

Fall 11-15-2022

SPOTLIGHT on Public Libraries: Teaching Totes: Interactive Learning in a Box at Greenville County Library System

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.kennesaw.edu/seln>



Part of the [Information Literacy Commons](#), [Scholarly Communication Commons](#), and the [Scholarly Publishing Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

(2022) "SPOTLIGHT on Public Libraries: Teaching Totes: Interactive Learning in a Box at Greenville County Library System," *The Southeastern Librarian*: Vol. 70: Iss. 3, Article 3.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.kennesaw.edu/seln/vol70/iss3/3>

This General Interest is brought to you for free and open access by DigitalCommons@Kennesaw State University. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Southeastern Librarian by an authorized editor of DigitalCommons@Kennesaw State University. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@kennesaw.edu.

SPOTLIGHT ON PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Teaching Totes: Interactive Learning in a Box at Greenville County Library System

Greenville County Library System
Greenville, SC

The Greenville County Library System (GCLS) is excited to introduce Teaching Totes, new interactive learning tools for families, teachers, caregivers, and homeschooling families.

Teaching Totes are portable plastic bins featuring themed Library System materials designed to create fun and interactive learning experiences for young children. By using themes connected to learning standards, the tote materials offer parents and teachers the opportunity to foster early learning skills necessary for the introduction of foundational concepts.

Packed neatly into a portable bin, each Teaching Tote contains a themed assortment of developmentally appropriate activities and materials. Each tote is thoughtfully curated by the GCLS Youth Services staff in accordance with the Palmetto Basics, South Carolina Early Learning Standards, and South Carolina College and Career-Ready Standards. The totes feature diverse and engaging picture books, beginning reader books, non-fiction, bilingual books, rhymes, fingerplays, and more.

Teaching Totes reinforce language skills through books with rich vocabulary words and concepts that provide further opportunities for interaction and conversation between caregiver and child. The wide variety of exciting themes suggest ways to stimulate and inspire the imagination of young children (including babies, toddlers, preschoolers, and school-aged children). Dedicated to expanding the Teaching Totes collection to over 55 totes by fall of 2022, the Library System looks forward to providing an increased number of themes.



Teaching Totes ready for check-out

Caregivers may peruse the Teaching Totes section of the Children’s Area at the Hughes Main Library, and discover such themes as “space,” “dinosaurs,” “toilet-training,” and a host of other topics for exploration. Learn more about this new offering at greenvillelibrary.org/teaching-totes.



Sample of materials found in Teaching Totes

More About the Palmetto Basics:

The Palmetto Basics is a kindergarten readiness initiative brought to South Carolina by Greenville First Steps. This initiative explores five dynamic areas of early learning that make a substantial impact on later school success. Incorporating these evidence-based principles into interactions with young children, allows families, teachers, and parents to help foster school readiness. Suggested activities representing each of the Palmetto Basics can be found at

greenvillelibrary.org/little-learners-club.

More About South Carolina Learning Standards:

South Carolina Early Learning Standards were created by the Department of Social Services for use by South Carolina's early childhood professionals, Head Start teachers, and other teachers who nurture and support the development of young children. The South Carolina College and Career-Ready

Standards are used by all public schools in South Carolina. These academic standards were created to align research and best practices for use by teachers in South Carolina.



Teaching Totes at the Hughes Main Library

About the Greenville County Library System:

Founded in 1921, the Greenville County Library System operates 12 facilities and a bookmobile. GCLS provides resources, services, and programming that champion literacy, inspire learning, and foster community connection. The Library System strives to be the community's first choice for exploration, discovery, and information. Learn more at greenvillelibrary.org.



To have your library featured in a SPOTLIGHT contact the Editor, Ashley S. Dees, at aesorey@olemiss.edu.