Building Exhibits In-House
Development, Design, Prototyping

Donna DiBartolomeo, Sciencenter
Peter Crabbe, Kidspace Children’s Museum
Zena Ruiz, Children’s Museum of Pittsburgh

INTERACTIVITY 2016
Association of Children’s Museums
Stamford and Norwalk, CT
18 INTERACTIVE EXHIBITS

Science Content & Communication

Labels and Graphics with Images and Use Drawings

Variety of Difficulty
Par 1-5

MISSION
Empowering Youth Through Science
CURIOSITY PLAYGROUND

SOFT PLAY AREA

LARGER THAN LIFE
Breakfast foods

SAND/PEA GRAVEL

FORT QUIET/HIDE-AWAY SPACE

WIND

ENCLOSED CRAWL SPACE

SANDING/DUMPING

BALANCING SCALE

SHALLOW ROCK CLIMBING

POTS + PANS/GONG

RAMPs

GROSS MOTOR SKILLS

SOUND

COLORFUL MUSICAL SPIN-MOBILE

SMALLER WHISPER TUBES

 Movements

NEIGHBORHOOD

GIANT WAFFLES

Giant-sized ants on a leg

BLUE BERIES

Teddy sized ants on a leg

ORCHID

Rope climber

HONEY I SHRANK THE KIDS

Giant-sized ants

PUPPETS/PUPPET STAGE

OUTDOOR OASIS

FACIL	

CONCRETE VERTICAL GENTLE SLOPE

TENT/COVER

JUST RIGHT

GRASS ROOTS

TABLES + CHAIRS

SANDBOX

POWER HOOKS

ENCLOSED CRAWL SPACE

INTERIORS

FOUR SQUARE

FISH TANKS

UPSIDE DOWN BUBBLE TUBES

FOREST NURSERY

HAPPY HOURS

TENT + SWING SETS

RAMPs

SOUND

DARK

BALANCING SCALE

FOOTBALL FIELD

MUSICAL TREE TRUNKS

FLAT ROCK CLIMBING WALL

SOUND/NOISE PICKUP

WIND MACHINES

FOOTBALL FIELD

ELEVATORS

INSTRUMENTS

FLAT ROCK CLIMBING WALL

LIGHTS + MUSIC

LARGE SCIENCE

PLANTS + INSECTS

INDOOR GLASS GARDENS

SOUND LEVELS

HAIRY-LEGGED BEETLES

HYDROPHIC GARDEN

BUTTERFLY HOUSE

MEXICAN FOUNTAIN

Puppets/puppet stage

MUCK TRUCK

CITIZEN SCIENCE

EARLY CHILDHOOD

TREE TRUNKS

FLOWER BEDS

PLANT WALL

THROWING TARGETS

PLANT WALL

PLANT WALL

PLANT WALL

PLANT WALL

PLANT WALL

PLANT WALL

PLANT WALL

PLANT WALL

PLANT WALL

PLANT WALL
COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Visitors
Educators
Scientists
The ball on the turntable is acted upon by forces (push and pull), just like a child on a merry-go-round.

Dynamic balance: The spinning platform pushes the ball away in a straight line. Continue to turn or accelerate the ball to stop the center of the platform.

Watch your balance: It's challenging.

When a ball is reflected at a mirror's surface, the path in laws for how you play.

Incorporate the effects of varying speeds and change your course.
Contact

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Building Exhibits In-House: Development, Design, Prototyping

Kidspace Children’s Museum
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West Gallery Exhibit: Idea Capture With Staff

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Building pipe, blocks</th>
<th>Flexible space / Easy to change and evolve</th>
<th>Animal science / skeletons, shells, exhibits that use puppets to make your own</th>
<th>Improved art area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Culture / Architectural adaptations and animal den, nest adaptations</td>
<td>Go up high / View of leaf climber</td>
<td>Balance culture, science, art, nature, creativity</td>
<td>Pant wall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Story telling (children and adults)</td>
<td>Process area (biding, bending, squashing, stretching, etc) Tie to nature and science</td>
<td>Water and dams</td>
<td>Interdependency (culture, species, nature)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lots of different doors</td>
<td>Ramps</td>
<td>Program / dramatic play area / Connects to art</td>
<td>Bug / Insect arthro observation lab</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
West Gallery Exhibit: Ideation With The Core Team
West Gallery Renovation
Concept 07.10.15

The Big Idea: Everyone has a story to tell

LEARNING OUTCOMES
- Learning about themselves and the world
- Working out confusing, scary, or new things
- Growing social and emotional intelligence
- Synthesizing knowledge and skills
- Language development

Nurturing the potential of all children through kid-driven experiences, inspiring them to become joyful active learners.

