



Reporting on the Story-Go-Round: North West Project



Elkie the moose lifted her long nose.
Telling multi-sensory story "Snapped" in Bury.

362 children with special educational needs took part in...
...**52 storytelling sessions** demonstrating best practice...
...hosted at **22 library venues** in communities throughout the North West...
...with **129 library staff trained** in multi-sensory storytelling.

We would like to thank those attending events for their photographs, used in this Report.

Background

Bag Books exists to help enrich the lives and support the learning of children, teenagers and adults with profound intellectual and physical difficulties.

To achieve this, we provide specialist educational resources (called multi-sensory story-packs) and offer training to carers and educators of those living with severe learning disabilities (SLD – a developmental age of up to six years in adults) or profound and multiple learning disabilities (PMLD – developmentally aged below 18 months). We also provide storytelling sessions for children, young people and occasionally adults.

We see a world where everyone – irrespective of their differing abilities – can enjoy the learning, communication and simple fun of a story.

This document measures our work against the set Goals, Aims and Objectives and notes both successes and challenges; finally, conclusions are drawn.

Story-Go-Round: North West Project Goal & Scope

The Story-Go-Round (SGR): North West Project had the goal of **enriching the creative environment for children with profound intellectual and physical difficulties in the North West of England; providing a legacy of skills within the community**, which would offer a way for local communities to support the aesthetic development of these youngsters.

According to our original plan, the focus of delivery was 20 administrative authorities in the North West of England.



*The spider had two large eyes and seemed to be smiling.
Telling multi-sensory story "Kofi and the Magic Shaker" in Batley.*

Project Aims

The SGR: North West Project aimed to

1. **exemplify** multi-sensory storytelling, showing how it can provide a session of fun and learning for children with special needs in their local community libraries; and
2. **enable** local library staff to continue providing regular multi-sensory storytelling to these local children and their families, by training them to use story-packs.

We also planned to provide the multi-sensory resources necessary to help the participants continue to offer multi-sensory storytelling within their own communities.



One of the storytelling sessions in Bury

Project Objectives

The Story-Go-Round: North West Project's objectives are structured to meet its aims.

1. To **exemplify** multi-sensory storytelling, showing how it can provide a session of fun and learning for children with special needs in their local community libraries by
 - a) *recruiting a professional Trainer-Storyteller, and background checking him/her, in line with Bag Books' Child Protection procedures;*
 - b) *training the Trainer-Storyteller in how to deliver multi-sensory stories, how to handle children with additional needs safely, and how to give the children the most stimulating and rewarding experience possible;*

- c) *providing ongoing support and monitoring to the Trainer-Storyteller*, during the Tour, including site visits, telephone support and monthly performance reviews;
 - d) *producing a leaflet for libraries*, outlining the people and processes involved;
 - e) *contacting Central Library Services* in the target local authority areas, offering the service to them centrally before approaching individual libraries;
 - f) *contacting libraries* in the target local authority areas, offering the Tour to come to their library, without charge;
 - g) *contacting local special schools*, ensuring their involvement in the Project;
 - h) *gathering and collating feedback* from the Trainer-Storyteller and participants;
 - i) *working closely with all stakeholders*, to ensure that the greatest possible number of beneficiaries are reached; and
 - j) *demonstrating accessible storytelling* to those parents, carers, special school staff and librarians attending the storytelling sessions with the children.
2. To **enable** local library staff to continue providing regular multi-sensory storytelling to these local children and their families, by training them to use story-packs by
- a) *providing training for librarians*, in conjunction with the demonstrations, in how to safely, effectively and confidently tell multi-sensory stories;
 - b) *offering follow-up training to other interested parties*; and
 - c) *producing a take-home leaflet for children's families*, outlining how multi-sensory storytelling works in the context of local libraries.



*They went to the stretch of river where Dad always sat and put down the seat box
Telling multi-sensory story "Hook, Line and Sinker" in Batley.*

Achievement - General

We aimed to involve libraries and schools in Bolton, Bury, Calderdale, Halton, Kirklees, Knowsley, Liverpool, Manchester, Oldham, Rochdale, Salford, Sefton, St Helens, Stockport, Tameside, Trafford, Warrington, Wigan and the Wirral.



Ultimately, Knowsley, Trafford and Wigan decided not to take part either due to restructuring or too many other projects on the go.

The Tour began at Dukinfield Library in Tameside on 19th January 2009 and concluded on the afternoon of 11th February 2009 at the Crosby Library in Sefton.

In the feedback from schools, 100% of the respondents said the children had enjoyed the sessions and 100% said they had benefited from them.

Of the trainees, 100% rated the style of the training “good” or “very good”; 99% % rated the quality “good” or “very good” and 99% rated the quantity “good” or “very good”

We were also delighted to see that 96% of trainees found the topics to be relevant to their own work. This confirmed what we knew anecdotally, that library staff do wish to work more closely with children with special educational needs.

Performance against Aims

Aim 1 – To **exemplify** multi-sensory storytelling, showing how it can provide a session of fun and learning for children with special needs in their local community libraries.

1.a) *recruiting a professional Trainer-Storyteller, and background checking him/her, in line with Bag Books' Child Protection procedures*

As with many of the previous tours, Barnard Tagliavini was our sole Trainer-Storyteller for the North West Tour. In addition to Bag Books' work, Bernard works on the Persula Foundation's storytelling tours. All appropriate background checks were already in place for Bernard, as he was a seasoned storyteller, well-used to working with vulnerable audiences of many different types.

1.b) *training the Trainer-Storyteller in how to deliver multi-sensory stories, how to handle children with additional needs safely, and how to give the children the most stimulating and rewarding experience possible*

Bernard was experienced at conducting storytelling sessions and Multi-Sensory Storytelling Technique (MSST) training workshops.

1.c) *providing ongoing support and monitoring to the Trainer-Storyteller, during the Tour, including site visits, telephone support and monthly performance reviews*

Telephone contact was maintained with Bernard, with verbal reports adding to the reports provided on every session undertaken. As part of our regular feedback process, we requested that participants express their views of the sessions directly to Bag Books (i.e. not via the Trainer-Storyteller). No negative reports were received in relation to Bernard.

1.d) *producing a leaflet for libraries, outlining the people and processes involved*

As an original project aim, the idea of a specific leaflet for this purpose was set aside several Tours ago. We have worked on the basis of individually tailored letters, which have been very successful at informing and engaging library staff.

1.e) *contacting Central Library Services in the target local authority areas, offering the service to them centrally before approaching individual libraries*

Initial contact was made by an e-mail sent to the senior library service officers in each local authority area, indicating that the Story-Go-Round Tour would be visiting their area and that we were seeking library branches to host storytelling events. We explained that our aim was to train library staff, leaving them confident to work with special needs youngsters; we would arrange everything with the schools (unless they had a pre-existing relationship); we would not charge!

1.f) *contacting libraries* in the target Local authority areas, offering the Tour to come to their library, without charge

Our Story-Go-Round Co-ordinator, Kate Blake, has been in post since the start of 2008. It is Kate's responsibility to prepare, plan and run Story-Go-Round.

Kate used resources such as the Special Education Director, the Libraries and Information Services directory and Google (especially the Google Maps service) to identify, match and approach appropriate library branches.

Kate telephoned each to ascertain their level of interest, followed up with an informal e-mail, and finally sent a formal letter and information setting out full details.

