



Reporting on the Story-Go-Round: West Midlands Project



Out in the clearing, twigs snapped..snapped...snapped!.
Telling the multi-sensory story "Snapped" in Sandwell.

334 children with special educational needs took part in...
...**52 storytelling sessions** demonstrating best practice...
...hosted at **15 library venues** in communities throughout the West Midlands...
...with **107 library staff trained** in multi-sensory storytelling.

We would like to thank those attending events for their photographs, used in this Report.

Background

Bag Books exists to help enrich the lives and support the learning of children, teenagers and adults with profound intellectual and physical difficulties.

To achieve this, we provide specialist educational resources (called multi-sensory story-packs) and offer training to carers and educators of those living with severe learning disabilities (SLD – a developmental age of up to six years in adults) or profound and multiple learning disabilities (PMLD – developmentally aged below 18 months). We also provide storytelling sessions for children, young people and occasionally adults.

We see a world where everyone – irrespective of their differing abilities – can enjoy the learning, communication and simple fun of a story.

This document measures our work against the set Goals, Aims and Objectives and notes both successes and challenges; finally, conclusions are drawn.

Story-Go-Round: West Midlands Project Goal & Scope

The Story-Go-Round (SGR): West Midlands Project had the goal of **enriching the creative environment for children with profound intellectual and physical difficulties in the West Midlands of England; providing a legacy of skills within the community**, which would offer a way for local communities to support the aesthetic development of these youngsters.

According to our original plan, the focus of delivery was 17 administrative authorities in the West Midlands.



Project Aims

The SGR: West Midlands Project aimed to

1. **exemplify** multi-sensory storytelling, showing how it can provide a session of fun and learning for children with special needs in their local community libraries; and
2. **enable** local library staff to continue providing regular multi-sensory storytelling to these local children and their families, by training them to use story-packs.

We also planned to provide the multi-sensory resources necessary to help the participants continue to offer multi-sensory storytelling within their own communities.

Project Objectives

The Story-Go-Round: West Midlands Project's objectives are structured to meet its aims.

1. To **exemplify** multi-sensory storytelling, showing how it can provide a session of fun and learning for children with special needs in their local community libraries by
 - a) *recruiting a professional Trainer-Storyteller, and background checking him/her*, in line with Bag Books' Child Protection procedures;
 - b) *training the Trainer-Storyteller* in how to deliver multi-sensory stories, how to handle children with additional needs safely, and how to give the children the most stimulating and rewarding experience possible;
 - c) *providing ongoing support and monitoring to the Trainer-Storyteller*, during the Tour, including site visits, telephone support and monthly performance reviews;
 - d) *producing a leaflet for libraries*, outlining the people and processes involved;
 - e) *contacting Central Library Services* in the target local authority areas, offering the service to them centrally before approaching individual libraries;
 - f) *contacting libraries* in the target local authority areas, offering the Tour to come to their library, without charge;
 - g) *contacting local special schools*, ensuring their involvement in the Project;
 - h) *gathering and collating feedback* from the Trainer-Storyteller and participants;
 - i) *working closely with all stakeholders*, to ensure that the greatest possible number of beneficiaries are reached; and
 - j) *demonstrating accessible storytelling* to those parents, carers, special school staff and librarians attending the storytelling sessions with the children.
2. To **enable** local library staff to continue providing regular multi-sensory storytelling to these local children and their families, by training them to use story-packs by
 - a) *providing training for librarians*, in conjunction with the demonstrations, in how to safely, effectively and confidently tell multi-sensory stories;

- b) *offering follow-up training to other interested parties; and*
- c) *producing a take-home leaflet for children's families, outlining how multi-sensory storytelling works in the context of local libraries.*



*"In the rock pool was a HUGE crab with clicking claws.
Telling the multi-sensory story "Sea Rescue" in Walsall.*

Achievement - General

We aimed to involve libraries and schools in Cheshire, Derbyshire, Derby, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, Telford, Shropshire, Wolverhampton, Walsall, Sandwell, Dudley, Birmingham, Solihull, Coventry, Warwickshire, Worcestershire and Herefordshire.

As the planning progresses we usually come across a few places where we can't use a library as a venue so we use a school instead. This usually means we are unable to do a training session for librarians on those days but we try to make best use of the time by doing additional storytelling sessions at the school. On this tour we made the following alterations to the initial plan:

Stoke-on-Trent. We were unable to match the library with a school so we went to a school instead.

Telford. The library service was being restructured at the time of our tour and they decided not to take part. We were unable to make alternative arrangements and lost a day of the tour.

Wolverhampton. The library service was too busy and had the added problems of staff shortages, budget cuts, redundancies and library closures. They would like to be involved in future work. We went to a school instead.

Solihull. The Library was designated a swine flu anti viral collection point and was therefore closed for other use. In addition, our librarian contact was called for jury service and was not available. We went to a school instead.

Herefordshire. They could not find a suitable library in terms of available space. We went to a school instead.

The Tour began at Congleton Library, Cheshire on 28th September 2009 and concluded on the afternoon of 20th October 2009 at the Kidderminster Library, Worcestershire.

In the feedback from schools, 100% of the respondents said the children had enjoyed the sessions and 100% said they had benefited from them.

Of the trainees, 92% thought that the training session was of “good” or “great” value to them and 76% thought that Bag Books could be of “good” or “great” relevance and use to their work.

As well as the many positive comments in the feedback, we also received two unprompted responses as follows:

Paul Buckroyd and Mel Delamare, PMLD Teachers at Mary Elliott School, Walsall wrote *“It was a great pleasure to meet [the Bag Books storyteller] yesterday and for our students to be enthralled by you bringing to life the various stories. Some of our students showed a level of participation we hadn’t seen before.”*

Sue Griffiths, a teacher from Exhall Grange School, Warwickshire wrote *“Hello, we have just returned from our story telling session at Bedworth Library. I would like to say on behalf of the pupils and staff a huge thank you for a fantastic time. The children were enthralled, amazed and delighted, their attention was held for every second of the story telling. It was lovely to see the children so engaged and at ease with the story teller, the level and pace of the production was pitched exactly within the children’s abilities and communication skills.”*

Performance against Aims

Aim 1 – To **exemplify** multi-sensory storytelling, showing how it can provide a session of fun and learning for children with special needs in their local community libraries.

1.a) *recruiting a professional Trainer-Storyteller, and background checking him/her, in line with Bag Books' Child Protection procedures*

As with many of the previous tours, Barnard Tagliavini was our sole Trainer-Storyteller for the West Midlands Tour. In addition to Bag Books' work, Bernard works on the Persula Foundation's storytelling tours. All appropriate background checks were already in place for Bernard, as he was a seasoned storyteller, well-used to working with vulnerable audiences of many different types.

1.b) *training the Trainer-Storyteller in how to deliver multi-sensory stories, how to handle children with additional needs safely, and how to give the children the most stimulating and rewarding experience possible*

Bernard was experienced at conducting storytelling sessions and Multi-Sensory Storytelling Technique (MSST) training workshops.

1.c) *providing ongoing support and monitoring to the Trainer-Storyteller, during the Tour, including site visits, telephone support and monthly performance reviews*

Telephone contact was maintained with Bernard, with verbal reports adding to the reports provided on every session undertaken. As part of our regular feedback process, we requested that participants express their views of the sessions directly to Bag Books (i.e. not via the Trainer-Storyteller). No negative reports were received in relation to Bernard.

1.d) *producing a leaflet for libraries, outlining the people and processes involved*

As an original project aim, the idea of a specific leaflet for this purpose was set aside several Tours ago. We have worked instead on the basis of individually tailored letters, which have been very successful at informing and engaging library staff.

