



So you've aged  
out of

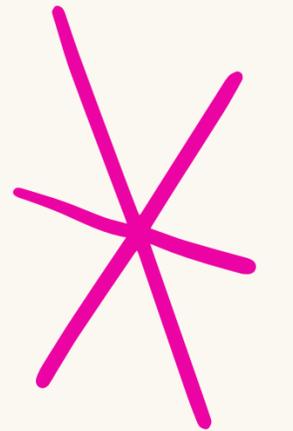
storytime... Now  
What?



PROGRAMMI

NG FOR

AGES 5-8

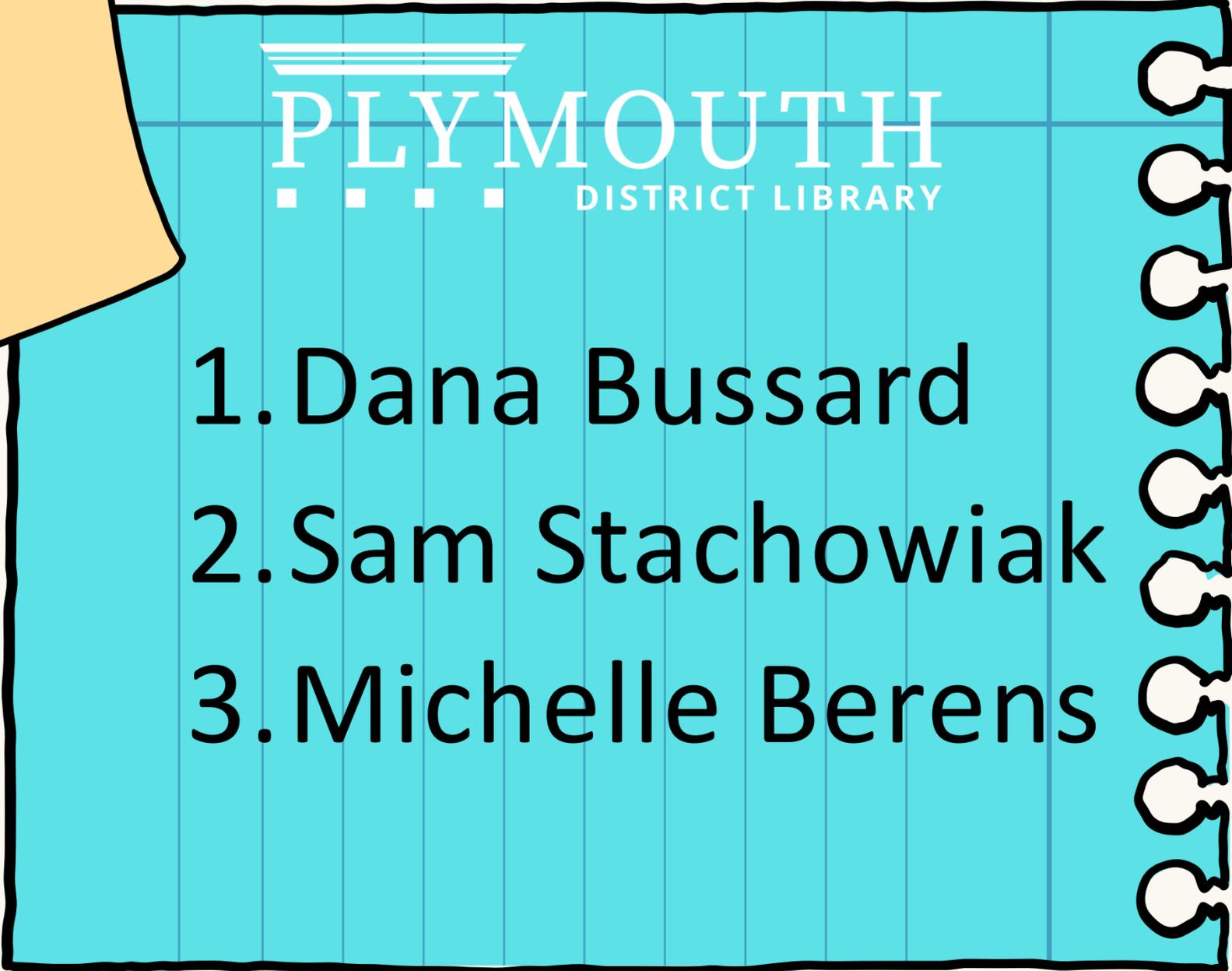


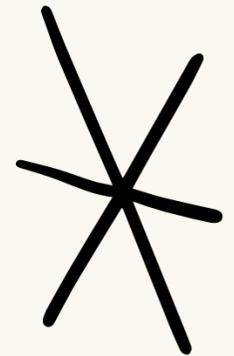


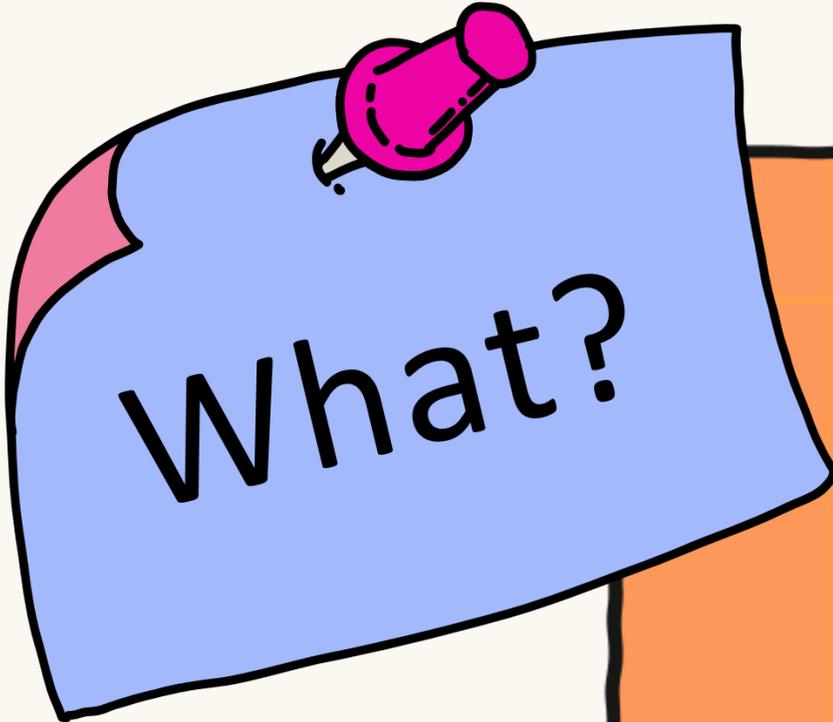
Who?



