



Collaboration between a public library and pedagogues regarding children and teens with print disabilities

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Agenda

- Introduction
- Dyslexia Centre
- Collaboration between the public library and Dyslexia Centre
- Information campaign to improve usage of talking books
- Training course – Personal Download Service
- Results achieved

Introduction

- Personal experience – children with dyslexia
- Searched information about dyslexia
- High school librarian
- Librarian for both children and adults with print disabilities, at the public library in Linköping 2006

Librarian for children and adults with print disabilities

Mission:

- Develop library services to persons with disabilities
- Make the services easy to use for both children and adults
- Inform the community (e.g. schools) about the library accessible services for persons with disabilities

Librarian for children and adults with print disabilities

(Mission continued):

- Cooperate with persons and organisations in the community :
 - Preschools and schools
 - speech therapists
- Cooperate with Dyslexia Centre (Språkpedagogiskt centrum)

Purpose: to reach more and new users of the library services to persons with print disabilities

The public library in Linköping



Dyslexia centre

- A unique special education resource, consisting of 4 pedagogues and a psychologist
- Placed at the public library in Linköping
- The goal is that everyone working in schools should know about dyslexia/print disabilities and its consequences

Dyslexia centre

- Supervise and provide training of school staff
- Inform and advice students and parents
- Provide information about and try out compensatory equipment and software to students

Dyslexia centre



The “Apple shelf” in Linköping



Children exploring the Apple shelf



Cooperation between the Library and Dyslexia Centre

My cooperation with Dyslexia Centre:

- Selection of talking books
- Information to school staff on talking books and assistive technology
- Demonstration of the use of the online TPB-catalogue (Swedish Library of Talking Books and Braille catalogue)

Cooperation between the Library and Dyslexia Centre

- A lot of time is used to inspire the teachers to use talking books, pointing out the advantages and the benefits for students using talking books:
 - Enlarged and improved vocabulary
 - Increased reading comprehension
 - Involvement in the literary studies in class
 - Experience the magic world of books

Information campaign to improve usage of talking books

- My wish was that all children and teens should know about talking books - How can I reach them?
 - Through their special teachers!
- My wish was also to make teachers more familiar with talking books – How to reach them?
 - Through the Dyslexia Centre channels!
- All special teachers were invited to the library, together with their students with reading disabilities, to Special Book Presentations – DAISY Talking books



Results of the Special Book Presentations:

- The number of loans of talking books for children increased with 30%
- The general interest in Special Book Presentations among special teachers increased
- The teachers became familiar with the library and started to cooperate with the library
- The media, DAISY Talking books, became better known, both by teachers and children!!!

Training course – Personal Download Service

When TPB launched the new Personal Download Service, I was overwhelmed

- I wish that all children with reading disabilities should have access to the new service
- I wish that all staff in schools should be aware of Personal Download Service



Information to school staff of the Personal Download Service

Information campaign involving the Dyslexia Centre aimed at:

- School Psychologists
- Speech therapists
- Special Teachers
- Other pedagogues
- School librarians



Training course

Through collaboration with Dyslexia Centre and the School library manager, the library arranged a training course for school staff:

- The library offered 10 training sessions
- All elementary school principals received an invitation
- Around 150 teachers signed up for the training course!



Training course

The training course contained both theory and practical exercises:

- Talking books and the Swedish Copyright Law § 17
- The new Personal Download Service
- How to download talking books
- How to read talking books:
 - Amis, the free computer reading program
 - mp3 players



Results achieved

- The public library of Linköping has become known as a strong resource for:

- School staff
- Parents
- Children and teens with print disabilities

regarding both **material** and **knowledge** how to support students with print disabilities, and also to **inspire the use of talking books**

Results achieved

- Every week new users contact the library to get the Personal Download service
- The cooperation between the library and Dyslexia Centre has improved
- Next year the library will offer new training sessions and Special Book presentations
- Planning for a new information campaign in connection to the launch of TPB's new catalogue Legimus

Results achieved - Happy children...



Thank you for listening

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