Before the inception of the Story-Go-Round Project, libraries would often be keen for Bag Books to hold a "day of storytelling" for local youngsters, but they would simply leave us to get on with it! It remained a core principle of the Project that we would only offer the storytelling sessions if the library agreed to accept training. We did not demand that libraries commit to continue multi-sensory storytelling, although we made it clear that this was our ultimate goal.

1.g) *contacting local special schools*, ensuring their involvement in the Project

Kate's research identified suitable schools and she contacted them by email, telephone and letter.

1.h) *gathering and collating feedback* from the Trainer-Storyteller and participants

The Trainer-Storyteller completed a report for each session, outlining the number of children and adults attending, and additional information (appended to this Report). All host libraries and participant schools services were sent monitoring forms.

9 of 22 libraries and 14 of 30 schools replied. This was roughly the same proportion as the previous region (the North East).

All attendees at training sessions were asked to complete a feedback form with standard questions. These responses are also appended to this Report.

1.i) *working closely with all stakeholders*, to ensure that the greatest possible number of beneficiaries are reached

During the Tour, 362 children had a chance to come out from their schools into their local libraries, and be a part of community life. They enjoyed stories such as "The Uninvited Guests", "Kofi and the Magic Shaker" and (of course a big favourite) "C.J. the Library Cat".

Those benefiting from the training and the children who take part "on the day" certainly are beneficiaries; but key to the overall goal is that many more children's lives will be enriched in the coming months and years by gaining more access to multi-sensory stories.

1.j) *demonstrating accessible storytelling* to those parents, carers, special school staff and librarians attending the storytelling sessions with the children

We held 52 storytelling demonstration sessions at 22 host libraries (and two schools when libraries were not available/suitable). 167 members of library staff, 55 teachers, 178 support assistants and 75 others observed the storytelling sessions.

Aim 2 – To **enable** local library staff to continue providing regular multi-sensory storytelling to these local children and their families, by training them to use story-packs

During 16 training workshops, 129 library staff, 21 school staff and 37 others were trained in the use of multi-sensory story-packs.

The training package included an overview of the academic research on which the Multi-Sensory Storytelling Technique is based; working with children and young people with special needs; practical hints and tips for setting up storytelling sessions; and examples of how and why the story-packs have the beneficial effect they do. There was, as part of each workshop, hands-on practice in using multi-sensory story-packs with colleagues.



The toys that the children have left in the library. Telling multi-sensory story "CJ The Library Cat" in Batley.

Thanks

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Appendices

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Appendix I – Tour Summary – Storytelling

Date	Venue	Sessions	Children
19/01/2009	Dukinfield Library	3	26
20/01/2009	Alkrington Library	3	29
21/01/2009	Brighthouse Library	2	19
21/01/2009	Halifax Library	1	10
22/01/2009	Failsworth Library	2	9
22/01/2009	Oldham Library	1	7
23/01/2009	Batley Library	3	13
26/01/2009	Dialstone Library	2	15
26/01/2009	Cheadle Library	1	6
27/01/2009	Bury Library	2	13
27/01/2009	Unsworth Library	1	6
28/01/2009	North City Library, Manchester	2	10
28/01/2009	Gorton Library, Manchester	1	7
29/01/2009	Rodney House School, Manchester	5	40
30/01/2009	Swinton Library	2	12
30/01/2009	Eccles Library	1	3
02/02/2009	Bolton Central Library	2	13
03/02/2009	Birchwood Library	3	21
04/02/2009	Haydock East Library, St Helens	3	13
05/02/2009	Royal School for the Blind, Liverpool	4	40
06/02/2009	Widnes Library	3	16
10/02/2009	Wallasey Library, Wirral	3	23
11/02/2009	Crosby Library, Sefton	1	6
11/02/2009	Formby Library, Sefton	1	5
		52	362

Appendix I – Tour Summary - Training

Date	Venue	Library Staffs	Others	Total Trained
19/01/2009	Dukinfield Library	4	6	10
20/01/2009	Alkrington Library	12	2	14
21/01/2009	Halifax Library	4	7	11
22/01/2009	Oldham Library	9	3	12
23/01/2009	Batley Library	7	2	9
26/01/2009	Cheadle Library	11	2	13
27/01/2009	Unsworth Library	4	1	5
28/01/2009	Gorton Library, Manchester	13	6	19
30/01/2009	Eccles Library	6	9	15
02/02/2009	Bolton Central Library	12	2	14
03/02/2009	Birchwood Library	8	4	12
04/02/2009	Haydock East Library, St Helens	9	0	9
06/02/2009	Widnes Library	8	4	12
10/02/2009	Wallasey Library, Wirral	10	1	11
11/02/2009	Crosby Library, Sefton	5	4	9
11/02/2009	Formby Library, Sefton	7	5	12
	16 venues	129	58	187

Appendix II – Trainer-Storyteller’s Session Reports

Reports from Bernard Tagliavini.

19/01/2009	Oakdale	A very pleasant group generally quite attentive. Arrived nearly 15 mins late so only time for 2 stories
	Cromwell	A very patient group as the 1st half had to wait 15 mins for the 2nd half to arrive - I would have started without them but they kept saying "they'll be here any moment!" A really enthusiastic and responsive group. Excellent attention span throughout.
	Oakdale	Again, the school arrived 15 mins late there was only time for 2 stories. However, they were a delightful group and reacted brilliantly to the stories.
20/01/2009	Newlands	A lovely group where the children generally were very inquisitive about everything. 1 PMLD girl reaching out for objects which apparently she never normally does.
	Cosy Toes/ Springside	The nursery group arrived early and we started 10 minutes early. 15 mins later, halfway through Kofi a group from Springside arrived(!?) But in fact this worked wonderfully well as the 2 groups joined happily together and the observers were able to see the flexibility of the stories. A marvellous atmosphere.
	Newlands	A brilliant session with a superb group of enthusiastic children
21/01/2009	Highbury	School late arriving! Delayed further by single lift taking just 1 wheelchair at a time to the 1st floor for the session. They were, however, a pretty responsive group and easy to engage.
	Highbury	Although just 1 more child than the first group it seemed harder to maintain their attention. A good session nonetheless, with 2 or 3 really enjoying themselves.
	Ravenscliffe	A lively group, mostly, with 1 or 2 getting a little over - excited, but everything was good - natured. A lovely group to work with and a wide range of abilities.
22/01/2009	Kingfisher	2 children with severe HI but fairly reasonable cognitive skills. A really lovely group which clearly enjoyed each others company and carefully watched one another. Hopefully the teacher will email some photos. Librarians very moved by the responses.
	Little Stars Nursery	4 very sweet and well behaved pre school children. Attention started to waver slightly after 20 mins but then became engrossed with the last story.
	Kingfisher	Attentive group. 1 disruptive child who settled well half way through. A good session.
23/01/2009	Headlands Junior	Perfect example to be shown of working with 4 very autistic kids who responded exactly as expected. Brilliant session!
	Holly Bank	A delightful, responsive pair in wheelchairs with absolutely no controlled physical movement or vocals.... But extremely attentive.
	Fairfield	A mixture of abilities. Lovely session. Great responses.
26/01/2009	Lisburne	Very mixed ages and abilities. 1 child whined and cried constantly throughout and was eventually taken out. The others really enjoyed the session.
	General Public Toddler	Very shy group to begin with - "who's this strange man at our story session" But they quickly settled in and responded brilliantly!