PLYMOUTH  
DISTRICT LIBRARY

- 
1. Dana Bussard
  2. Sam Stachowiak
  3. Michelle Berens



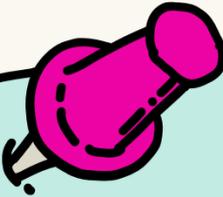


What?

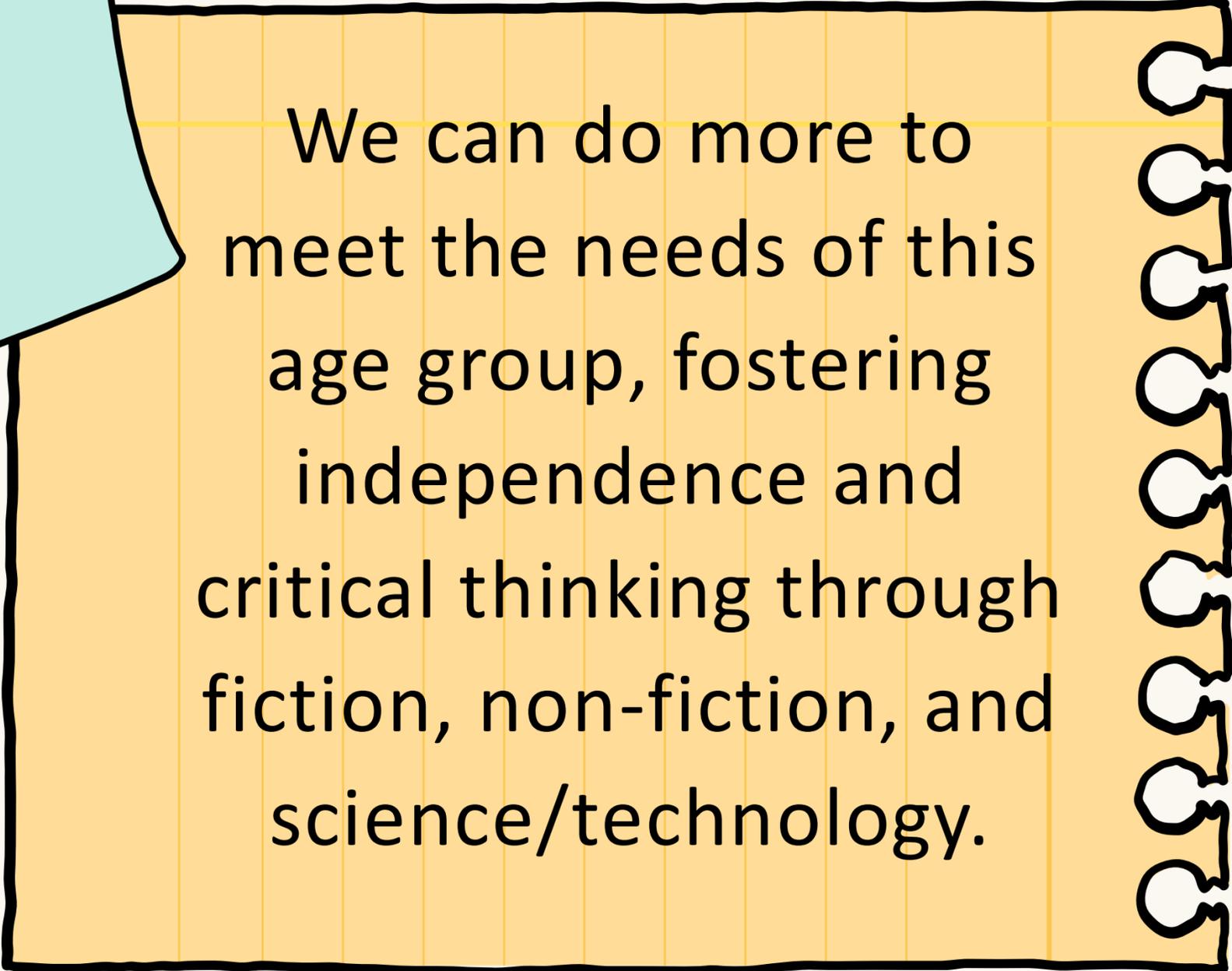
- Book Club
- History Makers Storytime
- Tinker Club & STEM Storytime
- What does your library do for this age group?
- Questions



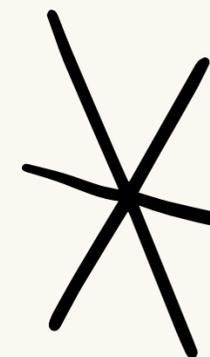
For Ages 5-8



Why?



