Board Games, Rokus, Hotspots, and More: Circulating Nontraditional Items

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Today’s Discussion

• We’ll Discuss:
  • How to decide which items best fit your community’s needs
  • How to budget for them
  • How to catalog and process them
  • How to store them
  • How to weed them
The Sky’s the Limit!
Determining Community Needs

• Study other libraries
  • Similar population
  • Similar budgets
• Survey community
• Analyze data
Setting Up a Pilot Program

- Budget
- Reach
- Selection and Acquisition
- Processing
- Marketing Plan
- Data Collection
Small Budget? No Problem!

• Board games
• Phone chargers
• Reading glasses
• Retro video games
• Vinyl
Setting Policy and Procedure

- Staff involvement will depend on size of library and library environment
- Get as many team members involved as possible
- Make your programs scalable
  - Procedures should be consistent
  - Keep log of patron problems
  - Set aside area for storage
To Form or Not to Form?

Consider:
• Price of item
• Library Liability
• Theft rate
• Convenience or inconvenience to patron
Acquisition and Processing

- Shelf tokens / Display
- Licensing agreements / Ongoing costs
- Clear labeling / Packaging
  - Where does item get returned?
  - What are the fines?
  - Which parts are included?
- What will happen to item when parts are missing?
- Item types in ILS
Getting Everyone On “Board”

- Demo at staff meetings
- Take photos and post on social media
- Find an enthusiastic patron
- Let your children try
What can you dream up?
Questions and Open Discussion

Thank you!!

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