1.e) *contacting Central Library Services in the target local authority areas, offering the service to them centrally before approaching individual libraries*

Initial contact was made by an e-mail sent to the senior library service officers in each local authority area, indicating that the Story-Go-Round Tour would be visiting their area and that we were seeking library branches to host storytelling events. We explained that our aim was to train library staff, leaving them confident to work with special needs youngsters; we would arrange everything with the schools (unless they had a pre-existing relationship); we would not charge!

1.f) *contacting libraries* in the target Local authority areas, offering the Tour to come to their library, without charge

Much of the initial planning work for the tour was done by our volunteer, Susie Riches, who used resources such as the Special Education Director, the Libraries and Information Services directory and Google (especially the Google Maps service) to identify, match and approach appropriate library branches.

Susie telephoned each to ascertain their level of interest and followed up with an informal e-mail. We are very grateful to Susie for her valued assistance.

Susie left and handed over to our experienced Storytelling-Training Co-ordinator, Kate Blake, who was rejoining us after an extended absence. Kate finalised that plans for the Tour and sent out formal letters and information setting out full details.

Before the inception of the Story-Go-Round Project, libraries would often be keen for Bag Books to hold a “day of storytelling” for local youngsters, but they would simply leave us to get on with it! It remained a core principle of the Project that we would only offer the storytelling sessions if the library agreed to accept training. We did not demand that libraries commit to continue multi-sensory storytelling, although we made it clear that this was our ultimate goal.

1.g) *contacting local special schools*, ensuring their involvement in the Project

Susie’s and Kate’s research identified suitable schools and they contacted them by email, telephone and letter.

1.h) *gathering and collating feedback* from the Trainer-Storyteller and participants

The Storyteller-Trainer completed a report for each session, outlining the number of children and adults attending, and additional information (appended to this Report). All host libraries and participant schools services were sent monitoring forms.

8 of 15 libraries and 14 of 27 schools replied. This was roughly the same proportion as previous regions.

All attendees at training sessions were asked to complete a feedback form with standard questions. These responses are also appended to this Report.

1.i) *working closely with all stakeholders*, to ensure that the greatest possible number of beneficiaries are reached

During the Tour, 334 children enjoyed stories such as “The Uninvited Guests”, “Kofi and the Magic Shaker” and (of course a big favourite) “C.J. the Library Cat”.

Those benefiting from the training and the children who take part “on the day” certainly are beneficiaries; but key to the overall goal is that many more children’s lives will be enriched in the coming months and years by gaining more access to multi-sensory stories.

1.j) *demonstrating accessible storytelling* to those parents, carers, special school staff and librarians attending the storytelling sessions with the children

We held 52 storytelling demonstration sessions at 15 host libraries (and 4 schools when libraries were not available/suitable. 129 members of library staff, 72 teachers, 115 support assistants and 10 others observed the storytelling sessions.

Aim 2 – To **enable** local library staff to continue providing regular multi-sensory storytelling to these local children and their families, by training them to use story-packs

During 12 training workshops, 107 library staff and 16 others were trained in the use of multi-sensory story-packs.

The training package included an overview of the academic research on which the Multi-Sensory Storytelling Technique is based; working with children and young people with special needs; practical hints and tips for setting up storytelling sessions; and examples of how and why the story-packs have the beneficial effect they do. There was, as part of each workshop, hands-on practice in using multi-sensory story-packs with colleagues.

Appendices

- I Tour Summary – Storytelling and Training
- II Trainer-Storytellers' Session Reports
- III Libraries' Feedback
- IV Schools' Feedback
- V Central Library Authority Feedback
- VI Training Session Participants' Feedback



Bernard the storyteller in action

Appendix I – Tour Summary – Storytelling

Date	School	Venue	No. of Sessions	No. of Children
28/09/2009	Park Lane Special School, Macclesfield, Cheshire	Congleton Library, Cheshire	1	6
28/09/2009	Lambs House School, Congleton, Cheshire	Congleton Library, Cheshire	1	5
29/09/2009	Alfreton Park Community Special School, Alfreton, Derbyshire	Alfreton Library, Derbyshire	2	7
29/09/2009	Ashgate Croft Special School, Chesterfield, Derbyshire	Chesterfield Library, Derbyshire	1	10
30/09/2009	Ivy House, Mickleover, Derbyshire	Mickleover Library, Derbyshire	2	16
30/09/2009	St. Giles Special School, Derby, Derbyshire	Mickleover Library, Derbyshire	1	10
01/10/2009	Kemball Special School, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire	Kemball Special School, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire	6	34
02/10/2009	Fountains Primary School, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire	Burton-on-Trent Central Library, Staffordshire	2	16
02/10/2009	Rocklands School, Lichfield, Staffordshire	Burton-on-Trent Central Library, Staffordshire	1	7
05/10/2009	Severndale Specialist School, Shrewsbury, Shropshire	Library at the Lantern, Shrewsbury, Shropshire	3	16
06/10/2009	Tettenhall Wood School, Wolverhampton	Tettenhall Wood School, Wolverhampton	6	36
07/10/2009	Oakwood School, Walsall	Beechdale Library, Walsall	1	6
07/10/2009	Mary Elliott School, Walsall	Beechdale Library, Walsall	2	8
08/10/2009	Orchard School, Sandwell	Sandwell Library	2	14
12/10/2009	Reynalds Cross School, Solihull	Reynalds Cross School, Solihull	6	42
13/10/2009	Pens Meadow School, Dudley	Stourbridge Library, Dudley	2	12
13/10/2009	Old Park Special School, Dudley	Dudley Library	1	9
14/10/2009	Tiverton School, Coventry, Warwickshire	Coventry Library, Warwickshire	1	10
14/10/2009	Castle Wood School, Coventry, Warwickshire	Coventry Library, Warwickshire	1	4
15/10/2009	Oak Wood Secondary School, Nuneaton, Warwickshire	Bedworth Library, Warwickshire	1	5
15/10/2009	Exhall Grange School, Ash Green, Warwickshire	Bedworth Library, Warwickshire	1	9
15/10/2009	Ridgeway School, Warwick, Warwickshire	Warwick Library, Warwickshire	1	4
16/10/2009	Victoria School, Birmingham	Birmingham Central Library	1	10
16/10/2009	Calthorpe Special School, Birmingham	Birmingham Central Library	1	7
19/10/2009	Barrs Court School, Hereford, Herefordshire	Barrs Court School, Hereford, Herefordshire	3	18
20/10/2009	Chadsgrove School, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire	Kidderminster Library, Worcestershire	1	9
20/10/2009	Blakebrook Special School, Kidderminster, Worcestershire	Kidderminster Library, Worcestershire	1	4
	27 schools		52	334

Appendix I – Tour Summary – Training

Date	Venue	Library staff	Others
28/09/2009	Congleton Library, Cheshire	16	0
29/09/2009	Chesterfield Library, Derbyshire	9	0
30/09/2009	Mickleover Library, Derbyshire	10	4
02/10/2009	Burton-on-Trent Central Library, Staffordshire	1	3
05/10/2009	Library at the Lantern, Shrewsbury, Shropshire	6	0
07/10/2009	Beechdale Library, Walsall	11	4
08/10/2009	Sandwell Library	6	0
13/10/2009	Dudley Library	4	2
14/10/2009	Coventry Library, Warwickshire	13	2
15/10/2009	Warwick Library, Warwickshire	4	0
16/10/2009	Birmingham Central Library	14	1
20/10/2009	Kidderminster Library, Worcestershire	13	0
	12 training sessions	107	16



Hands-on training



Appendix II – Trainer-Storyteller’s Session Reports

Reports from Bernard Tagliavini.