	Valley	A very mixed group, but with 1 or 2 having some reasonable speech. A good session for observers.
27/01/2009	Millwood	Very difficult transport problems (cost them £70 to come 3 miles!) and were late arriving. But a lovely session, but with 1 child sleeping through most of it and 1 girl crying almost constantly. The others loved it!
	Millwood	A splendid totally engaged group. Easy to work with. The school staff commented that they had never seen one particular girl laugh so much and certainly would never remain focussed for so long.
	Elms Bank	A nice mix of disabilities for the observers to watch and a very pleasant group. Great reactions
28/01/2009	Camberwell Park	School arrived late. Noisy, distractive area in the library. Teacher insisted on constantly plying the children with bags of Quavers throughout - very irritating as their hands were always full of messy quavers! She wanted to take the children away 1 at a time to take a photo in the library with them during the last story ..so I (politely) declined to tell a 3rd story with all the distractions. A frustrating session! Proved to be a good decision as the next group then arrived early
	Camberwell Park	All in wheelchairs, no speech, but increasingly a greater level of anticipation and attention as the session progressed. A much better session - the teacher and assistants were fully engaged with the children. Lots of smiles and reaching out to feel objects.
	Melland High	A superb group of teenagers. Brilliant session for observers to see.
29/01/2009	Rodney House	Although Nicola Thomson had said that they were looking to try and get all 40 children into a morning's worth of sessions I pointed out that each of the 3 sessions she wanted would be for 12 or more children. I explained that this was possible even in the small cramped room that they had given me, but the children would benefit much more from smaller groups. She therefore agreed to let me stay the whole day and split them into 5 sessions. The children, many being there for assessment, were of very mixed ability and some with very challenging behaviour, but the sessions all went very well. The staff feedback to Nicola was very positive and she said that she had been asked to purchase some bag books for the school.
30/01/2009	Springwood	A lovely group. 1 boy a little distractive, but still a joy to work with. The photographer will send some pictures in a week or so.
	Springwood	Energetic, easily engaged group. All gave superb attention throughout much to the amazement of the school staff. One over enthusiastic child broke a handle on the "splash" board (page 10) of "Sea Rescue" Made repair.
	Springwood	School arrived late and the teacher felt a bit daunted by the large group of observers sat waiting - though the kids seemed unperturbed. 1 boy rather distraught to begin with but settled well. A quiet subdued session.
02/02/2009	Greenfold	Session cancelled due to snow. Bernard visited the school.
	Greenfold	
03/02/2009	Fox Wood	Apart from 1 girl becoming very agitated at the start and being taken back to school this was a very good group to observe.
	Fox Wood	A really receptive group. Very excited by everything
	Fox Wood	A very pleasant session. A quietish group with 1 girl needing to be removed then brought back for the last session.
04/02/2009	Wargrave House	No librarians to observe.... A real shame as they would have been a classic group of just autistic children, displaying clear flashes of joint attention. The teacher thought the school has only "Desmond"

	Mill Green	A lively group. 1 severely Autistic girl proved to be quite a handful with 2 TA's having to hold her in her chair - but she did participate. Photo permission granted and photos will be sent through - though no librarians to observe again. The school has about 15 bag books
	Mill Green	A quiet group. Slow to become fully involved but they got there by the second story. Some very nice reactions.
05/02/2009	Royal School for the Blind	A really lovely day. All the sessions went very well. Although they make and use their own multi-sensory packs all the staff were very impressed with the bag books. A great atmosphere - caring and friendly. They have recently been left a sum of money by the family of a pupil who died at Christmas and Claire Geraghty and others think it will be well spent purchasing some bag books.
06/02/2009	Brookfields	Group arrived late but the time we had for 2 stories went well. 2 lost concentration after 20 mins and were removed to another part of the room, but the other 3 children were glued to the stories
	Brookfields	Arrived half an hour late - only time for 2 stories, but again, they were a really good group to work with.
	Cavendish	
10/02/2009	Elleray Park	A lively group with a couple of "runners" who got sucked into the stories halfway through the 1st one and stayed the distance
	Stanley	A group of quite severely Autistic children. 2 "runners" - 1 eventually sat down and settled well, the other had to be taken back to school. The group generally settled more and more as the session progressed
	Elleray Park	A great group of children - very responsive with several with good verbal skills
11/02.2009	Rowan Park	A slightly subdued group to begin with, but they gradually became increasingly involved. One boy impossible to keep seated and was constantly exploring the room and people in it. However, he frequently allowed himself to be drawn into the stories and responded very well. The "sitting down" rule did not apply to him!
11/02/2009	Merefield	A little overcrowded in this meeting room with all the carers and observers, but the children didn't seem to mind. Lovely reactions and smiles. A good mix of disabilities for people to observe the bag books with.

Appendix III – Libraries' Feedback

Library	What was your/colleagues' experience of the Story-Go-Round events? What was good? What was not?	What has been your/colleagues' experience of children with SEN before today? Is a library an appropriate place for them? Why?	What would increase the likelihood of your library offering multi-sensory storytelling for children with SEN?
Dukinfield	Yes, excellent feedback	Very limited. Event has really helped to build bridges with local SEN	Resources to do so.
Brighthouse	Well planned	Yes, the library is highly suitable, recently adapted for wheelchair access	More knowledge of what different children understand - limitations of what they know, appropriate ways to talk/respond to SEN children
Failsworth	Everyone enjoyed the event and it was great to see the children respond. Great to see how little changes can make all the difference	We had a very hands off approach - but now this will be changed in the future. They are welcome at all of Oldham's Libraries	We will now try to do this.
Oldham	The children were delightful and Bernard was an inspiration with his story-go-round techniques. Received very positive feedback from all the people who attended the events and training. Thank you.	Some of the borough's libraries are suitable venues. However, a few would not have adequate access. Staff from community libraries visit their local special school.	After purchasing a number of bag books and more training for other members of staff.
Unsworth	The staff who attended thought the session was excellent and the "storyteller" interacted brilliantly with the children	The local school normally visit weekly with a group of children. Access into the building is ok. They seem to enjoy their visits and they take books and films back to school.	Good training for the staff. Appropriate books / toys etc.
Birchwood	Excellent storytimes - good to see how it can be done. I didn't attend afternoon training but reports back were positive.	Local special school is very close so at least one class a week visit to look around and borrow books. Seems to work well. There used to be a regular storytime sessions but member of staff who led these has left so these no longer take place. The school usually requests storytimes / activities for 2 classes on World Book Day which we are happy to run	A teacher from the special school taking part in the storytime - possibly telling a story each. Appropriate materials needed.
Wallasey	Was good, would have been useful to have other professionals from outside libraries - their viewpoints.	Some lot more contact than others. Yes library's have a total inclusion policy.	Training and sessions with children already know and work with.

Sefton	All the attendees I spoke to found it inspiring and want us to buy bag books . The schools want to visit the libraries again	Varied depending on visits to the library. The library service has not previously invited SEN schools in. We will however do so again once we have bag books and staff are confident to do the storytimes	Getting some bag books - we have no book fund left but will buy some in April. Will then work with some staff until they are confident to work with SEN groups.
Unknown	The storyteller was positive, enthusiastic and exceptionally skilled. He really demonstrated how to engage in the children and built our confidence in using the books. His enthusiasm was infectious and he was very encouraging. One of the best opportunities I have experienced in a long time.	Our library is an appropriate place but we don't yet do enough. We are physically accessible - but we should do more events and activities to include these children and their families. This training will help us achieve that.	

