



BOOKS & BITES

PROGRAM SPEED DATING



THE MAIN COURSE (PROGRAM COMPONENTS)

What is Books & Bites?

Let's take cooking, literature, places of the world, and a healthy dose of history and pop culture, and make a program out of it.

Topic Research and Choice

What do your patrons read? What do they watch? Do you have an annual system-wide reading program?

Videos, Music, and Ambience

Make sure to include several videos. Period/region-specific music goes over really well. Our patrons love TED Talks!

Is this a Lecture Series?

While we use our library team, another library system in Florida recently "borrowed" and "improved" our program series by hiring professional chefs to do the cooking and authors to do the talking.

That Sounds Expensive!

The more libraries, the cheaper the programs become. Books & Bites is a series, and becomes faster to prepare as you learn your audience! We aim for under \$100 per branch, 25-50 attendees per branch, and five to seven programs per year.

TO TOP IT OFF (TOPICS)

Downton Abbey (English)

Indian Summers (Indian)

Outlander (Scottish)

Game of Thrones (Medieval)

True Grit (Campfire Cooking)

Donna Leon's Brunetti (Italian)

Before We Were Yours (Southern)

Dead Wake (Lusitania Menu)

Ancient Greece (Greek)

Vikings (Scandinavian)





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THE SWEETS, SOUND GOOD? (FAQS)

Okay, you have my attention. How do I get started?

First, look for potential partners. This series started between two branches, and has now grown to travel between all our library branches.

What do I talk about?

We tell our patrons, "Books & Bites, a delightful cooking demonstration presented by St. Johns County Librarians, combines our love of literature and food. We take a popular title, book or TV show, and look at historical events around it."

How do I justify the cost? (The Menu)

Books & Bites comes with a price tag which may be off putting for some. That's why we only do a few of these series per year. We adjust the menu and portion sizes to fit into our budget. You'd be amazed what you can do! It has become a keynote programming series for our system, and has brought in NEW program attendees.

Can I get a sample? (Absolutely!)

Ancient Greece: https://prezi.com/cb1jpmrr45g4/?utm_campaign=share&utm_medium=copy

Before We Were Yours: https://prezi.com/m1wk68sdeml8/?utm_campaign=share&utm_medium=copy

Dining at Downton: https://prezi.com/-w17vfgpnhc/?utm_campaign=share&utm_medium=copy