28/09/2009	Park Lane Special School, Macclesfield, Cheshire	One child unable to stay seated for more than a few seconds at a time - highly over-active and mobile throughout the session. He was not really able to participate. The remaining group, despite classic inability to focus attention, were excellent to work with, and several times exhibited moments of joint attention.
28/09/2009	Lambs House School, Congleton, Cheshire	A lovely group of quite sociable autistic teenagers. They enjoyed the session so much, they pleaded for another story at the end, which I did. A good contrast from the earlier group in age and ability.
29/09/2009	Alfreton Park Community Special School, Alfreton, Derbyshire	Good attention span generally. Children unphased by librarian observers.
29/09/2009	Alfreton Park Community Special School, Alfreton, Derbyshire	No show by second group of 11-14 year olds.
29/09/2009	Ashgate Croft Special School, Chesterfield, Derbyshire	A delightful group. Very good for librarian to observe such mixed abilities and the different types of reactions.
30/09/2009	Ivy House, Mickleover, Derbyshire	A lively group - but well behaved. Good interaction.
30/09/2009	Ivy House, Mickleover, Derbyshire	A very pleasant session. All well-attentive, apart from the autistic child, who occasionally interacted.
30/09/2009	St. Giles Special School, Derby, Derbyshire	Lively... But fun!
01/10/2009	Kemball Special School, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire	(6 sessions). A lovely day. Each group were mostly easily engaged. Only two pupils had to be taken out for being too disruptive. All staff and pupils were talking about "Bag Books" the whole day.
02/10/2009	Fountains Primary School, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire	No librarian sat in. This library did not seem to know why Bag Books were there, other than to provide storytelling for "invited children with SEN", and for teachers to attend the training! At lunchtime, I carefully explained the purpose of the tour to the librarian. She said she and another librarian could probably attend the training... and "Cascade it down"!
02/10/2009	Rocklands School, Lichfield, Staffordshire	Again, no librarian. 5 of the children sat well and mostly remained focused. 2 were highly disruptive, running constantly around the room and attempting to run off. It took 3 of the school staff to contain them, although there were brief moments I was able to engage them with the props. A tough session!
02/10/2009	Fountains Primary School, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire	A really delightful session. Although a couple looked sleepy and worn but (Already had come from swimming) they all joined in happily with the stories..... And with 2 librarians finally present to watch!
05/10/2009	Severndale Specialist School, Shrewsbury, Shropshire	Despite their obvious severe autism, the session went very well, with them maintaining generally good attention.
05/10/2009	Severndale Specialist School, Shrewsbury, Shropshire	Enthusiastic group. Photos taken by school to be sent on to Bag Books.
05/10/2009	Severndale Specialist School, Shrewsbury, Shropshire	Excellent session. Good interaction from all children.

06/10/2009	Tettenhall Wood School, Wolverhampton	(6 sessions)
07/10/2009	Oakwood School, Walsall	Initially difficult to engage but they all demonstrated "joint attention" and enjoyed the session. Chaotic in parts.
07/10/2009	Mary Elliott School, Walsall	An excellent contrasting group from the earlier group of autistic children. However, the librarians chose to sit outside the room and chat with cups of coffee!
07/10/2009	Mary Elliott School, Walsall	A very, very good session. Despite sitting to observe, after 4 or 5 minutes, the librarians turned away and began to chat once again. I was dumbfounded. In their favour, they did manage to get 15 people to the training session, even if only one other librarian had managed to observe the sessions with the children. Those that did observe were the teachers and assistants.
08/10/2009	Orchard School, Sandwell	Excellent interactions from children
08/10/2009	Orchard School, Sandwell	Again, a terrific response from all the children, on this occasion, having the librarian come into the school, worked really well.
12/10/2009	Reynalds Cross School, Solihull	(6 sessions) Excellent sessions throughout the day. Teachers very pleased with response from the children.
13/10/2009	Pens Meadow School, Dudley	No librarians. The library staff were very apologetic and helpful but knew nothing about my coming and did not sit in on the session, which went very well indeed - good attention span by the autistic group.
13/10/2009	Pens Meadow School, Dudley	Another excellent session with the children but again no librarians to observe due to a breakdown in communication between county and local library staff.
13/10/2009	Old Park Special School, Dudley	The library staff at today's second library did know I was coming but had almost no knowledge about the purpose of the SGR tour. The session went well with the children. After the training session a senior member of library staff came to see me to apologise about the poor response from today's two libraries. I explained very clearly and politely about the purpose of the SGR tour and said the day had been rather disappointing due to the very poor distribution of information to librarians. She said she too was very disappointed at the lost opportunity and would be taking the matter further.
14/10/2009	Tiverton School, Coventry, Warwickshire	A little noisy with various distractions with people coming and going but a good session.
14/10/2009	Castle Wood School, Coventry, Warwickshire	A very young group but it worked well. Deputy Head Teacher very impressed. Disappointing that so many of the librarians attending the training had not seen the sessions with the children.
15/10/2009	Oak Wood Secondary School, Nuneaton, Warwickshire	The autistic children were very disruptive during periods, though mainly through the first story. Half way through the session they settled but a hard group to work with. The three PMLD children would have benefitted more had the other two children been more settled or removed but nonetheless all the children were engaged at some level for most of the time.
15/10/2009	Exhall Grange School, Ash Green, Warwickshire	A really delightful group to work with but only because they were so easy to settle and quick to engage with. A good contrast for the librarians to observe the very contrasting groups this morning.
15/10/2009	Ridgeway School, Warwick, Warwickshire	This lovely group walked 40 minutes in the rain to get to this session! Three were in wheelchairs. They were delightful to work with. Cheerful and happy to engage in the stories. A dream of a session.

16/10/2009	Victoria School, Birmingham	This was too large a group but their attention was maintained throughout for most of the group. One or two PMLD children would have benefitted from being in a smaller group where I could have given them more time with the props. A good session. Dr Penny Lacey, Senior Lecturer in Education from the University of Birmingham filmed the session as part of an "Inclusive Library Project".
16/10/2009	Calthorpe Special School, Birmingham	Again, although this very autistic groups comes regularly to this library, this was slightly too large a group for such a potentially disruptive band of children but they lasted very well indeed for the whole session - which was commented upon by the teacher. A really excellent session for the librarians to observe. This library already has a lot of SEN contact in place and the staff are keen and enthusiastic to expand further work with special needs groups. Would highly recommend more support/visits if requested by them.
19/10/2009	Barrs Court School, Hereford, Herefordshire	(3 sessions) Small groups at each session allowed me to spend plenty of time where required with each child. Excellent sessions conducted in a carpeted studio space with changeable ambient lightening, with colours which were adjusted to fit the stories.
20/10/2009	Chadsgrove School, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire	A lovely group of tiny children which were fairly easily engaged with the stories.
20/10/2009	Blakebrook Special School, Kidderminster, Worcestershire	A really fun session, with the children appearing unperturbed by the large number of librarian observing

Appendix III – Libraries' Feedback

Date	Library	What was your experience of the SGR event? What was good? What was not good?	What has been your/colleagues' experience of children with SEN before today? Is library an appropriate place for them? Why?	What would increase the likelihood of your library offering multi-sensory storytelling for children with SEN?	Is there anything else you would like to tell us?
28/09/2009	Congleton Library, Cheshire	<p>- I felt really positive after the training.</p> <p>- One of the best training sessions I have been to for children with special educational needs – it was hands-on, informative, entertaining and truly enlightening and has given me the confidence to run similar sessions in the future with local groups.</p> <p>- Inspiring to watch the storytime – especially the reaction of the children taking part.</p>	<p>- The library is an appropriate place for all children. I have been up to Stubbin Wood twice - once to promote Quest Seekers and once, at their request, to promote the Autumn Book Challenge, but no take up on either. This could be a positive way forward.</p> <p>- Held sessions with a group of 3-16 year olds at local community centre with Arts funding to do drama and storytelling sessions.</p> <p>- Have good relationship with Fairplay and other local groups meeting at the Children's Centres but the problem has always been arranging transport to the library</p>	Provision of bag books and/or other multi-sensory equipment. Better Community transport arrangements	Angela Wilkinson (children's Librarian for West Derbyshire)& Rose Glenton (Sure Start Librarian for High Peak & Dales)have arranged through Fairplay for a group of 3-12 year olds with SEN to come to Buxton Library for a story session in November when we hope to incorporate some multi-sensory element to the stories.
30/09/2009	Mickleover Library, Derbyshire	It was very good. Some colleagues had difficulties having such a big gap between the observation and the training. I felt the training could have been a bit longer.	Yes. Accessible for all. A safe environment. Access to the internet. Staff support when needed. Space to sit. Activities storytime with rhymes and instruments	More training	