Quantitative Qs&As:

What was your library's overall experience of Story-Go-Round?		
v. poor	0	0%
poor	0	0%
average	0	0%
good	0	0%
v. good	9	100%

What was your library's overall experience of Bag Books' organisation?		
v. poor	0	0%
poor	1	11%
average	0	0%
good	4	44%
v. good	4	44%

What was your library's overall experience of the information you received before the event?		
v. poor	0	0%
poor	0	0%
average	0	0%
good	5	55%
v. good	4	44%

What was your library's overall experience of the running of the event on the day?		
v. poor	0	0%
poor	0	0%
average	0	0%
good	0	0%
v. good	9	100%

Your library's active relationship with your local special school		
v. poor	1	11%
poor	1	11%
average	4	44%
good	2	22%
v. good	1	11%

How many visits by children with SEN to your local library with school?		
<1/term	2	22%
1/term	2	22%
2-5/term	2	22%
6-10/term	0	0%
>10/term	3	33%

How many visits by a child with SEN to you library with family?		
<1/term	0	0%
1/term	2	33%
2-5/term	2	33%
6-10/term	0	0%
>10/term	2	33%

How many visits by your library to your local special school?		
<1/term	6	66%
1/term	1	11%
2-5/term	1	11%
6-10/term	1	11%
>10/term	0	0%

**Would you be confident and happy to offer multi-sensory storytelling...
...as things stand now?**

def. no	0	0%
prob. no	1	13%
possibly	2	25%
prob. yes	5	63%
def. yes	0	0%

...with more training?

def. no	0	0%
prob. no	0	0%
possibly	3	38%
prob. yes	4	50%
def. yes	1	13%

...with other support?

def. no	0	0%
prob. no	0	0%
possibly	2	25%
prob. yes	4	50%
def. yes	2	25%

What would be an appropriate frequency for such sessions?

<1/term	0	0%
1/term	4	50%
2-5/term	4	50%
6-10/term	0	0%
>10/term	0	0%

Appendix IV – Schools' Feedback

School	What was your/colleagues' experience of the SGR event? What was good? What was not?
Oakdale	Presentation and presenter good. Very enthusiastic. Stories well chosen and relevant and interesting.
Highbury	The interaction with our children was excellent and included all of the wide range of sensory needs.
Ravenscliffe	Everybody felt very positive about the event on the bus back to school. We discussed that we should be including more storytelling in the students' curriculum. The room used for the event was a little distracting as it had large windows looking into busy Halifax town centre.
Holly Bank	Good - focus very much on students seeing the students' enjoyment. Not so Good parking was touch and go
Fairfield	It was good that the library was quiet for our group - members of the general public coming in and out could potentially have been distracting
Millwood	I couldn't fault anything about the event. The whole session was wonderful - all the children were engaged throughout. It was pitched perfectly and included all ages and abilities
Elms Bank	
Melland	Students thoroughly enjoyed the experience. The story teller was very good. It was nice he used the students names during the session. Staff came away feeling inspired and wanting to give students the opportunity to do this more often.
Wargrave House	Everything was great
Mill Green	The event was excellent our students with PMLD are rarely invited to such events and they had an amazing time. The storyteller was fantastic and the staff learnt an awful lot of useful techniques
Brookfields	It was nice to be in a different setting and for the children to experience a multi-sensory story told by a very good storyteller in a way that reached our children's level.
Cavendish	Event was lovely. The students would have benefited from slightly longer to explore each item
Rowan Park	The organisation was very good. The story teller had all the resources on display. Access to the library was very good. Only 'criticism' was the stories were a bit rushed - we had 3 stories in the time I would take to tell one. However I do appreciate that the storyteller was wanting to show a variety of stories and their props to the library staff.
Merefield	Pupils' reaction was excellent, they all participated well and got a lot out of the experience. Staff commented on how the children responded well.

School	What were the best and worst aspects of the children's experience?	How could the sessions be changed to better address the needs of your pupils?	Is there anything else you would like to tell us?
Oakdale	All children involved. Name badges personalised.	Morning sessions so not as rushed.	Very enjoyable for staff and pupils. We use the bag books in school, children have them. Perhaps a token towards new bag book would be appreciated? Thank you for inviting us.
Highbury	Advantages and disadvantages for both (whether the library should be open) - The library is another area for the children to visit and experience books of all types. The room was not as "comfortable" as the downstairs areas of the library as it was a functional "conference" type room, but served its purpose.	Visits to the school as well as provided in the library. Sessions for other groups of children - ASD ADHD	The children and the support staff thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity and engaged within the story.
Ravenscliffe	The stories were humourous - fast paced and interactive. Very appropriate to the needs of our students. The storyteller was very skilled and professional I genuinely can't think of any worst aspects!	Perhaps a change of venue - because there wasn't a hoist or alternative seating so students couldn't be positioned out of their wheelchairs. We would be able to host the event at school and further the link with the library.	I was just wondering if you included stories to support students dealing with emotional events e.g. bereavement or a stay in a hospital? The books that I have used / seen at the event have all been humourous and fun. I just wondered if you'd considered supportive stories as they have a different role but are needed for students with complex and multiple learning difficulties.
Holly Bank	Best aspects - meaningful interaction which was appropriate and fun - students were made to feel important	Great as they are	
Fairfield	The storytelling was good. The environment was suitable. A group of more than 6 pupils could mean that the "gap" before exploring an object could be too great and interest could be lost.	It was great - 3 stories was enough	It's good for us to have the opportunity to make community links in this way - it's important for our pupils to experience different environments

Millwood		It was very appropriate as it was. The location was also appropriate	Bernard, the storyteller, was wonderful as a storyteller and engaging with the children
Elms Bank	Children enjoyed joining in with story in a different place i.e. library, liked male storyteller. Children were very engaged with story, especially at beginning.	Once per half term would be the ideal amount of sessions by keeping them "special". Liaison with teacher to identify current targets or teaching themes would help address the needs of students most effectively	Everyone enjoyed the session. It was useful for me to observe students' reactions to story.
Melland	Staff came away feeling inspired and wanting to give students the opportunity to do this more often.	The session was great the way it was.	In regard to the question, should the library be open to the public during these visits? I don't see why not although the less distractions that are around the students during storytelling the better.
Wargrave House	Having the hands on experience of the stories in a library setting		It was a wonderful experience for both the students and staff. Thank you for inviting our school and we hope to have more sessions in the near future.
Mill Green	Best - Bernard the storyteller sharing ideas with staff as he told the story, the children's faces during the whole event. Worst - none	The times would need to be negotiated we were a bit rushed after the session to get back to school as it takes a long time to secure all of the wheelchairs with clamps on the minibuses.	This was a wonderful experience for students and staff, I hope the library contact us to invite us again!
Brookfields	The best aspects was the storyteller who was larger than life and the children loved being involved in the stories. I think for the nursery age one story would be enough.	Shorter sessions for the nursery children and a longer session for reception children. Although this does differ depending on the children you have in that class at the time.	It was lovely to see some of the children who would usually shy away from being involved in a classroom situation really engage and take part during the session.
Cavendish	3 stories made the session very rushed. It was fantastic for the students to access a new place and experience a different person telling a story (especially a man)	Only one story but longer to explore	We really enjoyed the session (both staff and students) and it would be lovely to forge some strong links with local libraries

Rowan Park	Yes as we were in a quiet room with no distractions or other noises, so the children could focus and there wasn't a sensory overload. The children would have benefited with a longer period of time to explore each prop.	It would be great to take the same group each week for a term/half term and then change the group however, our problem is a practical one - transport issues. An alternative would be to invite a member of the library staff into school each week. The sessions could also include a related sensory activity following the story.	Our PMLD pupils really enjoy the literacy sessions. A quiet environment is essential, for some it also has to be a familiar environment. Our primary pupils have a literacy session everyday and our secondary and 16+ pupils have 3 literacy sessions a week. We encourage the use of the same bag book per half term. I provide storytelling sessions in and around school and staff inset training and storytelling, highlighting resources and demonstrating sensory activities that relate to each story. I would be very interested in being involved in anymore projects that you have planned.
Merefield	Best: Children enjoyed being in a different environment. They enjoyed a different voice telling the story and responded well to his animated approach. Worst: nothing.	No	

