Everyday Life of the Apple Shelf
Public Libraries’ Work With Accessible Media for Children

Bitte Kronkvist
Swedish Agency for Accessible Media, MTM
IFLA, Lyon, August 18th, 2014
Apple shelf

- the libraries responsibility and mission towards children with print disabilities
- a dedicated shelf in the library's children's section
- the shelves contain
  - various formats of accessible media
  - information about disabilities and language development
- target group
  - persons with print disabilities,
  - parents, teachers, students
- support to libraries in their work with
  - accessible media,
  - language development and reading promotion for children with print disabilities
Survey questions

- How does the libraries run the Apple shelves in their everyday work?
- What role does the Apple shelves have for information and distribution about accessible media?
- What success factors are connected to the work with Apple Shelves?
- What support do libraries need for working with Apple Shelves?
Survey

• Qualitative survey
  – interviews
  – dialogue with staff members
  – 6 libraries in four different regions
  – 40-120 minutes per interview

• Observations of the Apple shelf and the surroundings

• Cooperation between MTM, regional libraries and the University of Uppsala
Analysis

• the Apple shelf: planning, responsibility and follow-up

• the Apple shelf in the library room

• everyday life of the Apple shelf
  – information about accessible media
  – distribution of accessible media
What to do?

- **Library staff**
  - shared responsibility
  - strategic planning
  - define target groups
  - the Apple Shelf is a working method and in constant development
  - information about the library's mission and the Apple Shelf

- **Management**
  - reflect on the role of the Apple Shelf
  - define responsibilities and knowledge requirements for the Apple Shelf
What to do?

Regional level
- support for training and planning, implementation and follow up
- initiate and implement development

National level
- identify and develop services
Thanks!

Bitte Kronkvist
Swedish Agency for Accessible Media
bitte.kronkvist@mtm.se