02/10/2009	Burton-on-Trent Central Library, Staffordshire	<p>Good to see the books and to see them in use by a professional storyteller. Good to have a go at using them ourselves.</p> <p>The background information about different types of needs was also interesting and useful and the whole experience has made me realise that we need to be doing more work within this area.</p> <p>It would have been helpful to know much earlier than 2/3 weeks beforehand which schools were participating and timings as this would help with planning for our Team Leads Children and Young People. Although many had originally blocked out the day early on when we were first approached the training plans changed as they did not hear any further information from me regarding times etc.</p>	<p>The Team Leads do work with their local Special Schools, but due to the number of schools they have in each district it is most definitely less than once a term. Bookstart has helped to facilitate our work with these children.</p>	<p>With increased training it would be something that we could offer. Some Team Leads are more confident than others.</p>	
05/10/2009	Library at the Lantern, Shrewsbury, Shropshire	<p>All of my colleagues thoroughly enjoyed the event. Seeing Bernard in action was fantastic and very inspiring. Staff members particularly enjoyed being able to have a go themselves and couldn't really say anything negative about the event.</p>	<p>We do have visits from Severndale School(2-3) and some parents bring in their children individually. The library is definitely an appropriate place for them but we have to convince their parents of that too !</p>	<p>More practice and more resources. Once staff feel confident with this type of storytelling ,I am sure they will become more frequent.</p>	

07/10/2009	Beechdale Library, Walsall	Library staff who took part in training were very pleased with what they had learnt and felt they had more confidence in working with children/young people with learning difficulties. Host library were happy for sessions to take place and did not feel that sessions impeded general working of library. Staff felt that sessions gave very positive message to the community about libraries being a 'place for everyone'.	Library always assumed that access for children might be a problem and that staff felt very lacking in confidence about working with children with special needs. Following session, staff now feel library is appropriate place for children with SEN	Those staff who attended training are now confident to offer multi sensory storytelling for children with SEN. We would have to contact the schools to arrange a mutually agreeable time	Very pleased with arrangements and all that was done on the day
15/10/2009	Bedworth Library, Warwickshire	Were very impressed with the responses of the children to the storyteller. Only one criticism, some of the children clearly didn't like the material being waved over their faces.	Exhall Grange, the local special school, come and bring pupils occasionally but unannounced so we have little impact. Library is a good place, mostly a quiet environment.	Training. Time.	All staff here who observed the sessions were very impressed by the way the staff interacted with the children.
15/10/2009	Warwick Library, Warwickshire	Session and talk after was very inspiring. Representative (sorry can't remember his name) was infectively enthusiastic and made you want to go out and do a session straight away.	No active links except as borrowers - in which case we welcome them, treat them no differently and encourage them as much as possible. Of course a library is an appropriate place - it welcomes all and each individual is treated with respect. We would hope all borrowers feel welcome and use the library as much as they want to.	More staff - difficult to do activities anyway, moving desks and doing extras stretches us too thinly to ensure we provide a decent level of service to all. A special visitor that leads the session - make the activity more appealing and exciting to those who come.	

16/10/2009	Birmingham Central Library	Great watching Bernard performing the story, good cross referencing his approach with our own. Very productive having the staff only session at the end of the day. This gave a good opportunity to discuss issues and have a go ourselves. Very positive experience, Bernard was very open and willing to discussing different approaches. Can't think of anything I didn't find useful.	We have weekly contact with our local special school, who come to the library for a topic based activity and storytime. The children are of varying ages, they interact with all staff, use books, use craft materials and have a storytime, just recently with a Bag Book.	Just need to roll out the training to all members of staff and give them the time to familiarise themselves with those titles that are available.	Centre for the Child are always looking for new ways to engage with children, especially those with SEN. The Bag Books are opening a whole new route for us and allow us to engage in a much more effective way. We will definitely be passing the knowledge on to colleagues so that the whole staff can be SEN confident.
------------	----------------------------	---	---	---	---

Quantitative Qs&As:

What was your library's overall experience of Story-Go-Round?		
v. poor	0	0%
poor	0	0%
average	0	0%
good	1	13%
v. good	7	87%

What was your library's overall experience of Bag Books' organisation?		
v. poor	0	0%
poor	0	0%
average	3	43%
good	0	0%
v. good	4	57%

What was your library's overall experience of the information you received before the event?		
v. poor	0	0%
poor	0	0%
average	1	14%
good	2	29%
v. good	4	57%

What was your library's overall experience of the running of the event on the day?		
v. poor	0	0%
poor	0	0%
average	0	0%
good	0	0%
v. good	8	100%

Your library's active relationship with your local special school		
v. poor	0	0%
poor	1	13%
average	5	63%
good	0	0%
v. good	2	25%

How many visits by children with SEN to your local library with school?		
<1/term	5	63%
1/term	0	0%
2-5/term	1	13%
6-10/term	1	13%
>10/term	1	13%

How many visits by a child with SEN to you library with family?		
<1/term	1	13%
1/term	1	13%
2-5/term	3	38%
6-10/term	2	25%
>10/term	1	13%

How many visits by your library to your local special school?		
<1/term	5	63%
1/term	3	38%
2-5/term	0	0%
6-10/term	0	0%
>10/term	0	0%

Would you be confident and happy to offer multi-sensory storytelling...
...as things stand now?

def. no	2	25%
prob. no	0	0%
possibly	2	25%
prob. yes	2	25%
def. yes	2	25%

...with more training?

def. no	0	0%
prob. no	0	0%
possibly	1	14%
prob. yes	3	43%
def. yes	3	43%

...with other support?

def. no	0	0%
prob. no	0	0%
possibly	1	14%
prob. yes	2	29%
def. yes	4	57%

What would be an appropriate frequency for such sessions?

<1/term	1	13%
1/term	5	63%
2-5/term	2	25%
6-10/term	0	0%
>10/term	0	0%

Appendix IV – Schools' Feedback

Date	School	What was your / colleagues' experience of the SGR event? What was good? What was not?	What were the best and worst aspects of the children's experience?	How could the sessions be changed to better address the needs of your pupils?	Anything else?
28/09/2009	Park Lane Special School, Macclesfield, Cheshire	The pupils and staff thoroughly enjoyed the storytelling experience. Most of the pupils were engrossed throughout.	It was rare for the pupils to have a male storyteller which did make a difference. They also enjoyed the interactivity.		
28/09/2009	Lambs House School, Congleton, Cheshire	Very impressed with the storyteller. He managed to engage with our pupils and keep their concentration.	The children really enjoyed the storytelling session. They have written about it in their diaries in class. They would love to go to another one.	The session length, setting and person telling the story were really good. The stories "read" were suitable for our children, with plenty of interaction opportunities and age appropriate.	
29/09/2009	Alfreton Park Community Special School, Alfreton, Derbyshire	Pace was good, all students were involved, lots of praise, good level of language used. Everything was good.	All students were involved. Excellent participation. Very well prepared and resourced.	Maybe the wheelchair students could lay on cushions and be more free to enjoy the sensory elements.	Every member of staff said the event was fantastic, a great experience. They also said it would be nice to have one every week.
30/09/2009	Ivy House, Mickleover, Derbyshire	All pupils were involved. Names written on a label so that Bernard could use their names. Better if library and surestart staff sat amongst our pupils instead of separately.	Goof visual and tactile props. Turn taking. Experience of visiting a library and having story read to them by someone new.	More use of signing in the story.	Children enjoyed the experience and we look forward to coming again.

