



AWE LEARNING NEWSLETTER

WHAT'S NEW FROM AWE LEARNING

September 2026



This quarter, AWE Learning has continued expanding the resources available to help libraries support young learners, demonstrate impact, and strengthen funding opportunities. Explore new tools for supporting neurodivergent learners, grant-writing resources, the latest AWE Learning research and insights, and more.



Supports & Titles for Neurodivergent Learners

Every child learns differently. Our new AWE Learning Supports & Titles for Neurodivergent Learners guide helps libraries explore features and educational titles that support structured, visual, self-paced, and repeatable learning experiences for children ages 2–12.

Organized across STREAM learning areas, the guide identifies educational titles that offer supports such as structure and predictability, self-paced practice, sensory-friendly visual or audio design, low-pressure discovery, co-engagement, and social-emotional content.

Inside the Guide:

- Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Arts/Music & Math
- Recommended age ranges
- Title descriptions
- Structured & predictable learning
- Sensory-friendly experiences
- Self-paced & repeatable practice
- Featured title: AntiSpark

[Explore the Supports & Titles for Neurodivergent Learners Guide](#)

Learning Disabilities Awareness Month

October is Learning Disabilities Awareness Month. Throughout the month, AWE Learning will highlight different ways children learn and the importance of providing structured, engaging, and flexible learning experiences.

Visit our [Neurodiverse Learning Support](#) page to explore how AWE Learning supports visual learning, repetition, self-paced exploration, predictable navigation, reduced distractions, and independent learning.

GETTING STARTED IN EFFECTIVE GRANT WRITING

Looking for funding for an AWE Learning workstation? Our new Getting Started in Effective Grant Writing resource walks libraries through 10 practical steps for building a clear, compelling grant proposal.

From understanding funder requirements and defining project goals to developing a budget, gathering supporting materials, and submitting a completed application, the guide helps libraries connect their needs with the outcomes AWE Learning can support.

- Understand grant requirements
- Research the funding organization
- Define project goals
- Prepare a budget
- Write persuasively
- Include supporting materials
- Edit and revise
- Submit on time
- Follow up



[Explore the Grant Writing Guide](#)

Frequently Asked Grant Questions

Need help putting your library's goals into words? Our new Frequently Asked Grant Questions resource provides sample AWE-specific language that can be copied, adapted, and tailored to relevant questions in your grant application.

The resource includes sample responses covering:

- Community impact
- STREAM learning
- Intended long-term results
- Who will benefit
- Measuring and tracking results
- Benefits to your library



[Explore Frequently Asked Grant Questions](#)

Visit [AWELEARNING.COM](https://awelearning.com)





Libraries don't just purchase products, they invest in solutions that must be defensible to boards, municipalities, and communities. The AWE Learning Champion Kit brings together ready-to-use materials designed to help library staff clearly communicate the value, impact, and defensibility of AWE Learning workstations.

Whether you're preparing for a budget discussion, grant application, board presentation, or internal approval process, these resources make it easier to build and communicate your case.

WHAT'S INSIDE?

One-Page Justification

A concise explanation of how AWE aligns with library missions, literacy initiatives, and community education goals.

Evidence-Based Research Brief

Research and evidence supporting purposeful educational screen time, digital literacy, and measurable learning outcomes.

Logic Models

Visual frameworks connecting AWE resources and learning experiences with measurable short- and long-term outcomes.

Budget Rationale

Plain-language support for explaining the responsible use of library funds.

CIPA Compliance Verification

Documentation supporting procurement, IT, policy, and compliance discussions.

Grant Writing Resources

Our two newest tools for developing stronger grant applications.

Internal Email Templates & Peer Examples

Ready-to-use language and real-world support for internal conversations.

NEW TO THE CHAMPION KIT

- ✓ Getting Started in Effective Grant Writing
- ✓ Frequently Asked Grant Questions
- ✓ Libraries & Community Learning Logic Model
- ✓ Schools & Early Education Logic Model



Designed to make advocacy and funding conversations easier, Champion Kit resources are ready to download, share, and use in your library's decision-making process.

[Explore the Champion Kit](#)

New White Paper: Beyond the Screen

How Interactive Early Learning Strengthens Family Engagement in a Small Rural Minnesota Library

Can interactive learning technology do more than provide an educational activity for children? Our latest white paper explores Wadena City Library's experience with AWE Learning and what it reveals about family engagement, purposeful screen time, and the role hands-on educational technology can play within the modern library.

Wadena began with one AWE Learning station and added a second in response to its popularity. Today, some families visit specifically to use the stations and subsequently engage with other library resources, including library cards and material checkouts.

The case study explores:

- Interactive learning as a draw for families
- Digital and traditional literacy working together
- Low-maintenance technology for small libraries
- Grants and community funding
- Creating reasons for families to return
- Growing resources in response to demand

[Read the Full White Paper](#)



From Our Blog: Behind the Covers A Conversation About Early Literacy, Digital Learning, and the Modern Library



What makes screen time meaningful for young learners? AWE Learning President Owen Brittan joined Dakota County Library's Behind the Covers podcast to discuss purposeful digital learning and the evolving role of libraries.

The conversation explores active versus passive screen time, traditional and digital literacy, early computer skills, neurodiverse and multilingual learners, and how libraries can help prepare children for an increasingly digital world.

[Listen to the Full Conversation](#)

SHARE AWE. EARN REWARDS.

Many of our strongest partnerships began with a simple introduction from another librarian. Through our AWE Learning Partner [Referral Program](#), existing partners can help another library discover AWE while earning valuable rewards for themselves.

How it works:

1. Introduce AWE to a library outside your system
2. We schedule a conversation with them
3. You receive your reward once the meeting occurs - no purchase is required

Referral rewards include savings on:

- Add-On Content Modules
- RoboGarden Coding
- Extended Warranty Coverage

Participants also receive an **AWE merchandise bundle valued at more than \$85.**

Visit our [Referral Program page](#) to learn more.



Expand Your Workstation Anytime

Many libraries start with a core workstation package and expand their learning content over time. AWE Learning allows libraries to add additional content modules at any time, making it easy to grow learning opportunities without replacing existing devices.

If your library didn't have the budget to include every content bundle during the initial purchase, additional modules can be added later as a cost-effective upgrade.

To learn more about available content bundles and add-on options, contact your AWE Learning representative or visit the bottom of the [Platinum Version 4 page](#) on [AWELEARNING.COM](#).



Meet the AWE Learning Team in 2026

This fall, the AWE Learning team is continuing to connect with librarians and partners across the country. Stop by an upcoming conference to see Platinum Version 4 in action, explore our latest resources, and talk with our team about supporting early literacy, STREAM learning, digital skills, and future readiness in your library.



Schedule a Demo Anytime

Can't attend a conference this year?

Our team offers live virtual demonstrations of Platinum Version 4 so you can explore the newest features and learning content from anywhere.

Reach out to your AWE Learning Account Executive or visit [AWELEARNING.COM](#) to schedule a demo.

Conferences We Are Attending

You can also connect with AWE Learning at several regional library events in 2026:

- Pennsylvania Library Association Conference — Oct. 4–7
- Ohio Library Council Convention & Expo — Oct. 21–23
- California Library Association Conference — Oct. 22–24
- Indiana Library Federation Conference — Nov. 8–10

If you're attending one of these events, we'd love to connect and show you what's new.

