



StickTogether Stories from Libraries and Classrooms

I am brand new to StickTogether. I have been gathering ideas for my library for the upcoming school year when I stumbled across a few other libraries sharing their experiences with StickTogether. I love the collaborative nature of these projects and would love to bring this experience to my library!

The Lee County Library System placed sticker mosaics in all 13 of our branches this past summer and our patrons LOVED them. I just wanted to give you a high-five for hooking us up with a discount for our purchase AND let you know that next year's national summer reading theme is A Universe of Stories. It's in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the moon landing and it would be super cool to have a space-themed mural. We just ordered a 4-pack through DEMCO for some special events we have coming up and we will definitely order these again next year for our summer reading. It's a great conversation starter for staff and our visitors had a great time guessing.

These were my favorite puzzles of the entire year. My favorite part was the conversations that students had with each other and with me while they were working on them. Students who didn't normally talk to each other worked together. Students were excited to come into the classroom to see the progress on the puzzle. They talked endlessly about what they thought the picture would be in the end. When we finished one puzzle, they begged for another one.

Our students are currently working on our first StickTogether! It's amazing watching them collaborate, make predictions and help each other! They've guessed everything from a popsicle to a unicorn to our principal eating a popsicle on an airplane...but I'm not going to tell them that it's a frog :)

I am a media specialist at a K8 school and our students LOVE Stick Together! I first saw Stick Together when looking for collaborative ideas to bring readers together in the media center. I started with Starry Night because it is a personal favorite! We celebrate readers every quarter and they had the opportunity to all work on it as a part of our celebration. Students absolutely LOVED it! We have done three more this year as a way to bring students and teachers together. Yes teachers love it too! They find it relaxing and a fun way to visit as they Stick Together. The stick together image is kept a mystery. Our Stick Together table in the media center is quite popular and students can earn time to come Stick Together. We are waiting on our next order and look forward to getting a photo one next year of our school. These colorful creations look great on our walls too!

I am a school librarian. Last year, to give kids an incentive to bring their books back on time I decided to use a StickTogether poster. I hung it near the circulation desk. When students brought their books back on time, I gave them a strip of five or so sticker squares and allowed them to place them on the poster. I didn't let anyone know what the picture was of, but instead let them get us as it progressed. It was the large poster of the hot air balloons. The kids loved it and it worked to keep them motivated about bringing their books back on time. I would love to have an opportunity to do this again

My students loved doing StickTogether murals. It was a great draw into our school library and we had increased patronage during the time we had it. My favorite moments came when a student would come and use it as a "cool down". Often they would be joined by a staff member with a few minutes to spare. This encouraged conversation and staff getting to know students they might not normally interact with.

My elementary school, which is PreK-6th grade, did our first Stick Together this semester. Each student worked on the photo when they visited the library. Our PreK students worked on the sky so they could easily remember what section they helped with. Then the students in each grade level placed the corresponding number of stickers when they helped. For example, 3rd graders placed 3 stickers when they helped, and 5th graders placed 5, and so on. Also, when students and teachers came through the library for various reasons, they all wanted a chance to help our photo come together. The students had a good time guessing what the photo would be, because I was the only one who knew. It took us a few weeks, but it is beautiful, and the students are excited to do another one. Due to budget, I am having to wait until next year to see if my budget will allow us to do another.

During the month of April we celebrated "Artful April" at KAMS School Library. We promoted different famous Artist books, displayed artwork created by the students in our school, and encouraged students to help complete our collaborate StickTogether Art activity. Students were even challenged to guess the famous portrait being created by the StickTogether Art Activity. Many students from both the high school and middle school worked together to finish our StickTogether Art activity @ our library. The activity encouraged positive communication and collaboration among our students. April was truly Artful and Creative.

We use Stick Together with our 165 8th graders. Whenever the students finish reading a book they put up two stickers on the collage. We have had a great time this year discovering what our picture is and congratulating each other on getting stickers to help us reveal what we are all stick towards. We are getting close to the 2000 book mark!

Our elementary students get to help fill out a StickTogether when they bring back their books to the library...it becomes such an incentive for our kids to help remind their friends to make sure they return their library books!

Hello, I used the Stick Together poster as an incentive for my library students to return their library books. It worked great and it was completed just in time for the end of the year check ins. The students were so excited as we got closer to completing it to finally know that it was a tiger.

At the beginning of each class, I drew a name. The chosen student received a block of stickers (9-15 stickers) which they could put on the poster. With 8 class periods a day, it still took several months to finish the poster. That gave everyone lots of time to speculate on what the picture would be. It also gave everyone a chance to participate. My students also explained the project to any guests (administration, social workers, speakers...). Each guest would place a block of stickers and become part of our 213 class. Everyone belongs in room 213.