30/09/2009	Ivy House, Mickleover, Derbyshire	Very high quality storytelling - fun, lively, varied (in terms of where started in circle) and therefore attention-holding. Multi-sensory resources ensured something to interest all. Appreciate use of children's names too.	Lively storytelling and interesting resources. Can't think of anything for worst!	Tell the story twice.	
30/09/2009	St. Giles Special School, Derby, Derbyshire	An excellent experience for children with SEN. Interactive, sensory and fun.	Short, sensory, interactive activities. Enables all children to be involved. Only goo for small groups (i.e. 8).	Appropriate for the children that were there. I wouldn't have changed anything.	Since the session, I have used story bags on several occasions and the children love them.
02/10/2009	Fountains Primary School, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire	The staff found the whole experience very relaxing and enjoyable. It was well organised and presented. All the children enjoyed the session, it was very appropriate and exciting. The venue was perfect as it is good to get the children out into the community and even better to encourage use of the library.	The storyteller had a very interesting voice which helped to keep the children's attention and the support materials (props) were of a high quality.	It would be good to have the story actually in the main part of the library as this alone would provide a valuable experience.	
02/10/2009	Rocklands School, Lichfield, Staffordshire	The story session was fantastic and those pupils who took part really enjoyed the event. Sadly we had two pupils who became upset with the change of environment and although our storyteller was able to engage them a little, through no fault of his it was spoilt to a degree for the others who were afraid of being attacked.	Two of our pupils behaviour was difficult to manage. Fantastic resources and storytelling.	It was very good.	I was unable to attend the staff training because the time was put back and the last minute as a result of some of the attendees requesting it.

02/10/2009	Fountains Primary School, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire		Having a male storyteller with a different voice and presence. The story was a little quick for our pupils but you have to know the pupils well to recognise their responses.	Smaller groups	It would be very helpful to be able to borrow Bag Books from the library. We have a few books at school but unable to finance more. The PMLD pupils would be able to borrow books as their mainstream friends already do.
13/10/2009	Pens Meadow School, Dudley	The Story-Go-Round event was pitched perfectly for the children. The use of objects to support the story meant that all children could participate.	All pupils could participate at the appropriate level. We would enjoy being able to attend Story-Go-Round events on a regular basis.		
13/10/2009	Pens Meadow School, Dudley	Stories were at the right pace and the learners were all engaged and in the case of one or two learners were able to re-tell the stories later.	See above	Maybe a soft drink and a biscuit if time permits.	
14/10/2009	Tiverton School, Coventry, Warwickshire	Having spoken with my colleagues, we all found the experience good.	The person telling the story kept the children captivated at all times which was great. However, for some of our less able children they do need a little more time i.e. using props etc.	See previous	Overall, children and staff thoroughly enjoyed our Bag Books experience. The person generating the story was fun and kept the whole thing together very well. Can we have more please? Very organised, friendly staff.

15/10/2009	Oak Wood Secondary School, Nuneaton, Warwickshire	Resources were very good. Too much language for the needs of the pupils who came. The storyteller was very enthusiastic, however one pupil found the noise level difficult.	See above. Most pupils were engaged by the session.	Discuss the individual needs of the pupils with staff before starting the session to decide what is appropriate for each group.	Sessions in school to allow more pupils to have access would be beneficial.
15/10/2009	Oak Wood Secondary School, Nuneaton, Warwickshire	Enthusiasm of presenter. Variety of resources. Venue.	Easy car parking. Plenty space - no steps. Good to have own section away from public.	Can we request which stories to match class work.	
15/10/2009	Ridgeway School, Warwick, Warwickshire		Only walking to the library with wheelchairs in the rain! Excellent storyteller! Brilliant stories.	Nothing I can think of!	Although the library was open, it was very quiet. It would not work for our PMLD pupils if there had been a lot of other pupils around.
16/10/2009	Victoria School, Birmingham	We enjoyed the whole session and the library were very accommodating as we needed to change the time to enable our pupils to get there.	The library should not be open only because our pupils need the space and for some less distraction so they can focus and participate. If the library had already booked public in with small numbers so they started the session and stayed with it that would work to promote inclusion and integration. Children loved the session and the storyteller really reached them as well as the props.	It might be nice for our group to bring along one of their favourite stories and props to share with the library.	
20/10/2009	Chadsgrove School, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire	The storytelling and use of props was excellent. Very motivating for the children.	The children were really engaged!		

20/10/2009	Blakebrook Special School, Kidderminster, Worcestershire	All agreed it was good. Glad however that only 4 pupils able to make trip as more staff would have been needed to support.	Lovely interaction at their level.	Available parking. The session was ideal for the small group and met their needs well.	
------------	--	---	------------------------------------	--	--

Quantitative Qs&As:

What was your school's overall experience of Story-Go-Round?		
v. poor	0	0%
poor	0	0%
average	0	0%
good	2	11%
v. good	16	89%

What was your school's experience of Bag Books' organisation?		
v. poor	0	0%
poor	0	0%
average	1	6%
good	8	50%
v. good	7	44%

What was your school's experience of the information you received before the event?		
v. poor	0	0%
poor	0	0%
average	2	12%
good	8	50%
v. good	6	38%

What was your school's experience of the running of the event on the day?		
v. poor	0	0%
poor	0	0%
average	0	0%
good	2	11%
v. good	16	89%

	Yes	Yes %
Have you used multi-sensory stories before the Story-Go-Round event?	16	89%
Did the children enjoy the session?	18	100%
Did the children benefit from the session?	18	100%
Is the library an appropriate place for storytelling for your pupils/students?	18	100%
Should the library be open to the public during these visits	13	76%
If the library offered regular multi-sensory storytelling to your school? Would this help towards the children's learning aims?	17	100%
Would you be interested in coming regularly?	17	100%

No	No %
2	11%
0	0%
0	0%
0	0%
0	0%
4	24%
0	0%
0	0%

What would be an appropriate frequency for such sessions?		
<1/term	0	0%
1/term	11	65%
2-5/term	4	24%
6-10/term	2	12%
>10/term	0	0%

Appendix V – Central Library Authorities’ Feedback

Central Library Authority	What was your own/colleagues’ experience of the Story-Go-Round Tour. What was good? What was not?	Is there anything else you would like to tell us?
Cheshire	<p>Storytelling and training were excellent. Schools late so training rushed - we could have spent all day!</p> <p>Comments from participants:</p> <p>Training was excellent, pleased I went. Bernard made it look so easy - staff would need a lot of practice to perfect just one story! I think Bagbooks would only work if the same children came every week - repetitions are the key. We do have "Special Treasures" group in Alsager & will liaise with Mrs Strandring to see what we can arrange. Have taken away lots of ideas from there to help with weekly storytimes.</p> <p>I found the storytelling and training session very interesting, it was very useful to watch Bernard in action and the way he used the bag books to interact with the children (the older group) and vice versa. The training session was also interesting and gave food for thought - we have a group from the David Lewis Centre that visit Wilmslow regularly and would benefit from these sessions. It was a shame that we did not spend a little more time just looking through the book bags to see the different types of stories on offer. I do realise though that there will probably not be any funding available for us to purchase any of these bags for individual libraries?</p> <p>Just a quick note to say we did enjoy the training and particularly the storytelling itself. It was useful to be able to see how the books are actually used. Many thanks for including us.</p> <p>Enjoyed observing storytelling session. Bernard made it look so easy but I found it quite demanding in practice. Too many things to think about and quite different from our usual storytimes. However, I picked up some good points from him but would not be comfortable doing a session at Holmes Chapel as I feel this is a job for a specialist. Thank you for the opportunity.</p>	<p>I am sure further support would be valuable in helping us to move on to the next stage. The Management Team are keen that this should not be a one-off training with no follow-up. Congleton may be the library most likely to pursue with Lambs House. Will be talking to our Education Library Service to see if we can work together. Funding of resources always a problem!</p>

