Libraries + Protective Factors

The role of the library in supporting families
Hello

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Most Idahoans have access to a library
Libraries are Trusted Institutions

■ In 2019, more people went to a library than went to a movie or attended a live sporting event
■ The library is most used by young adults, women, and low-income households
Libraries are Social Connectors

A key piece of social infrastructure
“When people engage in sustained, recurrent interaction, particularly while doing things they enjoy, relationships inevitably grow.”

Eric Klinenberg
Palaces for the People
Libraries Build Protective Factors
Five Protective Factors

- Parental Resilience
- Social Connection
- Knowledge of Parenting & Child Development
- Concrete Supports in Times of Need
- Social & Emotional Competence of Children
Parental Resilience

A Low-Stakes Environment

Programs to De-stress

Connections to Community Resources
Reflection

How can you leverage library resources to help parents or caregivers better manage stress?
Social Connections

- Storytimes
- Outreach Events
- Neighborhood meetings
- Librarians
Reflection

What are some ways that your local library fosters social connections? Can you attend a library event or meeting soon and build connections of your own?
Knowledge of Parenting & Child Development

- Trained Library Staff
- Community Resources
- Parenting Books
Can you think of any other ways that libraries help families increase their knowledge of parenting and child development?
Concrete Supports in Times of Need

Free, high-speed internet access

Library Staff

Warm, safe, dry place to sit...with a restroom

Tech Help
Imagine your perfect library – what concrete supports would be built into an ideal library?
Social & Emotional Competence

Filling the Preschool Gap

Children are Welcome

Reflection

How do YOU support social-emotional learning in children? How can library resources enhance this work?
Storytime

Color Monster by Anna Llenas
Libraries in Idaho
Libraries help build strong families
https://libraries.idaho.gov//rtm/read-to-me-resources/libraries-strengthen-families/
Thanks!

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