

StoryWalk Policy

Fond du Lac Public Library

Board approved: October 19, 2023

Previous policy dated:

In order to encourage literacy throughout the community as well as promote the benefits of staying active, the Library has worked with the Fond du Lac Parks Department to install two permanent StoryWalk trails. The Lakeside Park StoryWalk is located near the Deneveu Shelter on Harborview Drive and features 32 stands. The Hamilton Park StoryWalk begins on the south side of Hamilton Park and features 16 stands. The permanent installations were made possible through generous donations from the Kiwanis of Fabulous Fond du Lac and Gary & Susan Miller.

The StoryWalk Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier VT and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. StoryWalk is a registered service mark owned by Ms. Ferguson. StoryWalks have been installed in all 50 states and at least 13 countries.

Policy

1. Within each calendar year, the Library aims to display new titles at each StoryWalk for the months of April through October, for a total of seven months. This schedule is subject to staff availability, as well as weather conditions. Youth Services staff may decide to add or subtract titles.
2. Library staff in the Youth Services Department work to select titles for inclusion in each year's StoryWalks. Books are chosen based on attractiveness and clarity of illustrations, simple and clear text showcasing a positive message, appeal to a wide variety of ages and audiences, and total length of the book.
3. Within each StoryWalk season, Library staff ensure a balanced mix of titles, including those featuring diverse stories and characters, books with interactive elements, and simple nonfiction books.
4. Youth Services staff create a schedule of StoryWalk titles for the year, frequently aligning books with seasonal changes, community events, or thematic elements from Library programming.
5. StoryWalk titles are duplicated within the Library's circulating collection to encourage the reinforcement that repeated readings of a title can provide.
6. To comply with current copyright laws, the Library will purchase at least 2 (two) copies of each title specifically for the StoryWalk. These copies will then be taken apart in order to be formatted to fit within the StoryWalk display stands.
7. With 32 stands at the Lakeside Park StoryWalk, staff will work to find and schedule two titles with complementary page lengths. Library staff reserve the right to add supplemental information alongside the books displayed, including but not limited to: discussion or activity prompts; information about the StoryWalk, Library, or donors; and tools to measure participation/engagement with the StoryWalk.
8. The Library maintains a list of titles included in each StoryWalk season for archival and promotional purposes.

9. While Library staff are happy to take suggestions for future titles to be placed in the StoryWalk, we are unable to install stories based on individual celebrations (birthdays, anniversaries) or non-library events.