Derbyshire	<p>We all found the experience to be very positive and felt it offered us a practical way of improving the way we extend our service to children with special needs. We thought the response of the children and young people was inspiring.</p> <p>The only negative was the lack of communication over the summer, before it was picked up again by Kate Blake. It did leave us uncertain as to whether anything was actually going to happen. Once I'd been contacted by Kate at the beginning of September, everything seemed to go smoothly.</p>	We are putting together a business plan for the inclusion of Bag Books in our library activity for 2010-2011. This would include provision for the purchase of Bag Books materials
Derby City	Excellent all round. Opportunity to observe real-life storytelling sessions very good and enabled us to develop better links with specific schools. Trainer excellent – training session very informative and participation activities useful and fun too. We had a number of external practitioners present and that also gave us an opportunity to make some useful contacts for potential future joint working.	We already have four bag books which are part of our central resource of materials for supporting children and young people's activities both in libraries and as part of visits to community settings as appropriate. Although we have previously raised awareness with library staff, they have mainly been used by our children's librarian with responsibility for special needs when delivering sessions. We now intend to purchase a few more and get local library staff more involved in using them at storytime sessions. We already have a very good relationship with one of the schools who visited but this has generally been through visits by our children's librarian to their school. They indicated that they would like to bring children out to the library more and can arrange transport for that purpose, so we will be looking at trying to put something in place – maybe on a regular basis
Shropshire	All of my colleagues thoroughly enjoyed the event. Seeing Bernard in action was fantastic and very inspiring. Staff members particularly enjoyed being able to have a go themselves and couldn't really say anything negative about the event.	Story-Go-Round has improved links with Severdale School and library staff hope to visit the school soon in order to watch teaching staff tell multi-sensory stories
Walsall Council	Bag Books- sessions with children from schools were excellent and good experience to see Bernard working with students. Training session with library and school staff was great- gave us all loads of ideas and was great opportunity to 'network' with staff from schools. Good links were made. Not so good- we were not able to include staff from libraries at school sessions because of timings. Timings good for schools but not for library lunch time cover	In response to last question- only if at no cost- budgetary constraints

Warwickshire	Inspirational and very informative. During Bernard's training we were all very interested and motivated to find out more about supporting children with profound/severe learning difficulties.	
--------------	--	--

Quantitative Qs&As:

What was your library's overall experience of Story-Go-Round?		
v. poor	0	0%
poor	0	0%
average	0	0%
good	0	0%
v. good	6	100%

What was your experience of Bag Books' organisation?		
v. poor	0	0%
poor	0	0%
average	1	17%
good	3	50%
v. good	2	33%

What was your experience of the information you received before the event?		
v. poor	0	0%
poor	0	0%
average	0	0%
good	2	33%
v. good	4	67%

	Yes	Yes %
Would you like your libraries to continue multi-sensory storytelling (as things stand or with more support)?	6	100%
Would you like to have additional/ongoing support from Bag Books?	6	100%

No	No %
0	0%
0	0%

Appendix VI – Training Session Participants’ Feedback

Host Library	What did you like best about the training?	What did you like least, or felt was missing from the training?	Where, or with whom, would you consider using the Bag Books?	Did the observation and training sessions meet your expectations?	Any other comments or suggestions?
Congleton Library, Cheshire	Watching the story and trying a story	Not enough time to practice a story	Special treasures in Alsager - A storytime in the library. Also using the basic idea with the storytimes and Rhymetimes.	Yes excellent.	
Congleton Library, Cheshire	Seeing the Bag Books in action/getting the opportunity to meet them.	More time using the Bag Books	Toddlers and mums storytime	Yes.	No.
Congleton Library, Cheshire	Practical Sessions		Loan to Special Schools via School Library Service.	Excellent.	
Congleton Library, Cheshire	The info about child language development.	Nothing really!	Loaning out to schools	Yes.	No.
Congleton Library, Cheshire	Being able to sit in on the storytime session also using the Bag Books.	Found everything useful, maybe more time for the session.	David Lewis Centre	Yes.	
Congleton Library, Cheshire	Both the storytelling and the session afterwards.		Outreach work - Corter House, Lambs House	Better than I thought it would be.	Very Useful
Congleton Library, Cheshire	All of it	NA.	Library. Young children. Disabled people.	Yes.	
Congleton Library, Cheshire	All of it! It was extremely interesting!	Nothing - Would just like more of it.	With the local daycare centre clients.	Yes.	I was unable to stay for the hands on - really sorry to miss it.
Congleton Library, Cheshire	Seeing how the stories were told to the different groups of children.	Nothing - thought the course was well presented.	Special needs or pre-school children who use the library.	Yes.	
Congleton Library, Cheshire	The demonstration by the storyteller with the group of children.	I liked it all.	Preschool storytime. Would ask librarian at my library about SEN groves.	Exceeded expectations, Thank you!	
Congleton Library, Cheshire	Storytelling		Any group of children	Yes.	

Congleton Library, Cheshire	Watching the story being read.	More Time.	Special needs or pre-school children.	Yes.	
Congleton Library, Cheshire	Observing a story session.		Possibly in the library.	Yes.	
Congleton Library, Cheshire	Trying them out.	Late Lunch!		Yes.	
Congleton Library, Cheshire	Interaction using Bag Books. Session watching children.	Just needed longer.	Local special needs schools.	Very much so.	Would like longer and more sessions.
Chesterfield Library, Derbyshire	Hands on activity, great opportunity to try out storytelling.		Children with disabilities pre-school children.	Yes	
Chesterfield Library, Derbyshire				Yes	
Chesterfield Library, Derbyshire					
Chesterfield Library, Derbyshire	The practical session and observing a story session using the Bag Books.	Probably could have been longer	Groups of children in centres + possibly librarian settings.	Yes	
Chesterfield Library, Derbyshire	Inspiring, Confidence building.		Nurseries the special needs children. May also be useful to colleagues working in nursing home setting.	Yes	
Chesterfield Library, Derbyshire	Practical hands on.		Local Special School I already work with.	Yes	
Chesterfield Library, Derbyshire	Seeing a "real session" Then hands on.	Nothing	Special School in immediate locality.	Exceeded them.	
Chesterfield Library, Derbyshire	Insight into how effective the packs could be.	N/A	Under 5's groups	Yes.	

Chesterfield Library, Derbyshire	Enjoyed seeing Bag Books being experienced by the young people in the story session. Also testing out the packs with the colleagues	All valuable information.	Under 5's children with varying disabilities.	Yes excellent, Thanks.	
Mickleover Library, Derbyshire	The manner in which the trainer explained and demonstrated the resources		Peep groups	Yes	
Mickleover Library, Derbyshire	Observing the interaction with the children and the storyteller helped with the way Bag Books can be used.		Storytimes	Yes	
Mickleover Library, Derbyshire	Different way of telling stories	Nothing	SEN children	Yes and more.	
Mickleover Library, Derbyshire	All of it		Within the library	Yes.	
Mickleover Library, Derbyshire	Particularly the observation with the children getting to see the Bag Books in action	More time to practice - with more Bag Books?	Children's storytimes	Yes certainly	Very interesting
Mickleover Library, Derbyshire	Watching demonstrations with children with special/additional needs/LD		Nursery aged children - small groups etc. Children with ASD.	Yes	
Mickleover Library, Derbyshire	Seeing the Bag Books in action with the children	N/A	ER children in school. class 7 some of the children. Nursery children	Yes	
Mickleover Library, Derbyshire	Demonstration of stories. Participation of storytelling. Discussion + explanation	Could have been longer	Springwood Library. Pass information to local Primary schools.	Better	More information about stories available and resources.
Mickleover Library, Derbyshire	The whole experience	Just would have liked more!!	Toddler group, special needs group, special schools (all within children centres)	Didn't know what to expect	really impressed by trainee + Bag Books!

