

# KILKENNY COUNTY COUNCIL LIBRARY SERVICE

## Wise OWLS at Kilkenny Library



The Oral, Words and Language Programme



**Kilkenny County Council Library Service are delighted to launch a new literacy programme, OWL (Oral Words Language). This was developed following consultation with a range of organisations including our Right to Read Literacy Network in Kilkenny, as we discussed the growing literacy issues arising at a young age.**

Due to a number of reasons from busy lifestyles, digital overload and limited access to professional support due to restrictions,



we felt it would be an area where we as a library service could make a difference in the everyday lives of parent and children.

The programme focuses on developing the oral language skills of 0-3 year olds, covering a range of topics helping to support parents, childcare practitioners and teachers to ensure a good oral language base from an early age, and thus reduce potential literacy problems in the future.

### Speech and Language



Melissa Lanigan is a Waterford-based Speech and Language Therapist, experienced in working with children with speech and language difficulties, feeding difficulties, autism spectrum disorder and other developmental delays. She has worked for the HSE for over 11 years and in a private clinic in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

### Behaviour



Simone Coleman is a Behaviour Specialist (Board Certified Behaviour Analyst) and trainee Educational Psychologist from Dublin with over 10 years' experience working within the field of psychology, challenging

behaviour and autism. She has her own behavioural consultancy practice called 'Positive Behaviour Solutions' where she works privately with families, schools and residential services developing behaviour support plans to increase positive skills. She is in her final year of her Doctorate in Educational Psychology in UCD.

### Storytelling



Neil Griffiths was a Primary School headteacher for 13 years before taking on the role of director of a National Literacy Support Project for the Basic Skills Agency. He came up with and developed Storysacks, promoting them to schools and communities throughout the UK. After six years, Neil became a freelance consultant, allowing him to devote all of his energies to the project and set up what is now the worldwide, highly acclaimed, and award-winning Storysack phenomenon. His website is [www.cornertolearn.co.uk](http://www.cornertolearn.co.uk).

These short online workshops run on our website, Facebook page and Kilkenny County Council's YouTube channel at 9pm on Tuesday and Wednesday nights throughout December, and Tuesday nights in January. In addition to these workshops, quick tips from our professionals will be posted at 9pm on social media.

Neil Griffith's story time for children will be on each Saturday morning in December at 11.30am

The programme is kindly funded by the Dormant Accounts Fund.



For more information contact Aisling on [aisling.kelly@kilkennylibrary.ie](mailto:aisling.kelly@kilkennylibrary.ie) / 056 7794977, or visit [www.kilkennylibrary.ie](http://www.kilkennylibrary.ie)

### Tuesday 7th December 9pm

Boost your child's speech and language skills at home

### Tuesday 21st December 9pm

Reading books to develop language skills.

### Tuesday 4th January 2022 9pm

Play to develop communication

### Tuesday 18th January 9pm

Short attention span and building communication skills



### Tuesday 14th December 9pm

Behavioural Approaches to Increasing Language and Communication Skills

### Tuesday 28th December 9pm

Bilingualism - Common Myths and Tips

### Tuesday 11th January 2022 9pm

Every Activity is an Opportunity to Build Language



### Wednesday 8th December 9pm

How can adults inspire children to enjoy reading and help them choose appropriate reading material?

### Wednesday 15th December 9pm

How not to share books with children!

### Wednesday 22nd December 9pm

The importance of storytelling and the techniques to make it memorable!

### Children's Story times with Neil:

Every Saturday morning at 11.30am from 4th December to 22nd January 2022

