



## Public Library: Child/Youth Services

### Competencies

#### **1. Understand the public library sector and the policies, issues and trends that impact on the child services/youth services area.**

(e.g. child safety; family demographics; local, state and federal government policies;

relationship with schools, age-appropriate spaces; consideration of children/youth in planning; ethical and legal issues...)

#### **2. Understand the principles and practices related to providing information services to meet the needs of children/youth.**

(e.g. principles of preliteracy; reader's advisory; identifies underserved individuals/groups such as non-English speaking, home-schooled, remote; seeks the opinion of children/youth when evaluating programs; creates and sustains a welcoming environment for children and youth; promote the importance of libraries for children/youth to carers; facilitate learning programs...)

#### **3. Know and understand the vital importance of reading among children/youth and actively promote and support programs, especially for children/youth with identified literacy needs.**

(e.g. engagement with schools; promotion of digital collections; provide self-directed and experiential learning opportunities; provide resources that fuel a love of learning; engage family members and carers; maintain ongoing

knowledge of new authors and emerging genres; participation in child-focused literacy events...)

#### **4. Understand the management of child/youth resources in a broad range of formats.**

(e.g. pursue diversity, currency and relevancy in the children's/youth collection; seek input from child/youth; establish criteria for evaluation of materials in all genres and formats...)

#### **5. Know and understand the application of leadership, finance, communication, marketing and management theory and techniques.**

(e.g. demonstrate creativity and openness to new ideas; establish an environment where children and youth are encouraged to participate in library programs; establish measures to manage child/youth access to electronic resources and the Internet; measurement of program outcomes...)

#### **6. Understand and use current technology and systems to manage child/youth collections.**

(e.g. library systems implications for original cataloguing; mobile technologies for application in local collections, database creation and management; authentication and authorisations; content management; learning management systems; uses social networking to engage with young adult customers...)

#### **7. Understand the importance of digital literacy in children and youth, and assist in its development.**

(e.g. best practices in online safety programs; age-appropriate technology services; establish guidelines for carers and children in the use of social networking and online tools; address information-seeking behaviour and needs of children; provide workshops for children/youth to build their technology skills...)

#### **8. Maintain currency of professional knowledge and practice.**

(e.g. participation in professional organisations; attending formal conferences and workshops; participating in informal workplace learning activities; research and publishing in LIS...)