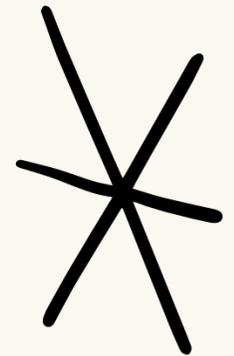
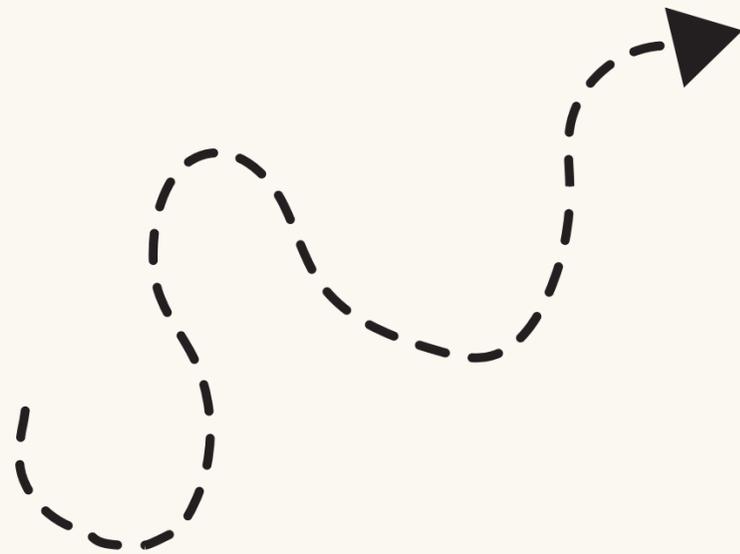
We can do more to meet the needs of this age group, fostering independence and critical thinking through fiction, non-fiction, and science/technology.





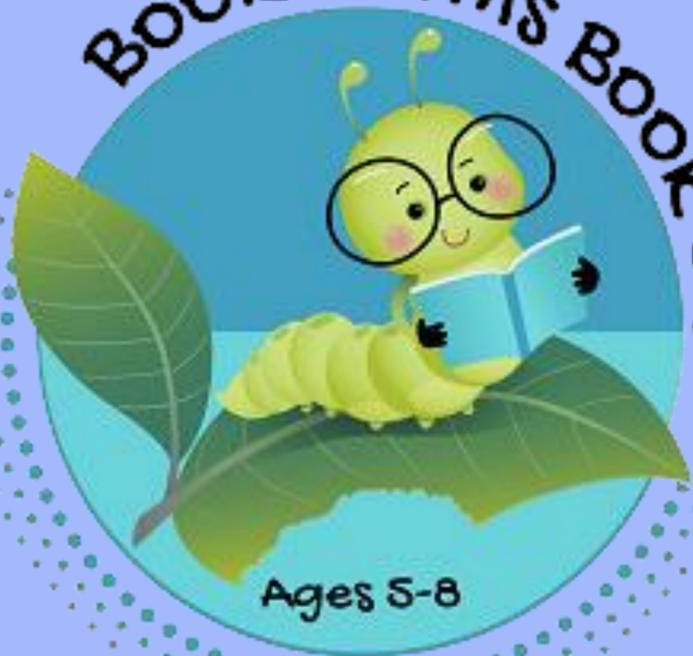
Dana

- Over 22 years as a youth librarian
- Created and run over 2000 youth programs.
- All the trends I have seen were for babies, toddlers, preschoolers, tweens and teens.



# BOOKWORMS BOOKCLUB

BOOKWORMS BOOK CLUB



Ages 5-8

- **HOW IT STARTED**

Pandemic - book club in a bag

Book Cart Queens:

<https://bookcartqueens.com>

Picking ideas from several places.

Adding what I like to do:  
crafts and games

- **FIRST PROGRAM**

First Bookworms Book Club - 10/22

Elephant and Piggie by Mo Willems

No book for kids + swag + paper activities

2 sessions - 12 kids each

Parents did not stay

Wed at 6:30 pm and Sat at 10:30 am

- **TRIAL RUN &**

Pete the Cat - trial run 5/22

Everyone got a small book + swag

2 sessions - 6 kids with parent

Wed at 6:30 pm and Sat at

10:30 am

Feedback parents:

Wed night, no parents, have a

reading by the kids

-Series from Early readers or Early Chapter Books

-15 min discussion, craze and activity

-1 sessions - 12 kids each

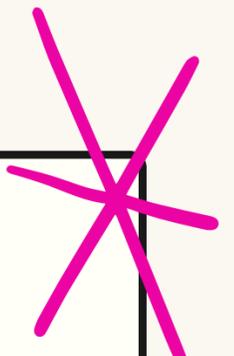
-Parents come in after

discussion

-Time 6:30-7:15 pm (45 min)

**FEEDBACK**

**FINAL FORMAT**



# What I have done so far...

## Pete the Cat

They each got a small book

Button bracelet craft  
Played Pete the Cat bingo with prizes.

## Elephant and Piggie

Read any Pete the Cat book

Made E&P masks  
Pin the trunk on the elephant

## Dr. Seuss

Read any Dr. Seuss book

Dressed up like the cat in the hat or thing 1 & 2  
Played "I can do

## Mercy Watson

They all got a book!  
Made Paper Plate Pig Relay Race to feed Mercy buttered toast!

## Fly Guy (presents)

Made Fly guy puppets.

Had a Bug Hunt with prizes!

## Katie Woo and Pedro

### Mys

Made a Chinese drum.

Tried out musical instruments.

## Yasmin

Made binoculars.  
Youth floor scavenger hunt.

## Amelia Bedelia

## Nate the Great and

### Olivia

Made a decoder wheel.  
Used that to solve a mystery.

## WHAT WORKED THE BEST...

Parents wait outside for the first 15 minutes.

15 minute discussion  
15 minute craft  
15 minute game

Limiting sessions to 15 kids with 12 showing up.



## CHALLENGES...

Making sure they read at least one

book.  
Keeping them on topic.



