

2021 Externship



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Theresa Catholic School

2021 extern at Iowa Library for the
Blind

Part I: Overview of Workplace

The Iowa Library for the Blind provide patrons with books to meet their needs. This can be anywhere from large print to braille books to audio players. The patron can be 3 years old or 100 years old. They have programs and resources for people of all ages. The goal of the department is helping people who are blind to be independent and reach their goals.

Part II: Workplace Focus

I have helped with both the summer reading program and with STEM program for teens. I have created materials for the summer reading program and have assisted with the teen STEM program. I am also assisting with the creation of the makerspace. The Iowa library for the blind received many STEM kits from the governor STEM council. I, along with the other extern, am looking through the kits to come up with accommodations and decide which kits would be the best for a makerspace at the library.

Part III: Introduce the Problem

In groups of 2-3, students will have to gather information for the answer to a question of their choosing from the class. Then the students will take their data and figure out a way to present their information non visually. They can use whatever resources they think are necessary to do so. There should be a graph or plot of data of some sort included in the final project.

Part IV: Standards, Driving and Essential Questions

The math standards it covers are

- [6.SP.B.4](#) Display numerical data in plots on a number line, including dot plots, histograms, and box plots.
- [6.SP.A.1](#) Recognize a statistical question as one that anticipates variability in the data related to the question and accounts for it in the answers.

I will be asking students questions like

- What is the best way to represent your data?
- How does your representation change when it is non-visual?
- How can you make sure all pieces of the project are non-visual?

Part V: Extern Host Role

My students can present the information to the Iowa Library for the Blind or members of the Orientation Staff.

Sarah Willeford: Director of the Iowa Library for the Blind Sarah.Willeford@blind.state.ia.us

Part VI: Student Learning

Students have the choice on what question they would choose to ask their classmates. The only requirement is that the students collect data from their peers. Then students will also have a choice on what method they would choose to represent their data. I plan to have a peer review section during the point that they choose their representation where students have to justify why they chose that representation.