My students have loved the Mona Lisa poster. I did not tell them what the image was, I used Stick Together as a reward in my class. Students would earn time to work with a partner on putting stickers on our poster. During the process the students would guess what they think the image was. I would have them write on a sticky note what they thought the image was and put them around the poster. I am looking forward to using the Starry Night poster next year!

In order to get stickers, my students have to complete a "dictionary challenge" using the word of the week in the media center. The students look forward to the new word every week and are so excited to find out what the picture is.

I introduced StickTogether mosaics to my students in our Makerspace within the media center. It is the first station students flock to when they are in the media center! The students love the collaboration and see this activity as one that helps them relax and refocus. They enjoy working toward a common goal together and then seeing the outcome of their meticulous work! I do not tell them what the mural is before they start it, so they enjoy the challenge of trying to discover what the mural is before finishing it. I'm already being asked when we will get another! Thank you for how you enhance our students' daily experience.

Our school has been in place since 2016. There has not been a library. This school year, a librarian was hired and in February, 2019, the library opened. A stick together poster was hung in the library as a way to get the students to come by the library. I told them that I would give a prize away to the first person who figured out what the picture was. The students have loved coming by and posting stickers. It is April and we are nearly done. I had 3 students on the same day guess what the picture was going to be. I have awarded them prizes. Our picture is "Let's Celebrate." We are having fireworks for the library opening. We are definitely celebrating having a library!!

We are a small K-8 school outside of Joliet, Illinois. We have library classes with all 9 grades. I was finding that many of the students were checking out books, but never really reading them. I decided to make our "Stick together" project for the whole school. What I have found is, books are being read and students are really enjoying making the mosaic. We aren't done yet, but boy are we having fun! Love it!

I have two kids, one very artistic and one who is less secure about her abilities. What I love about stick together is that both of them got a chance to create on equal ground. At first it seems simple and soothing. But there's actually a challenge in scanning and looking for the matching letters. And then additional challenge if you are the kind of person who is inclined to really put the stickers on straight. I bought one for my mom who was recently in a nursing home doing some rehabilitation after an injury and she's not good at staying put! This will be a wonderful past time and brighten her room while she works towards recovery.

Our school collaboratively created the Stick Together mosaic at the end of last school year. Each time the students came to the library, they had the chance to put on a few stickers. They loved the experience, and loved guessing what the finished product would be! This school year, I hung up last year's work of art on the wall. When they came to the library for the first time this school year, they have all been pointing and marveling at their work of art that we made last year. I can't wait to start another mosaic this year!

I brought the Stick Together poster into my room, not just for my class but for the entire school body and wider community. We started with one sticker each and quickly found ways to invite other classes to add their piece to our puzzle. Each few days there were guesses as to what the full picture could be and lots of reasoning based on continuing information. Teachers, administrators, school support staff, volunteers, guests speakers and parents were all invited to pop in to make their mark on our work. Soon every member of our school family was represented on our growing mosaic with a that few precious stickers left in reserve. At the beginning of November our Stick Together

poster was nearly complete and we had pieced together what the image was; that of a dove with the word PEACE written underneath. Little did the students know that a plan was in place since the summer when I first came in contact with the Stick Together posters. As our work creating the image continued through the fall, our discussions developed about being peacemakers and how we could honor those who helped to protect us and our country. We were honored to display our nearly completed poster at our school Remembrance Day Assembly. We shared our journey creating our mural and invited our honored guests, our veterans to place the last six stickers on our poster to complete the message of peace; a message that we promised to keep and to pass on to future generations. At first glance what might seem like a great way to incorporate an art project into the class turned out to be the most collaborative and creative way to develop community with each other while deepening our appreciation for those who sacrificed so much for our freedom.

Teaching an "Introduction to Computers" class to students with disabilities can be a challenging, but highly rewarding experience. Quite often, topics are so conceptual that students struggle to be able to apply and understand them. Such topics also typically require so much 1:1 support, that collaboration among students isn't possible. One of those topics dealt with pixels. Students struggled to understand that the pictures they looked at on the computers were made up of smaller "shapes" put together. Our school librarian suggested "Stick Together" and I purchased several large format pieces. The first one (the tiger) we allowed students to place the stickers without knowing why. Students enjoyed themselves and worked on social skills and collaboration. When they were done, we lined them up, held the picture up close to them and then we started backing away. Watching their eyes go wide once the "pixels" took shape was simply remarkable! They completed three more Stick Together posters last year (and 2 more in their summer program). After the first surprise, now they gather at the end of each class period trying to guess the picture! An added bonus came when our occupational therapist pushed in to our class. She was thrilled with "Stick Together" and how it helped with student's fine motor skills.

Students who return their library books on time get the privilege of adding a sticker to our picture. This has been a great incentive and we have less overdue books than ever before!