LEARNING OUTCOMES
- Fine motor skill development
- Problem solving
- Awareness of art as a transmitter of culture
- Math and science skill development

DRAMATIC PLAY
- On-stage performance opportunities
  - Storytelling
  - Puppet shows
  - Role Playing
  - Use of Props
  - Music

VISUAL ARTS
- Self-expression through open-ended art activities
  - Abundant materials
  - Individual and collaborative projects

Through dramatic play, storytelling, and art-making, children have the opportunity to express themselves, work through the story of their world as they understand it, and communicate and collaborate with others through shared experiences. Rooted strongly in the Kidspace mission, nurturing the potential of all children through kid-driven experiences, inspiring them to become joyful, active learners, the renovated West Gallery provides a platform for developing critical 21st-century skills, introduces key learning concepts and supports development across multiple domains.

The new West Gallery is targeted toward the 3-6 age group, although younger and older visitors alike will also find the space engaging. There are two main activities planned for this part of the gallery: dramatic play and art making. The existing body of research on the values of pretend play and art making is extensive, and will inform our practice. The activities are deliberately open-ended and child-directed; the guest experience will be very new and fresh. The framework of “everyone has a story to tell” will guide program development and staff facilitation of activities. Children will be encouraged to share their story through acting, drawing, sculpting, or singing. Their story may be about where they live, or about a recent trip to visit a relative. It may be about the monsters they met in the park on the way into the museum. Whatever their story is, we encourage children to share it with others, invite them in, hear other stories, and work together to create new ones.
West Gallery: Idea Capture With External Advisories

- Diversity is good!
- Agenda for West Gallery External Advisory Meeting
  - 11:00am-11:15am Welcome/Introductions
  - 11:15am-11:25am Overview of Campaign/Exhibits Master Plan
  - 11:25am-11:35am West Gallery Concept
  - 11:35am-11:45am Lunch/Break
  - 11:45am-12:05pm Childhood Memories
  - 12:05pm-12:25pm Exhibit Details- Floor Plan/Descriptions
  - 12:25pm-1:00pm Discussions/Wrap Up
West Gallery: Idea Capture With External Advisories
West Gallery: Idea Capture
With
External Advisories
West Gallery: Museum Board
Expertise & Band Shell
Greenhouse: Electronic Idea Capture For Staff Input

Conceived as a promenade and exhibit space, the greenhouse's physical environment is an ideal infrastructure for encompassing all Kidspace content spaces science and math, nature, and the arts. The light, informal, and alluring flexibility of a greenhouse make it a dynamic place for staff and guests to experiment and try new things together in an emotionally rich and risk-free environment. In addition, there are many opportunities for temporal activities, such as bubble programs. Staff will use the greenhouse as a testing area for developing and evaluating new exhibit components and programs. "Stained glass" effects applied to the transparent walls will complement an interior area rich with greenery, suggesting a place of mystery and wonder - inviting and enchanted both inside and out.
Arroyo Adventure: Exhibit Prototyping with Guests
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Arroyo Adventure: Exhibit
Prototyping with Guests
Arroyo Adventure: Exhibit Prototyping with Guests
All Projects: Coffee and Treats
Children’s Museum of Pittsburgh

Zena Ruiz
Public Programs Manager
In – House Prototyping
Tough Art Program
Who Are the Experts?

Hi Neighbor!

Share which strategies are favorites in your home. Place a dot next to the ones you use most.

1. When something seems bad, turn it around and find something good.
2. When you feel so mad that you want ROAR... take a deep breath and count to four.
3. Find a way to play together!
4. A friend just wants to play with you!
5. Friends help each other, yes they do!
6. Making something is one way to say “I Love You.”
7. Look closely to find out!
8. You can take a turn, and then I’ll get it back.
9. Everyone is big enough to do something.
10. Thank you for everything you do.
11. Keep trying, you’ll get better!
12. Work together! If you can’t do it alone, work together!
13. When you pretend, you can do anything!
14. Use your words.
15. Give a squeeze, nice and slow... Take a deep breath, let it go.
16. Dress up any way you choose.
17. Find a way that’s right for you!
18. It’s almost time to stop, choose one more thing to do.
19. Do something nice for your neighbor.
20. Think about how someone else is feeling.
21. You can be a big helper in your family.
22. Try to solve the problem yourself and you’ll feel proud.
23. If something seems hard to do, try it a little bit at a time.
24. It’s okay to make mistakes, try to fix them and learn from them, too.
25. You can change your hair, or what you wear, but no matter what you do, you’re still you.
26. It helps to say what you’re feeling.
27. This is my happy song, and I could sing it all day long.
28. Mad, mad, mad! It helps to say I’m MAD!
On Site Partners

- Pittsburgh Public School
- UPCLOSE
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