Engage Families: Multigenerational Programming and Museum-Library Collaboration

Boston Children’s Museum
Museums and Libraries Partnerships
Jeri Robinson
VP Early Childhood Initiatives
Countdown to Kindergarten
Boston
DW Counts Down to Kindergarten
Race to the Top: Early Learning Challenge Grant

- Federal dollars for innovation in early education and care
- $600K awarded in 2011 – from Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care
- BCM first Museums/Libraries project ever funded
- Four focus areas; STEM, Brain Building in Progress, Kindergarten Readiness and Literacy
Collective Impact – Stone Soup

“If Massachusetts is going to succeed in narrowing or closing gaps in opportunity to learn, achievement, and access to career and life success, we must take a much broader view of the problems that contribute to achievement gaps and then devote sufficient resources to address them.”

Citizens for Public Schools - MA
Growing Young Minds: How museums and libraries create lifelong learners

“Libraries and museums can play a stronger role in early learning for all children. As our nation commits to early learning as a national priority essential to our economic and civic future, it is time to become more intentional about deploying these vital community resources to this challenge.”
STEM Kit
Only 17 percent of 12th graders are both math proficient and interested in the STEM fields. (Business-Higher Education Forum)
Brain Building in Progress

BUILD A CHILD’S BRAIN ON THE TRAIN!

New Brain Building in Progress ad campaign with Mass Early Education & Care and the MBTA highlights the potential of everyday moments to be learning moments

Build your child’s brain on the train!
Look around! Describe what you see! Ask questions while on the train! Doing these activities together will help your child learn!

Learn more at: www.BrainBuildingInProgress.org
PopUP Kindergarten Classroom Kit
Literacy through StoryWalk
How do we build literacy skills?

- Talk
- Read
- Play
Engage Families
Looking at family programs in a new light

A project of the USS Constitution Museum
MA Museums/Libraries Network

52 museums & 119 libraries across the Commonwealth participate in the Museums/Libraries Project.
Lessons Learned

• We had clear leaders.
• We’ve had 4 years. We need more time.
• Get to know your landscape.
• It’s all about the relationships.
• Check out who you are missing.
• Most museum/library educators are not early childhood trained.
• We offered great training and collateral. M/L volunteered their time.
• Parents are always part of the formula.
• There is not a museum or library everywhere in the state.
• Find sustainability wherever you can.
Promising Strategies

- Leverage existing systems, standards and networks
- Reach out to families
- Work with and in neighborhoods/zones
- Offer professional development

Next Steps........

- IMLS National Leadership Grant
- Growing and expanding partnerships
Strong Foundations For Our Youngest Children
tinker kit

Developed by:

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nationalgrid
what are executive function skills?

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Tips & Activities
Resources

BCM Race to the Top Resources
http://www.bostonchildrensmuseum.org/learning-resources/race-to-the-top

Learning Together – Standards of Engagement

USS Constitution Museum – IMLS Grant – Engage Families Project
http://engagefamilies.org/

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