We have a library that spans 7th through 12th grade and every month we promote different themes to encourage students to explore new books or learn something new. During the month of April we promote art and creativity. We used the StickTogether activity to encourage students to explore ART at our library. Students were so engaged in participating in the StickTogether activity. It was a great lead in to help students to explore different artists, since Van Gogh's artwork was the final product!

In my Structured Learning Communication Arts class, we were reading the novel, "Chasing Vermeer" by Blue Balliet. The mystery novel about a missing painting by artist, Johannes Vermeer and gives clues to the paintings whereabouts using pentaminoes. I purchased the Stick Together, Girl with a Pearl Earring for my class. They loved watching the picture come to life. I enjoyed the fine motor skills that were being exhibited, the community and collaborative involvement, conversations that took place while working on the project and the smiles on their faces when they all realized the finish product/painting!

In September 2017, my public library opened our library Makerspace- the Spark Space. The goal of the Spark Space was to provide a collaborative space inside the library where people could make, learn, create, and share experiences. I'd seen the Stick Together puzzles and thought that they would be a wonderful addition to the equipment

that we offered. Little did I realize that the Stick Together puzzles would become the true hit of the space! I marvel at how college students studying in the study rooms come to the makerspace to relax and to put down a few stickers, parents and children come in together and work on the puzzles, and strangers sit down to add stickers and end up striking up a conversation as both attempt to guess what the stickers will create (a part of the fun is that we never tell them what the puzzle actually is). We've recently completed our last puzzle- Under the Sea (large format) and the creators who use the Spark Space were so sad! Stick Together has really been a community connector for our creative space and we're so happy we discovered it!

StickTogether was the perfect piece to add to our Open House Event prior to school starting. This was a great way to invite families to be a part of our school community! The poster is continuing to be completed in the library and our kiddos are LOVING it. A local church loved the idea of making this a school-community effort and purchased kits for two more schools in the community. What a great way to start our year and work together. THANK YOU StickTogether!!!! We couldn't have done it without you. <https://twitter.com/Laralvey/status/1035292926149099520> Check out this link to see the poster in action.

I set up our first StickTogether in the hallway outside of our Library Media Center. Students who came up during their lunch periods which, was really the only availability during their busy high school schedules, were the ones who enjoyed working on the picture. The group was a comprised mix of shy, marginalized and outwardly social students. This brought out not only a creative collaboration among this group, but allowed those who lacked confidence and perhaps social skills, shine!

We are a public library, and we put our StickTogether kit up in an open space where everyone had access to it. It was amazing to see how many people got into it. It was seriously ages 0-99 wanted to add stickers to the poster. I am a teen librarian, and it kind of cracked me up how much the teens loved it, too. Months later they were asking if we were going to have another one and they were talking about how much fun it was. The whole experience was nice, and it was great to see patrons of all ages working on the StickTogether kit together.

We bought our first stick together last year as our end of the year collaborative maker project. The kids absolutely loved it. I am a LMS in a k-5 building and the big kids were helping the little ones understand how to do it. It was amazing to see.

I unveiled my first StickTogether kit during my 2nd grade library class which happens to be an "inclusion" class. This means the class includes students with varying levels of needs (social, emotional and academic). There is an extra teacher assigned to the class to help meet the needs of the students. Sometimes differences are very obvious. What was so beautiful and fun to watch was the shared experience of placing the stickers onto the poster. The students were chatting so comfortably and supporting one another; joking and talking all the while. No obvious differences were evident at all. The kit was a perfect platform to bring everyone together - it was truly collaborative and built a sense of community. I have since shared this story with my administrator and other teachers who are all inspired as well. We can't wait to see the expressions when our first kit is completed!

Hi! StickTogether has been an exciting addition to our library! Patrons are always happy to see when the new one is placed out to be completed. Many have said it has a very relaxing effect. We are working on our third one so far. The other two completed ones are in the children's room on the wall. Everyone wants to know where they came from. Our patrons are not the "puzzle type" but they really enjoy these!

We use Stick Together as part of a positive behavior plan. When I see students using good behavior in the library, they receive a sticker or two to put on our poster. It is just outside the door of my library in a well traveled hallway, so people will see the student who is rewarded. The kids love seeing what the picture becomes.

StickTogether closed the gap between the students in our inclusion classroom. Where sometimes students are separated because of what they can or cannot do, once I presented this project and explained our community task, they playing field was leveled. You couldn't tell which student was the "regular" ed students and which were the once that had special learning goals. It was beautiful!

The Let's Read mosaic was instrumental in helping unify our new school community. We brought together students from five schools in this merge. It was working toward a mutual goal that helped bond our learners. Even the students who only spoke Spanish were able to actively be involved. This stick together poster now hangs in our library hallway to share evidence of our team spirit and unity.