Appendix V – Central Library Authorities' Feedback

Central Library Authority	Please rate your own/colleagues' experience of the SGR Tour. How much work was involved for you? Was this appropriate/too much? How could it have been better?	Is there anything else you would like to tell us?
Calderdale	It was all very good - excellent presentation, motivating, well set out, good timing. Nothing was not satisfactory	The personal visit was excellent - motivating and was useful for making links with groups outside the library.
Oldham	See host library form	
Kirklees	My colleagues all thoroughly enjoyed the day. They were inspired to go off and do their own sensory story sessions. There was nothing about the day which was not good. It was the first time we had ever had a story session where someone else had sorted out the schools which was great and allowed me to concentrate on making sure we had an audience. This was slightly diminished on the day by illness but nonetheless enthusiastic.	Thank you!
Manchester	They all found it useful and inspiring. Observing story session and seeing the bag books in use was very good. The training session was very good.	Please keep us informed about future events and training sessions.
Warrington	Colleagues really enjoyed the demonstration of the materials and interaction with the children. There was nothing that was not enjoyable. 2 (out of 4) felt that the pace of the training was a bit too fast,	We have bought resources to use in the libraries and intend to have more children from Fox Wood School. The resources are great to use with all children
Sefton	The event(s) were excellent - Bernard is a great storyteller and trainer. He didn't ring me prior to the event - he may have contacted the libraries direct.	We would like to purchase some Bag Books, however we do not get new book fund money until April 2009. Both schools who visited for the events said that they would like to bring the children to the libraries again.

Appendix VI – Training Session Participants' Feedback

Host Library	What was the best aspect of the training?	How could the training have been better?	How will you make use of today's training?	Any other comments:
Dukinfield	Practical storytelling	Little more time for looking at the different story books	Good starting point	
Dukinfield	Observing the sessions with the children and staff		Incorporate it into the special needs work we do by cascading information to settings and parents. Also using the advice / strategies to promote inclusive practice	Thank you Bernard for a very informative and inspirational training session. I thoroughly enjoyed myself and learnt a lot
Dukinfield	Seeing demonstration with children	I would have liked more time to practice	Encouraged me to use props with bi lingual children	I especially liked the story about the Hairdresser as this relates to an experience the children will probably have
Dukinfield	I enjoyed seeing the storytelling in action, it made it more relevant	Don't think it could be apart from perhaps a little longer to practise with the bag books	Possibly in an advisory capacity to other professionals	
Dukinfield	Trying for ourselves (but everything very good)		I think I still need to get to know and build confidence dealing with people which theses stories are aimed at.	
Dukinfield	Observing the trainer delivering a storytelling session		To try and build links with schools	
Dukinfield	Seeing the multi-sensory stories being performed by an expert!	Nothing other than maybe having a longer training session with more time to try out the stories	As these stories are used by all ages - we should be able to use with our pre school children. We already use similar story bags, but learning to use these would be slightly different	Excellent training session and thoroughly amused by the facilitator. Many thanks
Dukinfield	Seeing the facilitator use the stories with a group of PMLD	N/A Excellent	When Portage children are in a group situation, look at possibility of including multi-sensory stories	N/A

Dukinfield	Visually seeing the stories being used with the children. Having the opportunity to have a go with the stories	I would have preferred it if we had been initially told we were going to practise the stories in small groups. As all the way through the theory I was worried we had to do it in front of the whole training group.	Through the Portage we offer a variety of different sessions i.e. swim/groups/trips etc involving groups of children and parents. It will be ideal to use the stories during these times. We also can use them on a 1-1 basis during our home visits.	I had seen the materials on sale/display at many exhibitions/conferences that I have attended over the years. But seeing them in use and having the opportunity to have a go was fantastic. Hopefully we can now include them in some of our sessions (as above) which is very exciting. Thank you for a very enjoyable afternoon
Dukinfield	I enjoyed the observation session, the storyteller was very expressive and wonderful with the children. I also enjoyed the practice session, there was a lot of information given to us.		During portage sessions	Thank you for the opportunity to attend the course.
Alkrington	The content was very good, practice session could have been a little longer.	Would have liked more input from others who were familiar with Adult Learning Disabilities.	Take back to other staff members and feedback to other groups.	
Alkrington	Watching story demonstration		May use skills learned on rare occasions where I do storytimes for non-special needs children	Bernard gave a very entertaining and informative presentation.
Alkrington	Observing the session with the children		Try them out with children who have english as an additional language.	
Alkrington	Being able to watch the trainer deliver a session and then being able to "have a go".		I will apply it to under 5s' story sessions and may use it with class visits in the future.	Thank you - very interesting and enjoyable.
Alkrington	Observing the interaction and participation of the children. Watching the delight and enjoyment on their faces.	Excellent as it is. Lots of participation for adults. Good range of visual/oral/ participation	I already use a lot of multi-sensory aids when delivering story sessions to under 5s, but will be encouraged to tell story without a book	Stories are short and easy to understand, adaptable for all age ranges.

Alkrington	Seeing the stories used with the children.		Good tips for using props etc. with groups of children - will try to use it on under5s' storytimes first.	Really enjoyable and informative session.
Alkrington	Watching the interaction/ responses of the children to the storytelling performance.		To encourage the purchase of bag books for the library service. To promote the service and to deliver the storytelling sessions. To improve confidence.	Good delivery, well explained. Showed enthusiasm and dedication to the concept and service
Alkrington	Watching the storytelling, reactions from children participating in the storytelling		Will incorporate some of the points into own storytelling sessions. Confidence building to eventually use bag books.	Very well delivered. Thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon.
Alkrington	The trainer		Report back to my organisation.	
Alkrington	Learning different storytelling techniques. As I work with under 5s I will be able to adapt for their needs.	Longer session perhaps. More practical time	Adapt for my own storytelling sessions.	
Alkrington	Understanding special needs children. Ideas to use with existing storytime collection		Better able to cope with any special needs children who may come with family group or special school visits.	Observing group of children was very useful
Alkrington	I thought it was all excellent. The observation with the children was really good and having a go with the materials.		With visually impaired children	
Alkrington	Taking part in the storytelling afterwards. Watching the children during the storytelling session.		Learn from and hopefully use the skills that have been explained	
Alkrington	Seeing the stories used with the children then discovering the "whys and wherefores" in the training session for adults afterwards.	A chance to talk to the groups between sessions - difficult to fit into an already busy day I know.	We hope to buy some bag books for use with the early years groups -we already have 1 group of visually impaired children whose visits can be enhanced.	Thank you for providing the brilliant session.