Mickleover Library, Derbyshire	Practical Session observation. Opportunity of have a go during training.	Nothing.	Sessions in the library - either dedicated special needs group in liaison with local school or a part of open session or visits in the community.	Absolutely.	Really worthwhile. Learnt a lot. Thought a lot. Had fun. Bernard is wonderful!
Mickleover Library, Derbyshire	Seeing how engaged the children were during the stories.		Under 5's is my remit so with those groups. Also to family groups making story socks to show a different view of how to "make" a story.	Totally	Confidence was higher than before the training.
Mickleover Library, Derbyshire	The enthusiasm of the trainer.		Storytime in the library, with under 3's	Definitely	
Mickleover Library, Derbyshire	Excellent - enjoying the trainer.	Wonderful to observe sessions with children	Special needs children and US's	Yes and beyond	
Mickleover Library, Derbyshire	Hearing the stories with the children present.	Time to discuss the stories in our small groups.	Storytimes at libraries	Yes	
Burton-on-Trent Central Library, Staffordshire	Background to different types of needs. The opportunity to tell/use the books.	In the timescale I thought Bernard did well covering all aspects. Left me wanting to find out more about this area of work.	The schools attending the session indicated that it would be good for the schools library service to stock these so they could exchange them. Early years settings, special schools.	Exceeded.	Confidence - just need to practice.
Burton-on-Trent Central Library, Staffordshire	Lovely to see some different stories.	The DVD wouldn't work properly.	We already use them with our pupils at school.	Yes.	We just need to extend our range at school.
Burton-on-Trent Central Library, Staffordshire	Telling the story	The video wouldn't work properly.	PMLD and SLD pupils in school.	Yes.	
Burton-on-Trent Central Library, Staffordshire	Small group.	First time been to this type of training so not really sure.	Nursery, special schools.	Yes.	

Library at the Lantern, Shrewsbury, Shropshire	It followed an actual session where techniques were seen in action.		Introducing the concept to groups and others	Yes	Interested in the use with older people and people with dementia
Library at the Lantern, Shrewsbury, Shropshire	Observing the session. Practical session using Bag Books.		Special Needs toddler group.	Yes	
Library at the Lantern, Shrewsbury, Shropshire	Never been to anything of this kind before.	All good		Very much so.	
Library at the Lantern, Shrewsbury, Shropshire	The observation of Bernard working with children.	Nothing that I can think of.	With special school classes - in school but for occasional use.	Very much so.	
Library at the Lantern, Shrewsbury, Shropshire	Seeing the storyteller in practice with a wide range of abilities	Nothing.	Severndale Specialist School and Pre-school children. Both in a library setting	Absolutely.	
Library at the Lantern, Shrewsbury, Shropshire	The hand-on part.		In the library with special needs children	Yes	
Beechdale Library, Walsall	Very informative and fun.		PMLD students.	Yes.	Really interesting, very relevant for school use.
Beechdale Library, Walsall	The practical side of things.		Story sessions.	More.	
Beechdale Library, Walsall	The delivery of the orator kept us interested. Relevant information.	Noisy room. Distractions.	At the special needs school I work in.	Yes.	
Beechdale Library, Walsall	How the speaker interacted with the staff and the videos	Nothing	PMLD students.	Yes it gave me more confidence to read with bigger groups.	
Beechdale Library, Walsall	Concise. Practical.	Nothing.	Working in special schools.	Yes.	

Beechdale Library, Walsall	Learning how to work with new groups of people.		Special schools in area in local libraries.	Yes, both.	Thanks. Very enlightening.
Beechdale Library, Walsall	Experiencing the Bag Books myself.		I would like to have some in library stock so that I can make staff aware of them in training sessions and how to use them.	Yes	Confidence would come once practiced a bit more.
Beechdale Library, Walsall	Found it all very interesting.	All very useful.	Mother and toddler groups	Yes, very interesting.	
Beechdale Library, Walsall	Hands on with the packs.	More time. More on autism.	Cradle clubs.	Yes.	
Beechdale Library, Walsall	Delivered very well.		Toddlers. Special needs.	Yes. Thank you.	
Beechdale Library, Walsall	Explaining how to approach a child with special needs and the different methods to help them learn and have sensory input.	Time limit. 90 minutes for a session felt quite short.	Children and adolescents from babies to young adults (particularly with special needs for the older adolescents).	Yes, although I expected more information on the children themselves than how to perform the story sessions.	
Beechdale Library, Walsall	Made me think about things I never think about.	Just need more time as it's new to me.	Young customers with special needs.	Yes.	
Beechdale Library, Walsall	Practical exercise with stories.		Mother and toddler groups	Don't come with expectations - limits you.	Confidence will come in time.
Beechdale Library, Walsall	Practical demonstrations to reinforce the theory.		Any pre-school groups with whom we have regular contact and with invited special groups.	Yes.	
Beechdale Library, Walsall					
Beechdale Library, Walsall					
Beechdale Library, Walsall					
Sandwell Library	Watching it in practice and trying ourselves	Nothing	Various groups in the library	Yes	

Sandwell Library	Being able to observe and then the practical to follow	N/A	In the school library with most of our children	Yes	
Sandwell Library	Observing the different reactions of the children to the stories. It was useful to have observed these stories" in Action" before learning the theory+ using them.	N/A	Children form special schools either in schools or in the library	Yes	Very good and enjoyable
Sandwell Library	Observing the children	Nothing	Local pre school groups + nursery/reception classes. Also children from special schools	Yes	
Sandwell Library	All the interaction between storyteller and children and adults	Nothing	Any early years settings (as I work with early years). All abilities all need to be included	Yes	Very well delivered . Thank you
Sandwell Library	Action based with props did not rely on dialogue		Toddler Groups		
Dudley Library	The trainer (Bernard) very informative and made the session enjoyable	Perhaps could have been a little longer.	Special Needs children	Yes, very informative and opens your eyes to what Bag Books is all about.	
Dudley Library	The trainer was very enthusiastic and the responses from the children were a joy to watch.	I enjoyed all of the training and found it very interesting	Telling stories to pupils from the Woodsetton school - a local schools for children with impairments, physical, mental.	Definitely.	Thank you. It was really enjoyable and hopefully I will be able to implement the ideas and processes.
Dudley Library	Demonstration with children.		Children visiting sensory impairment unit.	Yes	Follow up training.
Dudley Library	Good explanation of the reasoning behind.		Visually Impaired toddler group. PMLD Visually Impaired children.	Yes.	
Dudley Library	Hands on informative		Rattle & Rhyme and Storytelling sessions.	Yes, very good.	