### Discussion

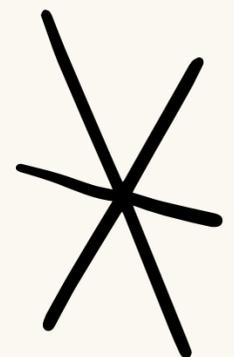
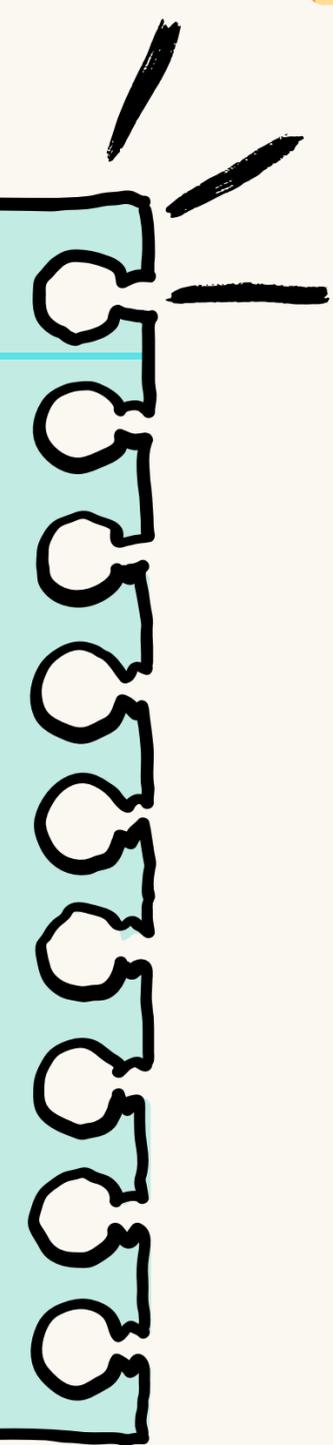
- Reading Comprehension
- Independence
- Narrative

### Craft

- Motor Skills

### Activity

- Social Emotional Skills



# WRAPPING IT UP!



- RUNNING THE “DISCUSSION”

Ask very simple questions on the main characters of the series.

\*Ask them to share what happened in the book they read.

\*What they liked and didn't like?

- CRAFTS & GAMES

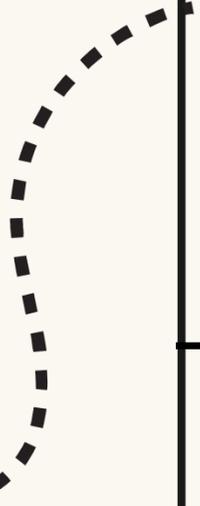
\*Favorite parts or characters?  
Make them fun and appropriate to the age and skill level of the kids.

- IS THIS PROGRAM EXPENSIVE?

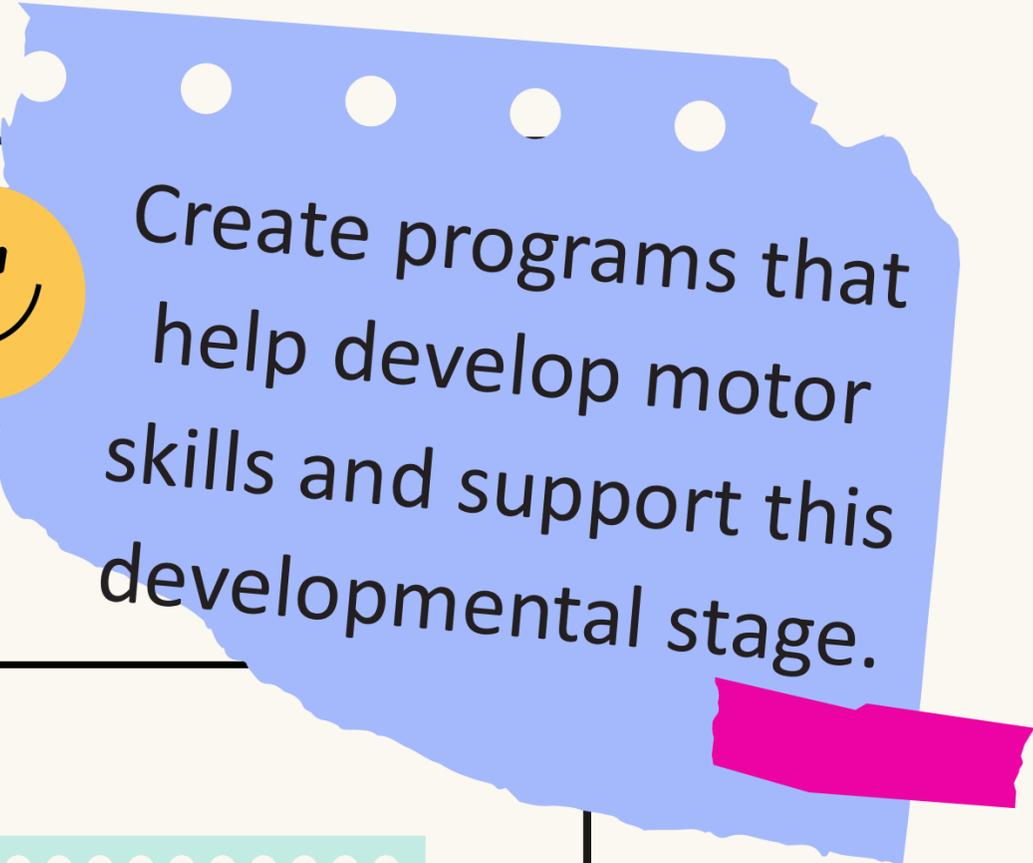
Only if you buy books for all the participants. I try to use things we already have in the library. My budget is usually less than \$25

- IS THIS A FUN PROGRAM TO RUN?