Halifax	Looking at the stories the way the children see them. Practising delivery.		Go out into schools to deliver stories and lend our bag books out to schools.	Very interesting and enjoyable day.
Halifax	Practical demonstrations		Increased awareness of how others can use them - I am more in the position of loaning them out than using them myself.	
Halifax	Seeing the children reacting to the bag books' stories.	N/A	Hopefully provide special stories to under represented groups	Very enjoyable.
Halifax	Interactive, fully explained, excellent personality and engaging	Bigger TV	Consider bag books within future practice	Thank you - very useful information and background
Halifax	Hands on / enthusiasm of the trainer	Longer session perhaps. More practical time	Adapt ideas for the children I work with - borrow from library	Super!
Halifax	The enthusiasm of the presenter		With smaller children	
Halifax	The trainer, warmth of personality with children and during training.		Hopefully with special needs sessions we can set up	
Halifax	All			Inspiring trainer - very confident and knowledgeable
Halifax	The fact that the stories had been demonstrated prior to the training	Don't think it could have been	Enquire about borrowing bag books to use with HI pupils in Calderdale	It seems that these bag books are already in the library. I wish our service (SIS) had known.
Halifax	Use of collapsible crates		Def yes	Good quality resources built to last
Halifax	Very visual, relevant, reminder of language development and good practice	More time	Borrow bag books from library and possibly adapt own techniques	Will research on line
Oldham	Very different, didn't expect it to be so visual, tactile etc. The trainer was very good.		If my manager will not purchase a box I will think how I can develop the stories we already have.	I work in a day care with children with SEN aged 1-4. It would be nice to have the props in familiar stories e.g. Going on a bear hunt.
Oldham	All		To use at various young children's groups.	Fantastic

Oldham	Enjoyed learning how to use the resources and watching the children's reactions to story.	Can't think of anything	Hopefully acquire a bag book pack for the library and try it out.	
Oldham	All		Take it with me to respond to circumstances	
Oldham	All of it!		Within my job delivering Bookstart with a wider audience - children with SEN	Thank you - a very enjoyable day.
Oldham	Everything		Invite more groups into the library. Encourage other libraries to take part.	
Oldham	All of it		Using it at the centre	No
Oldham	Very informative and enjoyable.		Encourage libraries to invite classes containing children with special needs to storytimes.	Excellent, enjoyable and eye-opening.
Oldham	Interaction		Look at use within library.	
Oldham	Watching examples of stories told to the children			No
Oldham	All		Implement into job	Very good
Oldham	Just general points to help with storytelling	No	In under 5s' sessions	
Oldham	The trainer, Bernard, interacting with the group.	It couldn't	To inform the rest of the team about this.	
Batley	Delivery by Bernard	Couldn't have been	Within the autistic provision that I work daily	
Batley	Watch and learn - background information	Recommended reading	Story-time	Well presented and interesting
Batley	It was good that you insisted on us seeing a session. Thank you.	It couldn't	I'm going to try.	
Batley	Practical work	N/A	Hopefully with storytime in the library.	
Batley	Interacting with the stories. Getting the opportunity to have a go.	Bit longer with the story packs.	Input into planned sensory storytime for VI kids as well as pre school kids.	Amazing how simple props can enhance a child's experience within a storytime setting.

Batley	So many things that I had never thought of, all of it was brilliant		I am hoping to have school visits from our local special needs school, this will be very useful.	The most interesting afternoon for a long time.
Batley	All of it. Unable to attend sessions	?	Understanding not just physical/mental but also developmental problems. Language / development as a whole - tots -babies/ storytime.	More feedback - always useful to learn more on this subject.
Batley	All of it	No excellent covered main points and more.	Include in lessons and to link to speech and language.	
Batley	How engaging Bernard was and how well informed he is.	(Heating!) Longer. I loved it.	I'm going to use the book/boxes we have with groups I work with.	I am amazed. I've had tons of fun! I love the books.
Cheadle	That the stories can be used with all children.		Let them know at school and get them to order some stories	Really enjoyed today and the reactions of the children
Cheadle				
Cheadle	Very interesting and lots of variety and well presented.	No	Hopefully will be able to put them, into practice	Thank you!
Cheadle	Very practical and good visually		At storytime with children with disabilities	Really good, enjoyed very much. Thank you.
Cheadle	Everything. It was very interesting and good		During storytime	
Cheadle	Seeing how the children reacted to the stories.	Maybe a bit longer? More practice?	Hopefully will get the chance to put the training into practice by telling some multi-sensory stories	Really enjoyed it - thanks.
Cheadle	The hands on activity, but without the information and observation it wouldn't have been as fun or as appropriate.	A little more time to try the bag.,	See how we can incorporate into existing practice and offer to children and families.	Excellent, extremely useful adds another dimension to our work.
Cheadle	Hearing about all the research and care which goes into the packs.	More time but this not a real problem	Possibly use boxes in storytelling sessions on School Library mobile when visiting special schools.	Missed the visual impact of a picture book when watching the group session but following the training understand why this is unimportant and the value of these boxes for children with special needs.

Cheadle	Watching the storyteller actually doing a session with the children	Longer(?)	Storytime at the library - my own son	
Cheadle	Bit more time practising		Hopefully we might get some bag books and use them for storytimes, including under 5s' sessions	
Cheadle	Observing the techniques and having a practice		Encourage staff to have a go - initially with storytimes.	
Cheadle	The storytelling tips and hints		Use at library for storytime.	Enjoyed all the sessions and the interaction with the children. All my questions were answered. Thanks.
Cheadle	Very impressed with it all. Enjoyed using the bag books myself at the end of the session. Great to see what a difference it made to the children's enjoyment.	Would have liked a little longer at the end to practice using the bag books	As soon as we order books I will ask to be involved in presenting and storytelling. Helped me to think about how I can use any story session to make sure all children get the most out of it. Will share info with colleagues	Thank you very much. Excellent delivery by Bernard. Felt very comfortable to ask questions.
Unsworth	The use of the basic props (and sound effects)		Incorporate props and sound effects into my storytelling sessions	
Unsworth	Understanding the relevance to VI	To explain and train using the books rather than the book company	To continue to use these stories more within a work setting	
Unsworth	Witnessing great multi-sensory storytelling and then trying it for myself	It was lovely - thank you	I would love to - I have picked up many good tips and techniques. I need to practise but will have fun getting it. I will try it in Toddler Group first!	It was fascinating to learn the complex thought and reasoning that goes into choosing the props and the stories - I had no idea and I'm very impressed.
Unsworth	It has enabled me to overcome my barriers and also taught me so much		On school visits to Millwood and Elm Bank	I learnt so much watching the story sessions and this was explained in the training. I absolutely loved watching the children.

Unsworth	Hands on, very engaging	Don't think it could be	Yes - definitely	Feel like I could use this with my toddler storytimes
Gorton	Learning about the different groups that benefit from bag books e.g. toddlers, autistic etc. Practising stories and familiarising ourselves with the resources		Try and use as many props as possible when telling stories	Length of stories are great, Bernard's training was very enthusiastic
Gorton	Watching the stories being demonstrated		Inform my manager about purchasing bag books	Really enjoyed the training
Gorton	Use of props to engage all ranges of children	Not sure	Use of props more with younger children to start	Very interesting and quite surprising to see effect on children
Gorton	Very comprehensive, informative, observation of a story session with children with SEN	Thought it was great as it was (more time?)	To incorporate props in my session, to think about sessions more frequently for children with SEN	Excellent training, information to inform our practice.
Gorton	Observing followed by training - something to hang training on and see how props were used. Have better understanding of how to work with multi-sensory props	Was excellent	Will take on board what have learned about using props - especially repeating phrases with each child slowly.	Very useful, stimulating sessions. Thank you for the encouragement.
Gorton	Listening to Bernard	Would have liked to have more time to experiment with a second box	Will look more closely at stories to bring in other than just visual props.	Will feel more able to adapt stories for children with special needs
Gorton	Observing the sessions	More time to practise	Make use of the more props during toddlers sessions. Encourage our department to invest in some bag books materials.	Thank you
Gorton	All. Very enthusiastic. Also observation of story with children.		Feedback to staff. Use idea with children	
Gorton	Handling the props and receiving explanations.		Add to experience of storytelling. Adding to story telling technique	

