Read with Me: My personal experience with a LIS 641 service learning project

Mary Ann Griffin

Abstract
At the University of Southern Mississippi’s School of Library and Information Science, LIS 641: Public Libraries has an emphasis on service learning and community relationships. In an all-online program, service learning can be challenging and part of that challenge was for the students to initiate their own service learning project. This was a prime time to promote the community project, Read with Me.

DOI Link
https://doi.org/10.18785/slis.0302.05

Recommended Citation
Griffin, Mary Ann (2014) "Read with Me: My personal experience with a LIS 641 service learning project." SLIS Connecting: Vol. 3 : Iss. 2 , Article 5. DOI: 10.18785/slis.0302.05

Available at: https://aquila.usm.edu/slisconnecting/vol3/iss2/5

This service learning project allowed me to engage with my community to provide a library service that was geared to meet the community’s goal concerning early literacy development and getting the children of the community ready to start school with the necessary literacy skills that lead to learning success (Image 8).

Image 8: Family using early literacy center

It allowed me to learn what it takes to implement a project of this nature so that I, as a public library director, can better train my library staff. The project provided me with a true picture of what is expected of my staff when the Having personal experience does not make you an expert, but other people are much more likely to believe you and listen to you. Examples.

Unless you have personal experience in this field, you probably will not understand what the experts are talking about. Even though Caleb did not have personal experience being in that group, he was able to understand what those people were angry about. Having a personal experience in a hotel leaves a really good impression of that hotel in your mind. An experience that is valuable is one that you have learned a lot from, especially if it was challenging, not paid, or not successful. Examples. Traveling to South America for three months seems like just a lot of fun, but I think it was a really valuable learning experience as well.