# PlayLab @ Pinney Library Planning Update – September 2019

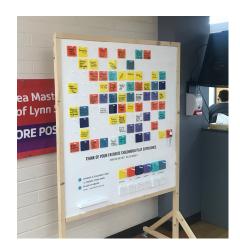


PlayLab supports child-led play with a focus on caregiver support through community partnerships.

Madison Public Library's PlayLab is taking shape and excitement is growing within and beyond the library! We are collaborating with children, families, caregivers, community partners and library staff to bring a shared vision to life at Pinney Library. Here are a few highlights of recent progress and an overview of what's to come.

## **RECENT HIGHLIGHTS**

Over the past few months, the PlayLab Planning Team has been continuing its community engagement process to ensure that all PlayLab spaces, collections and programming are relevant to members of the Pinney community. An idea board created by Bubbler artist Maria Amalia Wood was customized to gather childhood play memories that will inform the materials and types of play supported in the PlayLab at Pinney. Contributors were asked to share their favorite childhood play experience and write about it on the color tile that represented the feeling of that experience (red = joy, yellow = freedom, bright teal = risk, dusty teal = belonging, dark blue = coziness, purple = mischief).







July through September, the idea board was stationed at Pinney Library, YMCA and Bridge Lakepoint Waunona Neighborhood Center. 281 community members shared their favorite childhood play experience. Upon analyzing responses, we found trends in "play actions" that support plans to provide materials for building with/climbing on/jump off of, materials for creating cozy spaces, and supplies for art/making. In addition, themes emerged that support the intent to provide open-ended materials that allow children to use their imagination and can be configured in different ways to support risk-taking and freedom. There was also a trend towards play with natural materials (ie. wood, sticks, rocks, etc.).

We have also continued to deepen relationships with key stakeholders who work with families in the Pinney service area. As of September 30, we met with twenty-eight community stakeholders and are confirming key partners for PlayLab's first year, including the Lussier Family East YMCA (East YMCA). The East YMCA has been a strong partner for many years and over the past year Pinney Youth Librarian Holly Storck-Post and Briana Kurlinkus, East YMCA Director of Early Childhood Education, took the relationship to the next level. They collaborated to offer 55 public programs serving over 2000 individuals. In the year ahead, Holly and Briana are refining and expanding the partnership to deepen play and caregiver support through the PlayLab.



Holly leading storytime with families at the East YMCA.

# Stakeholder Meetings Completed

100 Black Men of Madison, Inc.

Access to Independence

African American Council of Churches

Aldo Leopold Nature Center

ARC Community Services – Maternal Infant

Program

Bridge Lakepoint Waunona Neighborhood Center

Children's Hospital of Wisconsin/Reach Out and

Read

Community Coordinated Child Care, Inc.

Early Childhood Homelessness Workgroup

Foundation for Black Women's Wellness

Fountain of Life Covenant Church

Gigi's Playhouse

Glendale Elementary School

Infamous Mothers

Joining Forces for Families

Madison Children's Museum

Madison Pentecostal Assembly

MMSD Play & Learn

MMSD Transition Education Program

Monona Public Library

Mount Zion Baptist Church

Nuestro Mundo Elementary School

Progress Center for Black Women

Reach Dane East

RISE Wisconsin

UW Center for Research in Early Childhood

Education

UW Waisman Center – Infant Learning Lab

Lussier Family East YMCA

# Prepare (Oct-Dec) Design (Jan-Aug) Community Conversations (On-going) DETAILED PROGRESS Design (Jan-Aug) Design (Jan-Aug) Launch (Mar)

# Last Three Months (July-Sept)

- ✓ Continued implementation of community engagement plan
- ✓ Conducted stakeholder meetings and site visits with additional key partners
- ✓ Gathered feedback at multiple sites using community idea board
- ✓ Developed draft program and staffing plan
- ✓ Developed draft menu of services
- ✓ Identified key partners for year one
- ✓ Artist selection completed for outdoor mural (Bubbler)
- ✓ Concept approved for indoor artwork (Bubbler)
- ✓ Researched marketing and promotional language for play and early literacy
- ✓ Completed collections planning and began purchasing
- ✓ Completed furniture selection
- ✓ Began purchasing play materials

## Next Three Months (Oct-Dec)

- Continue community stakeholder meetings
- Conduct family engagement sessions with key partners
- Plan first year of programming with key partners
- Finalize staffing, program plan, menu of services
- Complete materials and collections purchases
- Develop communication materials
- Determine MPL staff training and supports
- Determine year one outcomes and measures

### **Planning Team**

Krissy Wick, Director of Public Services
Tammy Pineda, Youth Services Manager
Sarah Lawton, Pinney Library Supervisor
Annie Weatherby-Flowers, Community Engagement
Coordinator

Holly Storck-Post, Pinney Youth Services Librarian Carissa Christner, Ashman Youth Services Librarian Jaime Vache, Pinney Librarian Robin Krueger, Pinney Librarian Jess Hankey, Early Literacy Projects Coordinator