Gorton			I work with autistic children and struggle with storytelling - keeping attention etc.	
Gorton	Observing the class visit and hands on session at the end of the training.		Very useful for class visits / storytime sessions with special needs and younger children	Very useful training session - well delivered
Gorton	Seeing and using the resources.	Longer - more chance for questions	Think further about our provisions for stories with special needs schools	
Gorton	Showing how the children feel - with examples	More teaching how to use props, for full sensory experience	Write up my notes and tips taken from Bernard - think about the props at work and use them for future story sessions	I found this training highly valuable and never would have thought of some of the ideas mentioned.
Gorton	Understanding of technique e.g., repetition, tone etc.	Bit more interaction and feedback	Storytelling in special schools and with early years	
Gorton	We had the opportunity to have a practice just when the session started	It was brilliant!	In my crèche I will try and use it	Excellent
Gorton	Interactiveness of it. Seeing it "in action" with group of children		Have a practice with some of the stories and props I have already. Take to managers to see if we are able to purchase some	
Gorton	Seeing practical demonstration	Handouts?	Use in work with special schools	
Gorton	Getting to know bag books, what they can offer groups of children		Would like to use bag books resources with toddlers and make all story/rhyme times more multi sensory	
Gorton	Observing a session and practise	More time to look at boxes	Will make story sacks /use of props in stories more multi-sensory	Thanks
Eccles	Hearing about the development and reasoning behind bag books		I will try to introduce more sensory element into my under 5s' story telling	Excellent session with the children and very good training session.

Eccles	Participating in the storytelling	More time to explore stories	Cascade back to team	I've worked in MLD school and instinctively know the value of bag books. Thank you.
Eccles	Seeing bag books in action in the storytimes		Adapt ideas to appropriate length stories	
Eccles	Information about language development regarding associations	More time to use	Incorporate more textures into storytime	Very interesting
Eccles	Trying to tell the stories and watching the story session	More time to try out the stories	Use them in telling stories to preschool	
Eccles	Seeing the session done with the children		Possibly start with a small group of younger children to get comfortable with doing this.	I never thought telling stories using props could be done so interactively but so simply.
Eccles				
Eccles	All of it	Nothing	Yes definitely	Really enjoyed the session.
Eccles				
Eccles	Trainer's good background knowledge	I could have invited more staff	Use in storytime sessions. Maybe do a bit of research Use in our centre's sensory days	
Eccles	Everything great / balance of theory / video evidence / group interactive aspect. The presenter- fab!	Size of room /seating arrangement / size of TV. Longer on activity.	Take back principles to practice / more engaging with children using objects.	Very good - really glad I came. Thank you.
Eccles	Watching practical session with "real" children	Bigger TV maybe? DVD?	Spread the word about Bag Books - to settings which may be able to make use of them.	
Eccles	Seeing the practical session and knowledge of the trainer. Presentation = excellent	No	Take back to children's centre and want to develop, purchase some for lending and using	
Eccles	Reaction of the children			Very inspiring trainer. Thank you
Eccles			In my storytimes in libraries	
Bolton	Knowledge of tutor and experience he passed		Look at possibility of developing within Arts Devt work in Bolton and Disability Arts Network in the future	Do you recommend stories for particular groups / ages etc?

Bolton	Trainer's presentation and style and examples of storytelling		Make the training part of our storytelling programme	
Bolton	Reasons behind the packs		Will perhaps adapt ordinary books and emphasise passages	
Bolton			Storytime with toddlers	
Bolton	Seeing how to do the stories well	If the school had been able to attend	Look at possibility of obtaining some bag books. Share with other staff	Bernard was excellent, knowledgeable and enthusiastic
Bolton	"Hands on" practice	It was very good indeed	I will use multi-sensory stories with toddlers next time I read to them	
Bolton	The interaction in the stories	If we had seen it demonstrated on children live instead of just on video	Might use some in toddler tales	
Bolton	Hearing the stories Hands on practice		Incorporate into library storytelling sessions	
Bolton	Practical exercise and Bernard telling the stories (Fascinating - haven't seen this before!!)	Nothing - very thorough!	Would like to try a story in a toddler tale session	Really great afternoon!!
Bolton	Being able to use the bag books. Lots of info to put the use of items in context and understand how they are used.		Use knowledge and skills to enhance storytelling with early years. Hope to work to engage special needs groups	The trainer was fantastic and I thoroughly enjoyed the session.
Bolton	Interesting history of Bag Books which supported the format. Well informed and enthusiastic trainer	Couldn't have been	Delivering story sessions in schools, playgroups and libraries.	
Bolton	Listening to stories in practice	If class had attended as planned	look into the possibility of purchasing some books to use in early years/special school settings	
Bolton	Seeing the story materialise in front of you. Teaching you to slow down and repeat the sentences. Use a visual stimulus.		Cascade to other staff members	

Bolton	Explanation of the senses and how disabled people adapt interactivity	More chance to practise. Pointers	Hopefully if the service decides to buy the bag books I'll be able to use the skills I have learnt today.	Very enjoyable!
Birchwood	Watching the children		Use it in schools and nursery settings - tactile / sensory approach	
Birchwood	All of it was excellent. Watching the children	It couldn't	Use it in a training activity for practitioners.	
Birchwood	Seeing the children's reactions		I'd like to try and tell a story	I really enjoyed the day
Birchwood	Practical information and chance to see storytelling in action		Try to do more story sessions with disabled children	
Birchwood	Watching a session			
Birchwood	Watching a storytelling session	A little longer	Organise a session with local school	
Birchwood	Giving the audience an opportunity to see storytelling in action with the children	Thought it was a nice mix	With children and training childcare staff	Very good presenter, put everyone at their ease
Birchwood	Seeing what is being done		Different way to tell stories	
Birchwood	Ideas of how to deliver a story session	Could be longer as very informative	To use all the ideas learnt	An excellent experience
Birchwood	Practical - seeing bag books in action. Thorough explanation		In nursery SEN sessions	Excellent!
Birchwood	Understanding how it helps develop the child.			
Birchwood	Watching the session in action	N/A	Be more confident and aware.	
Haydock East	Watching Bernard telling the story	A little more time to use the books	Hopefully set up a session and if not at least get involved with a session within the library service.	Very enjoyable session which also had very good content
Haydock East	Having a go with the bag books ourselves	Perhaps observing another group of children with different needs	Perhaps try this style of storytelling out with a small of children. Talk about bag books to sure start colleagues.	Very interesting. Will look at the handouts in more detail later.