Yes! This is by far my favorite program to run. The kids and I have so much fun!



# A few other ideas...

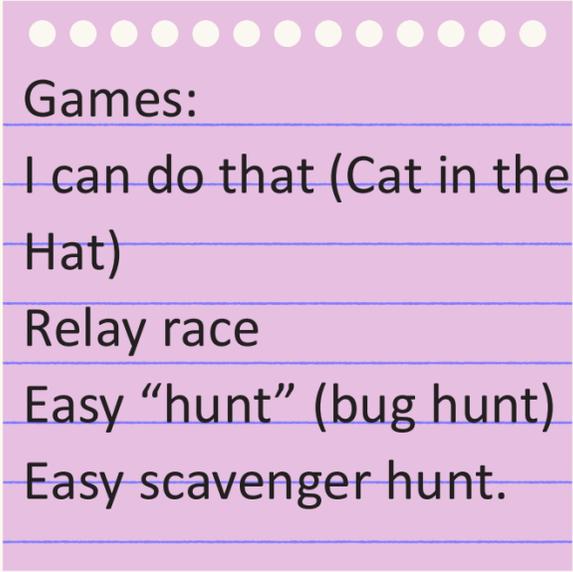


Create programs that help develop motor skills and support this developmental stage.



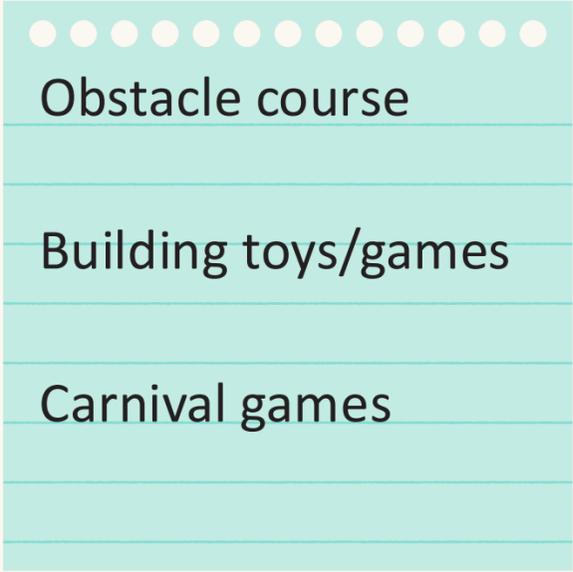
## Crafts:

- Glue
- Scissors
- Pipe cleaners
- Buttons
- Pop-poms



## Games:

- I can do that (Cat in the Hat)
- Relay race
- Easy "hunt" (bug hunt)
- Easy scavenger hunt.



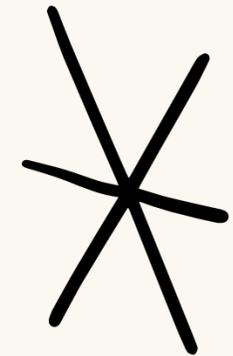
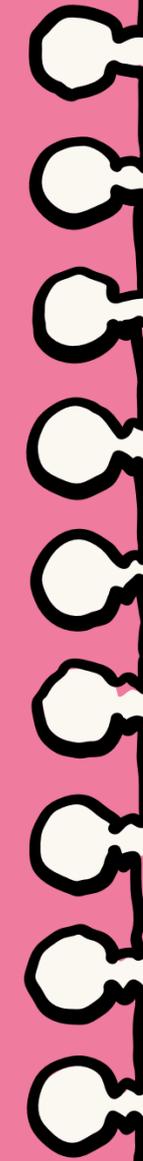
## Obstacle course

- Building toys/games
- Carnival games



Sam:  
History Makers

- New youth librarian, wanted to start my own program to get to know community better.
- I was feeling drawn to longer & more complex books than our ages 2-5 storytime would allow, including picture book biographies.
- All of this motivated me to create my own program series...



# HISTORY MAKERS



- **STRUCTURE**

- INTRODUCTIONS & GET-TO-KNOW YOU QUESTION
- Read through (1) picture book biography
- Craft or interactive activity
- Take Home Packet with activities, themed booklist and more fun facts about the historical person.

- **INTERACTIVE**

**STORYTELLING** Starting on the ground with the kids, trace the letters with my finger and encourage the kids to ask questions throughout the story.

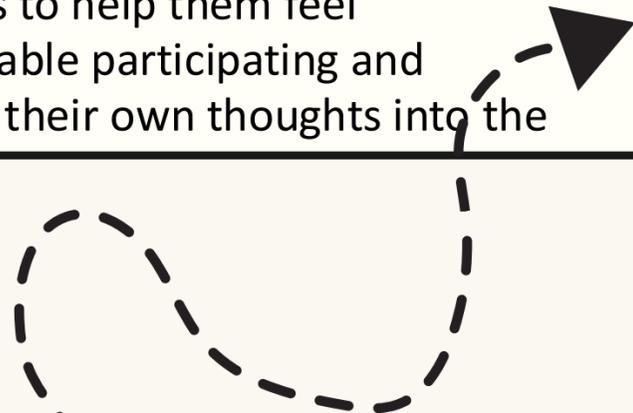
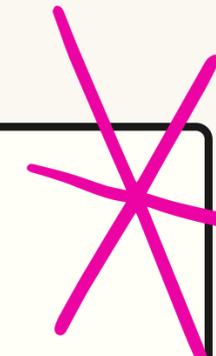
I do this to help them feel comfortable participating and offering their own thoughts into the mix.

- **KID-LED CRAFT**

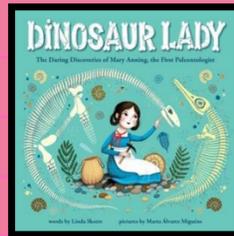
I do not provide the kids with an example or a final project to emulate and usually leave the craft or activity as open-ended as possible, to encourage creativity.

