

Welcome!

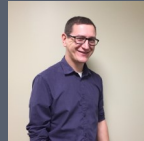
The staff at the Bloomfield Township Public Library are here to help! Librarians can recommend developmentally appropriate titles and assistive technologies. We are available during library hours in person, by telephone at 248-642-5800, or by email: askbtpl@btpl.org.

Special Needs Collection Librarians:

Jen Taggart
Assistant Department Head,
Youth Services
taggartj@btpl.org



Ed Niemchak
Adult Services Librarian
niemchae@btpl.org



Marian Rafal
Department Head, Youth Services
rafalmar@btpl.org

Ann Williams
Department Head, Adult Services
williamsa@btpl.org

Check It Out



Library cards at BTPL:

Residents of Bloomfield Township can apply for a card with a valid photo ID showing residence in Bloomfield Township. If you are not a resident, but live within The Library Network (TLN) service area (<http://tln.lib.mi.us/md/>), you may be eligible to register for a card at your home library first and then bring in your home library card and valid photo ID to register your card here. (Exceptions may apply.) For more information about library cards, please see <http://btpl.org/services/circulation-information/>.

Bloomfield Township Public Library

1099 Lone Pine Road
Bloomfield Township, MI 48302
(248) 642-5800
www.btpl.org

2017

Bloomfield Township Public Library

Literacy for People with Special Needs



Literacy for people with disabilities:

- Literacy skills are needed to communicate and participate!
- The ability to spell can allow a non-verbal person to “say” anything they want with a communication device.
- The ability to read can allow a person who is deaf or hearing impaired to communicate/participate and engage with captioned media.
- Education, self confidence, quality of life, and enjoyment all may depend on a person’s ability to read and/or write.

5 Strategies to use when reading a book to a person with special needs:

(Friendship Circle)

1. Use visuals and manipulatives.
(Check out the story boxes in our Special Needs Collection! These come with a book and tactile manipulatives representing items in the story.)
2. Ask questions, give choices, encourage creative thoughts.
3. Choose books that are age and cognitively appropriate. *(Ask a librarian for suggestions!)*
4. Use expression when reading. Studies have shown that using expression while reading improves a person’s ability to comprehend the story better, especially for those who are blind or deaf. *(Come to story time to learn how to engage learners with expression.)*
5. Relate the story to the person’s experiences.

Circulating Special Needs Collections

Youth Services

www.btpl.org/youth/special-needs/

The Youth Special Needs Collection at the Bloomfield Township Public Library is a circulating multi-media collection serving youth with physical or cognitive disabilities and their caregivers/educators. The collection includes books, therapeutic toys, signed story kits, Discovery Skills Kits, story boxes, speech therapy card sets, interactive books, books in Braille, large print books, high-interest, low-reading level books, DVDs, music & activity CDs, and an inclusive technology station designed for students with special needs.

Adult Services

The Adult Special Needs Collection at the Bloomfield Township Public Library is a new and growing collection. This circulating collection currently has high-interest, low-reading level fiction titles as well as guides for those who want help with navigating daily life. In addition, we have an iPad available loaded with apps for adults and teens with special needs.

Other online resources:

Gallaudet University
<http://www3.gallaudet.edu/clerc-center/info-to-go/literacy.html>

Paths to Literacy
<http://www.pathstoliteracy.org/>

Friendship Circle
<http://www.friendshipcircle.org/>

Adaptive Literacy @ BTPL

Monthly adaptive sensory story times:

SENSEational Story Time (for youth)

Adult/Teen Sensory Story Time



Special Needs Family Fun “Before-Hours” and “After-hours” events at the Library

Families of all ages with special needs can explore the library at a less-crowded, sensory-friendly time, with visual aids and engaging activities.

Special Needs Focus Group

Bloomfield Township residents are invited to participate in our focus group discussing ideas for programming, outreach and services for people of all ages with special needs in the community. Your input is important and welcome! Please contact taggartj@btpl.org for more information.