoy first-person shooter (FPS) games like "Fortnite" and "Overwatch" like to be in the middle of the action and allow their innate survival skills to shine.

Try our genres like **adventure stories, survival stories, spy stories, or thrillers and suspense.**

Role- playing games (RPGs)

The driving force of role- playing games (RPGs) like "Legend of Zelda" and "Dragon Quest" are their rich fantasy worlds and complicated plots. These readers enjoy stories that take them on a fantastical journey with a chosen hero.

Try recommending **fantasy fiction** with appeals like **world-building, descriptive, or lush**.

More Gamers ideas

Players who like collection games like "Pokémon" and "Animal Crossing" may gravitate toward **quirky** and **sweeping stories** with a **large cast of characters**.

- Got a "Minecraft" or "Frostpunk" player? Games like these allow players to be architects of their own world.
- Gamers that get lost in story games like "Undertale" and "Professor Layton" like to follow the clues. Give them **mysteries** with themes like **solve the puzzle** or **locked room mysteries**.
- Retro gamers enjoy the nostalgia of the franchises of the past and those classic pixel styles.

Useful Resources:

Goodreads

Great genre lists, suggestions based on previous reading, etc.

Readers Advisor On-line

Has a great author read-alikes feature

Thank You!