- **BUILDING**

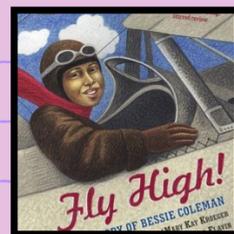
**RELATIONSHIPS** The relationships I've built up ended up producing a lot of regulars who I got to know better than I would in a regular storytime. It got the kids more excited to come to the library since they had a personal relationship with me! :)



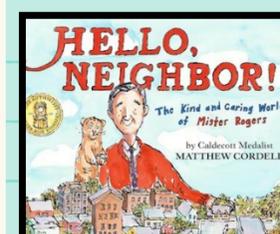
# Past Program Themes (Feel Free to Steal! :))



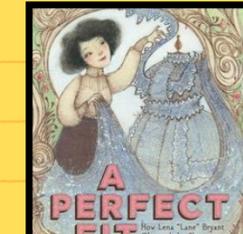
Mary Anning - Paleontologist  
Activity - "Dino Dig"  
with Baked Ooblek & Fossil Figurines



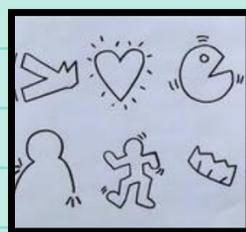
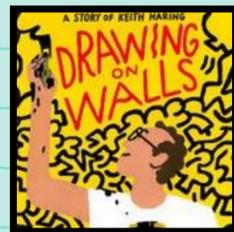
Bessie Coleman - Pilot  
Craft - Popsicle Stick  
Airplanes



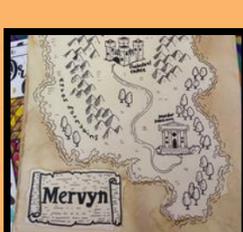
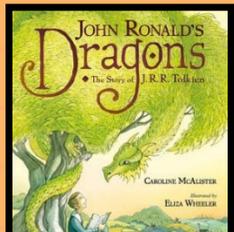
Fred Rogers - TV  
Personality  
Craft - Paper Bag Puppets



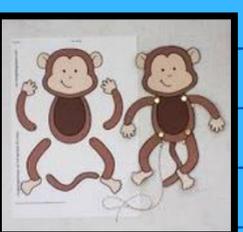
Lena Bryant - Fashion  
Designer  
Craft - Fashion Paper Dolls



Keith Haring - Artist  
Craft - Drawing (with  
cardboard KH inspired  
stencils I made)



J.R.R. Tolkien - Writer  
Craft - Cardboard Fantasy  
Maps



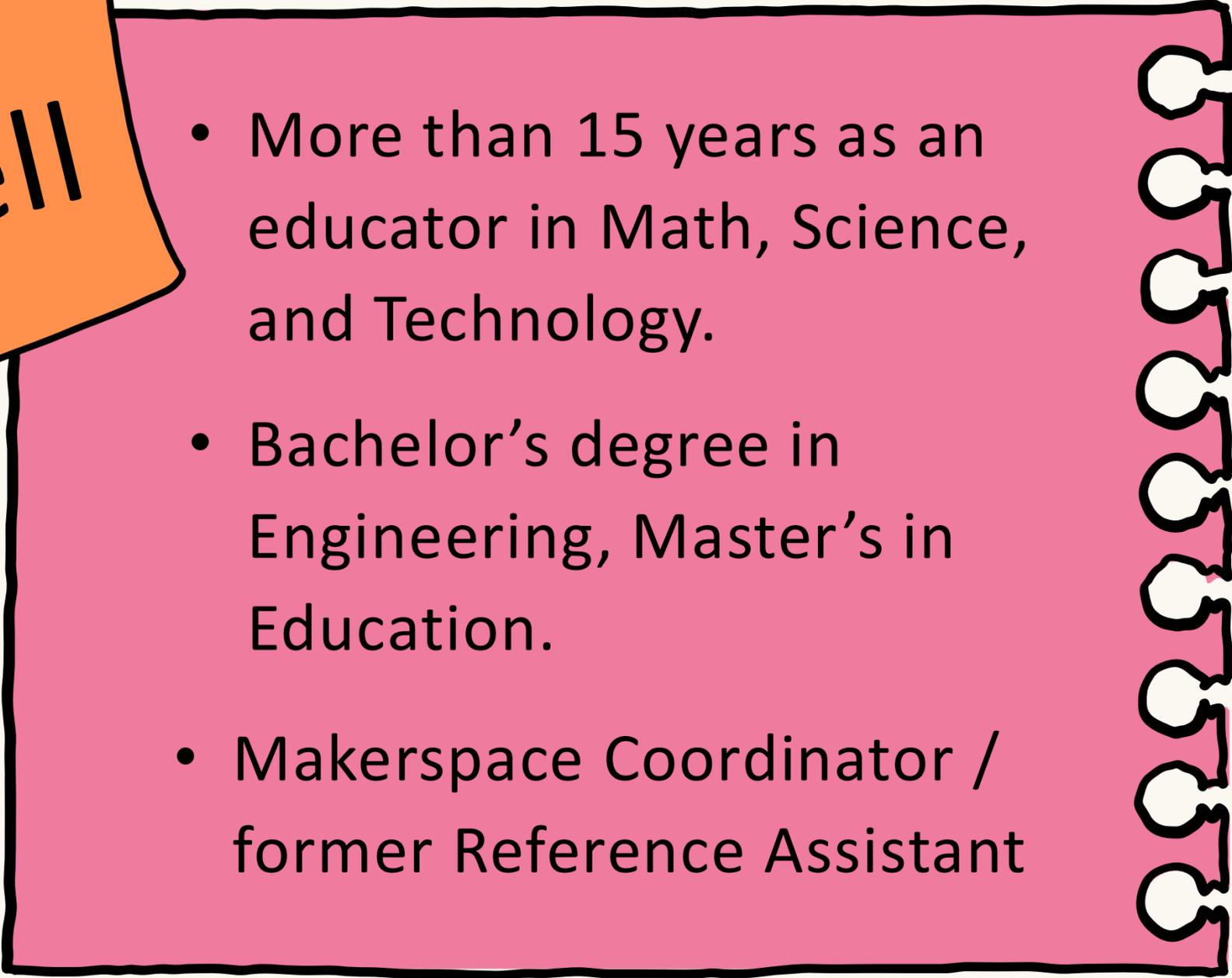
Jane Goodall - Scientist  
Craft - Chimp Cut-Out  
Puppet