Haydock East	Seeing the trainer in action	More practice time	Will use some of the techniques shown in story sessions	Enjoyed the session. Very helpful to see them being used during a "real" storytime.
Haydock East	Trying out the bag books. Information on how to interact with people / children with special needs.		Hopefully incorporate into story sessions that we run in the future.	Enjoyable session
Haydock East	Seeing it done properly		Hopefully within storytelling sessions already being done in schools then maybe including schools in St Helens.	
Haydock East	Watching the storyteller in action with the children	Venue was a bit airless	Hopefully we will be able to use bag books in sessions with pre school children then build up the techniques and confidence to use with children with disabilities	The information given was very interesting and presented in a clear and engaging way with lots of enthusiasm, passion and dedication.
Haydock East	Seeing different techniques of storytelling for children with disabilities.	I felt very awkward watching the children - it felt like they were performing for us. (Would be better if chairs were arranged in a circle)	Use techniques where appropriate.	Thank you for an informative and inspiring session.
Haydock East	All extremely interesting		We will look into buying some resources and setting up sessions.	
Haydock East	The trainer and the expertise communicated by him	I don't think it could have been better in 1 session as there was a lot to take in. More would have been an overkill.	Depends on what I am directed to do. Definitely try to use what I have learned in storytimes	Thoroughly enjoyed the session. It held my interest throughout.
Widnes	Watching how to use and how the children react to the bag books	No idea	Possibly with Rhyme time (pre-school) children. Its also given me a good understanding of how children take in info and learn.	Not sure I would have the confidence to use with disabled children as not enough understanding/experience of disabilities etc. But great fun for pre-school

Widnes	The interactive nature of it.	More video footage	Implement the techniques and knowledge I've learned into rhyme time sessions	Very interesting afternoon! Has definitely installed confidence into me and want to try out the stories on a group in the library.
Widnes	The storytelling and how each individual child was encouraged to participate.	Couldn't fault it. Excellent	Incorporate ideas into pre school storytelling sessions	Would love to be involved in making bag books but London is a long way
Widnes	Watching the children's reactions to the props.	Couldn't	Will take back the info to line manager to hopefully purchase some	Very inclusive way to tell stories would love to try with mother and tots group.
Widnes	Seeing the resources and story in action which means we could relate to it during the training	NO improvements needed, it was excellent	I will pass on ideas to school staff and use sensory ideas in my approaches to storytelling	
Widnes	Observation then theory then practice, really worked well	More practice at the end with stories	Think about setting up in library for rhyme time sessions initially.	
Widnes	Seeing the Bag books working in a real situation and then talking about it.	I don't think it could have been better in 1 session as there was a lot to take in. More would have been an overkill.	We will invite special needs schools to bring children to the library - hopefully buy a couple of bag books	The trainer was really good and although I don't think we could do it as well as he did I think we could have a go!
Widnes	Seeing the storyteller in action, using the bag books with the children	No	Hopefully we will get some bag books to use in the library	
Widnes	Loved the animated storytelling and reactions of the children	No improvements needed.	Will use it to tell stories to my own children and in library Rhyme time	Good talking about the importance of using different senses when storytelling.
Widnes	All, training and storysessions	N/A	Feedback to own team and Early Years practitioners within settings	This training would be extremely useful for Early Years /Nursery Practitioners in Halton.
Widnes	Personal training and excellent demonstrations	No improvements required	Spread word to other settings that I am involved with	
Widnes	Having a go. Thinking about how we process words, sounds and smells	Possibly more time	We will purchase some bag books and have a go	

Wallasey	Gave insight as to the relevance of a child of special needs and the story books	Excellent	I will be incorporating into my sessions as soon as possible	
Wallasey	Bernard had excellent knowledge and experience		Hopefully have a story time	
Wallasey	The use of props and how to weave them into the story		I will use the ideas and training to improve my weekly storytime sessions	
Wallasey	Having a go with the props			
Wallasey	I enjoyed all the training from seeing the storyteller with the class to experiencing the role play for myself		I can see it being very useful in our storytime sessions but especially when working with children who have special needs	
Wallasey	The explanation of the reasons of how the stories are told and put together		Its always interesting and will definitely make use of today's training	
Wallasey	Having the children there and seeing their reactions to the stories		Use it when reading in storytime	
Wallasey	Bernard was very knowledgeable and friendly		Not sure. Depends if librarians set up sessions.	
Wallasey	Watching way interact with each child		Rethinking how I deliver stories	
Wallasey	New ideas and grabbed my attention		Will hopefully incorporate into my under 5s sessions	
Wallasey	Watching Bernard in action. Having a go	A little bit longer to ask questions	Yes	
Crosby	Seeing a session, watching how it works and effects the children	Videos worked	Use in sessions. Learnt how to interact in different ways	Thanks
Crosby	To be shown how to tell the story by using the props and how to interact with the children	I think the trainer covered every aspect of the training session	By using the techniques when telling storytime to any special needs children in the storytime session	I enjoyed the session as it helped me understand multi-sensory storytelling

Crosby	It was enormous FUN! Bernard was so talented and gave such useful information and made it such fun!		The setting does have bag books in place - I will use them and copy Bernard's techniques	Having worked with mainstream nursery children for 7 years and used storybags I know they are valuable. In new job now in special needs school this was so, so useful and will use this training.
Crosby	Watching the storytelling		Informative	
Crosby	Making the link between sensory experience and language development fun	It couldn't	I'll look at Bag Books online and order for the children's centre	
Crosby	Getting into the "shoes" of the kids and what it is like for them when story being told to them	Maybe longer as so much to learn	If I ever come in contact with a special needs child at a storytime session I will know how to read/reach story to them	
Crosby	Watching how to actually give a bag books story and understanding what it involves and why		Transfer some of the skills and better understanding to my class visits	
Crosby	Understanding language origins		Use in my everyday work with ASD	No
Crosby	The theory of inclusion for all abilities	WE do a lot of storytelling with preschool - including mixed ability	Think of how to keep attention more with younger learners / listeners	Training was informative and vital
Formby	The whole afternoon, with such a knowledgeable and interesting teacher	More time to take more in would have been good	By hopefully being able to utilise it for story and toddlers' times, special needs, outside reach visits.	
Formby	It was very clear how to tell the stories	N/A	If Sefton decide to buy these books then we could use them on pre-school children to begin with.	Very impressed with the books and such a simple idea
Formby	Watching it being delivered to a group of disabled children. I felt it was very useful		If Sefton decide to use bag books I will hopefully be given an opportunity to use at storytime sessions.	Very impressed with the concept and usefulness of the bag books

Formby	Encouragement to "involve" storytelling / child encouragement		Use more interactive props for stories, possibly.....	
Formby	All relevant	I don't think it could be improved	Look to using it with future links to special needs	Enjoyed the training - very well delivered
Formby	Bernard's style was excellent and very helpful. Lovely to meet the children and staff from Merefield	It was excellent	I will order some bags - use with our storytime groups first. Then invite special school groups in	Really enjoyable
Formby	Watching the interaction with the children			
Formby	Very hands on and practical		Use it with PMLD children	
Formby			Use ideas for storytelling in therapy groups and 1:1 sessions	Really liked the range of props and sensory stimuli. A real fun yet informative, session. Thank you.
Formby	Involvement of the children, fantastic to see their responses		Already using bag books but great to have reinforcement of philosophy behind them	
Formby	Information about the children		Try to use bag books	
Formby	All of it, very good!!		Feedback the information to work, so hopefully we could do it	Very good, really enjoyed it. Excellent!

Quantitative Qs&As:

How would you rate the training for... ...style of presentation?		
v. poor	0	0%
poor	0	0%
average	0	0%
good	14	7%
v. good	173	93%

...quantity of information?		
v. poor	0	0%
poor	0	0%
average	1	1%
good	11	6%
v. good	175	94%

...quality of information?		
v. poor	0	0%
poor	0	0%
average	2	1%
good	15	8%
v. good	170	91%

...relevance to your work?		
v. poor	0	0%
poor	0	0%
average	7	4%
good	41	22%
v. good	139	74%

Would you feel confident using multi-sensory stories?		
def. no	0	0%
prob. no	1	1%
possibly	23	12%
prob. yes	93	50%
def. yes	68	37%

How do you rate multi-sensory stories?		
v. poor	0	0%
poor	1	1%
average	2	1%
good	36	19%
v. good	149	79%