Dudley Library	All of it.		At work with our young people.	More.	Very useful and enjoyable.
Coventry Library, Warwickshire	The storytelling tips were great.	Not enough time.	I work for the schools library service and we support special schools - am sure they would find Bag Books very useful.	Yes, it was a very interesting session.	
Coventry Library, Warwickshire	Presentation.			Yes.	
Coventry Library, Warwickshire	The practical and the background to child development.		With our young children at rhymetimes/nursery visits/toddler groups.	Yes.	
Coventry Library, Warwickshire	Playing at the end! History and psychology of language.	Nothing		Didn't do the observation session.	I haven't done many storytelling sessions and don't really enjoy them which is why I'm not sure how relevant the training will be but I did enjoy it!
Coventry Library, Warwickshire	The storytelling.	Time!	In general storytelling and rhymetimes.	More than.	Need longer.
Coventry Library, Warwickshire	Enjoyed the storytelling session.	Didn't particularly enjoy the participation, however it proved quite entertaining!	Story times at the library.	Yes, it was very interesting and captivating.	
Coventry Library, Warwickshire	Everything.		Children with learning difficulties.	Yes.	
Coventry Library, Warwickshire	The way to tell a story and keep interest and the props used.	Not enough time.	In the special school where I work.	Training session was fantastic.	Really enjoyed session.
Coventry Library, Warwickshire	Hands on session.	Wished we had more time.	Storytimes.	Yes.	Excellent.
Coventry Library, Warwickshire	Everything.	Would like to find out more another time. Everything well delivered.	At library - storytime. School visits.	Met more.	Very well presented and delivered.

Coventry Library, Warwickshire	All of it, particularly getting to have a go with the books.	Nothing.	We support librarians in special schools so would look at working directly with them maybe as a loan collection.	More than.	This is a really needed resource to make stories accessible for all children.
Coventry Library, Warwickshire	Relaxed, interactive, new learning.		Wide range of children - preschool, sensory impaired, older children.	Yes.	
Coventry Library, Warwickshire	Seeing the stories read by Bernard and on videos.	Would have been good to have more time using the stories.	Story sessions for children with special needs.	Yes.	Not that confident using them - harder than looked!
Coventry Library, Warwickshire	Practicing using the Bag Books on each other!	Longer sessions would be useful to learn to use them more.	Using as part of our storytelling/rhymetime sessions in libraries.	Yes, excellent. I haven't experienced these kind of sessions before so very useful.	
Warwick Library, Warwickshire	Watching stories being told and trying my hand at telling them myself.	A bit longer trying the storytelling.	With under 5's and with groups from special schools in library.	Yes.	I feel it has broadened my storytelling horizons. Not that confident though - need much more practice!
Warwick Library, Warwickshire	The linguistic background and the actual practice in the afternoon.	We need to purchase some props.	SLD and under 5's.	Yes.	Wonderful - thanks!
Warwick Library, Warwickshire	Being able to see the storyteller delivering the session to the children - real life setting.		With schools in the library or at the school. In regular storytimes with or without PMLD/SLD children.	Yes.	Would like more practice, preferably with training.
Warwick Library, Warwickshire	Bernard's enthusiasm, understanding and skill.	Nothing!	Special school group visits to libraries. Possibly in schools/community settings.	Exceeded!	A thoroughly useful day and a wonderful experience.

Birmingham Central Library	Watching the Bag Books used with a group of children.	I would have liked time to familiarise myself with the Bag Book before using it.	Maybe with a small pre-school group or an older group from a special school.	Yes.	
Birmingham Central Library	All of it.		Would like to look at how we could replicate some of the experience on our website, stories from the web.	Yes.	
Birmingham Central Library	Enthusiasm of storyteller.	Nothing!	Children in Junior Church.	Yes.	Excellent - thank you.
Birmingham Central Library	The use of Bag Books in "real" setting.		Groups in the library.	Yes.	
Birmingham Central Library	Learning some of the theory and putting it into practice. Great to see Barnard telling stories to the children.		Wilson Stuart school, Oscott Manor schools, adult groups.	Fully.	
Birmingham Central Library	Analysing repetition.		Partially sighted.	Yes.	Keeping up the good work.
Birmingham Central Library	Working with the groups of children.		Many of the groups with SEN and especially when we run our Inclusive Week.	Yes.	Let's do it again!
Birmingham Central Library	Seeing it in action, it made it more relevant.	Nothing.	With some of the schools and families in the area.	Yes.	
Birmingham Central Library	Watching the story session with school.		With a special need school or toddler group in the library.	Yes.	
Birmingham Central Library	Informative.		Special Needs School and under 5's.	Yes.	
Birmingham Central Library	Combination of observation and practical use of Bag Books.	Nothing.	Children with all levels of learning disability and some physical disabilities, hearing and sight impaired, small group of pre-school children.	Yes.	
Birmingham Central Library	The trainer - absolutely inspiring!		SEN children in library.	Exceeded by far!	
Birmingham Central Library	Seeing the session with the kids - amazing to see the reaction! Makes me feel quite emotional. Thank you.		Training new staff. Outreach visits to communities.	Exceeded them!	Wonderful - thank you!

Birmingham Central Library	All of it.		Victoria school, pre-school story-time.	Yes.	Really useful course. Learnt so much.
Birmingham Central Library	The demonstration was wonderful.	Nothing!	In my new role as library outreach worker with sure start.	Yes.	No, everything was good and relevant.
Birmingham Central Library	Trying a new Bag Book in a group. Also the fact that I now feel more confident that I'm doing it correctly with my own SEN group.	The video, purely as I work regularly with SEN and autistic groups so was already very familiar.	Calthorpe Special Schools groups especially autistic.	Yes.	Excellent course leader - very clear, friendly and approachable.
Birmingham Central Library	The practical advice and the presentation.	Nothing.	Storytime sessions for pre-schoolers and visiting groups.	Yes.	
Kidderminster Library, Worcestershire		Nothing	In libraries, story at home with children	Yes	
Kidderminster Library, Worcestershire	Fun	The last bit, doing the story embarrassing but was valuable you learn best by doing.	pre school children and special needs	Yes	Would need to practice the story first and would get more confidence with experience
Kidderminster Library, Worcestershire	Practical demonstration of interactive storytelling			More than met them	
Kidderminster Library, Worcestershire	The demonstration	Nothing	Special needs of all ages. Pre school, reception and year 1	Yes	
Kidderminster Library, Worcestershire	showed how to react to problems and how to practically do the sessions		Class visits etc	Yes, excellent example.	I shall recommend it!
Kidderminster Library, Worcestershire	Explanation of how books affect children	Nothing	Classes from nearby special needs high school	More than met them	
Kidderminster Library, Worcestershire	Seeing the storyteller with the children	the end trying to do the stories in a group		yes	

Kidderminster Library, Worcestershire	Engaging throughout		Worcester library also pupils who come on schools mobile library	Exceeded it	Took fear away(banished pre conceptions about children with special needs)
Kidderminster Library, Worcestershire	Interesting, great trainer	N/A	At home bed time story	More than expected	
Kidderminster Library, Worcestershire	The observation of storyteller working with children		I can think of lots of applications. Would love to work with local schools, special needs groups	yes exceeded	
Kidderminster Library, Worcestershire	Practical story telling		With low literacy parents, also the visually impaired	yes	
Kidderminster Library, Worcestershire	Having a go ourselves	N/A	In the library with a visiting group of special needs kids	yes	
Kidderminster Library, Worcestershire	Watching how the children interacted		Any preschool session	yes	
Kidderminster Library, Worcestershire	Seeing children's reactions		class visits to schools	yes	
Kidderminster Library, Worcestershire	Video and session with kids	nothing	pre school children and special needs	yes	

Quantitative Qs&As:

Did you feel today's training session was of value to you?		
of no value	0	0%
of little value	4	3%
of average value	6	4%
of good value	36	26%
of great value	92	67%

How relevant and useful do you feel the Bag Books could be in your own work?		
of no use	2	1%
of little use	4	3%
of average use	27	20%
of good use	39	28%
of great use	66	48%

How confident would you feel about using the Bag Books?		
not confident at all	3	2%
little confidence	11	8%
average confidence	71	49%
good confidence	36	25%
great confidence	24	17%