Ethelda Bleibtrey - Athlete  
Activity - Outdoor Obstacle  
Course



Michelle  
e

- 
- More than 15 years as an educator in Math, Science, and Technology.
  - Bachelor's degree in Engineering, Master's in Education.
  - Makerspace Coordinator / former Reference Assistant

# TINKER CLUB AND STEM STORYTIME



## TINKER CLUB

Tinker Club is a drop-in STEM program that runs weekly during the summer.

Activities are designed to teach a specific concept and typically involve a take-home element.

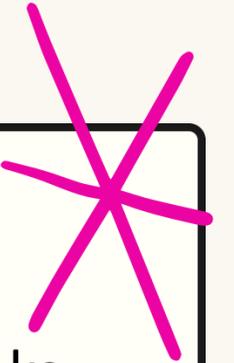
Activities are “grownup and me” projects and adults are required to accompany their little ones.

## STEM STORYTIME

STEM Storytime connects books to science and technology. We start with an introduction and quick discussion of the topic (“what do you know about...?”).

We read a book from our STEM collection, asking and answering questions along the way.

We then do an activity (typically with a take-home element) to reinforce the topic.

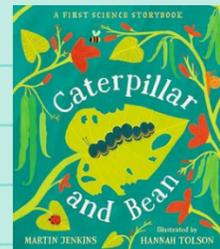


# ▶ A Few Past Programs

## Electricity

What is electricity?  
How does it work?

Makey Makey kits  
with laptops



## Caterpillar and Bean

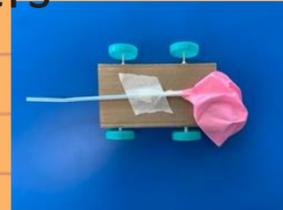
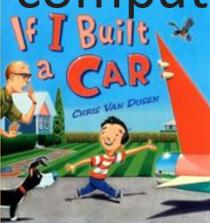
Build mini terrariums  
(and plant bean seeds)

## Computers

What is a  
computer? How  
does it work?

“Deconstructing”  
old desktop

computers



## If I Built a Car

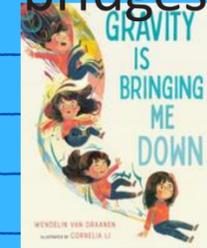
Create balloon cars

## Paper Engineering

What can we do  
with paper?

Origami,  
paperfolding,  
building paper

bridges



## Gravity is Bringing Me

Down  
slime

## Lego Challenge

What can you  
imagine and  
create?

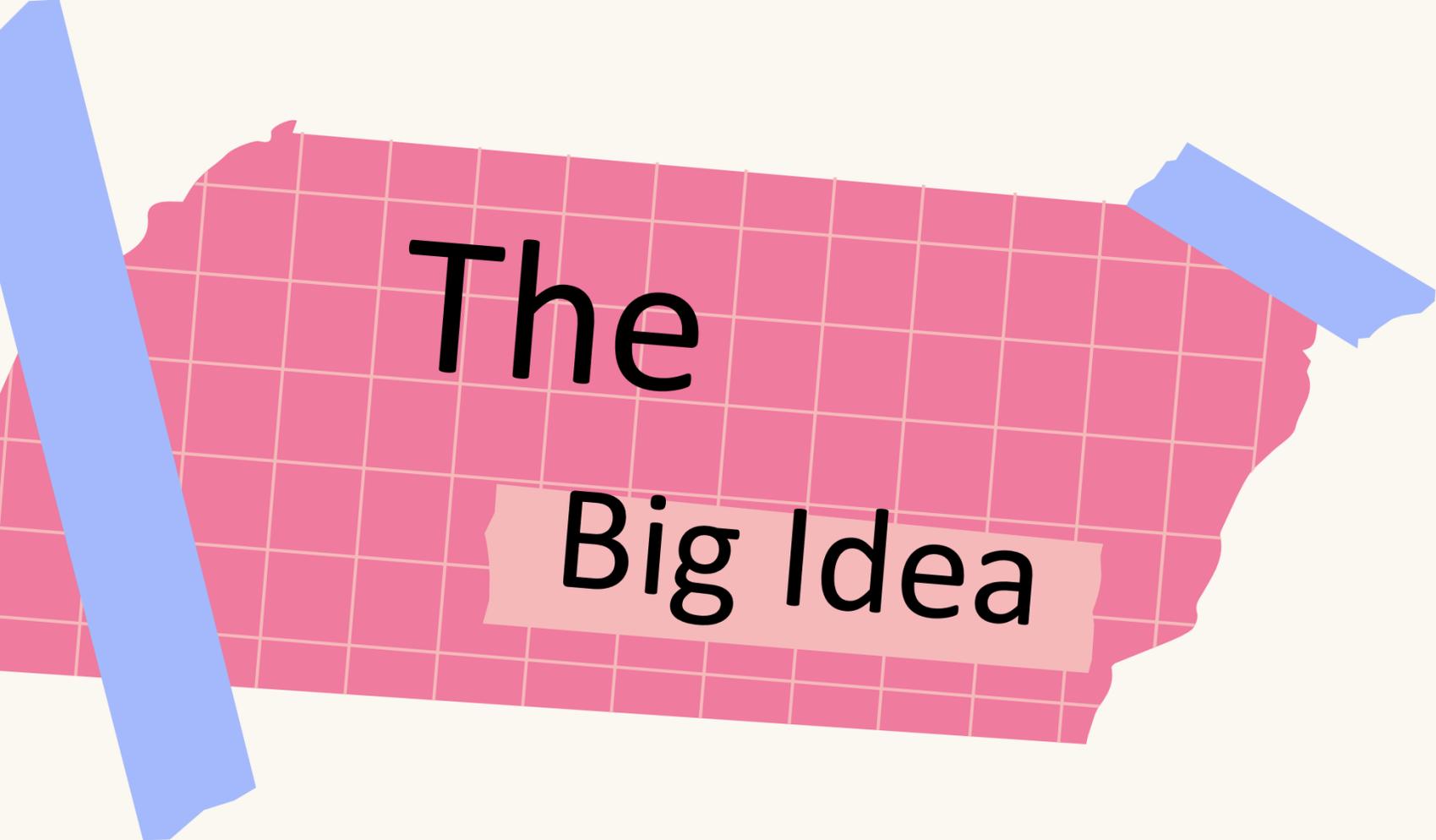
Lego Bingo -  
complete

challenges for a



## Not a Box

Construct with Cardboard



# The

# Big Idea

We want to meet the unique needs of this age group, fostering independence and critical thinking while building relationships. Each program does that with a slightly different focus.



## Bookworms:

Build reading independence and comprehension



## History Makers:

Highlight award-winning books in our collection

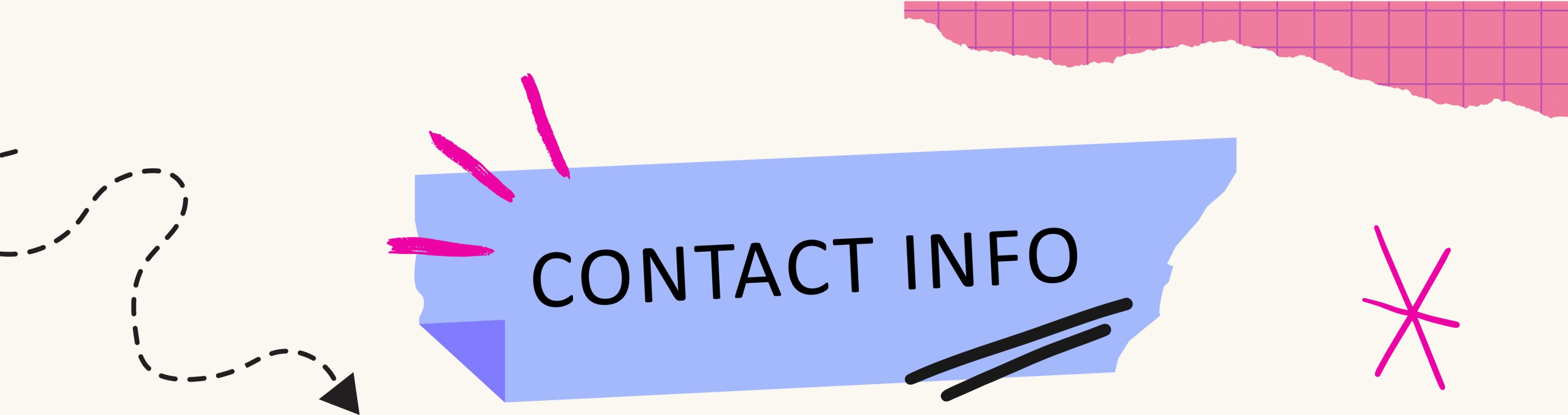


## Tinker Club / STEM

## Storytime:

Connect reading to doing, focusing on the physical world





# CONTACT INFO

**DANA BUSSARD**

Plymouth District Library  
dbussard@plymouthlibrary.org  
734-453-0750 x207

**SAM STACHOWIAK**

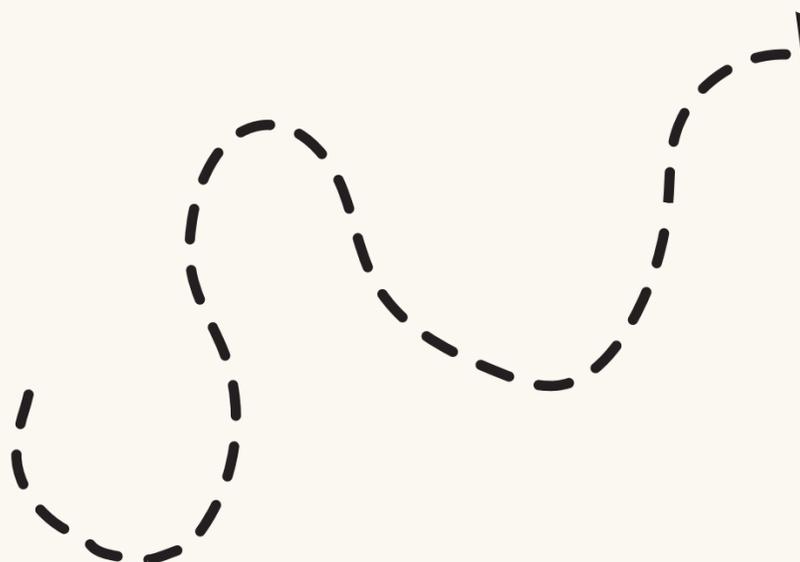
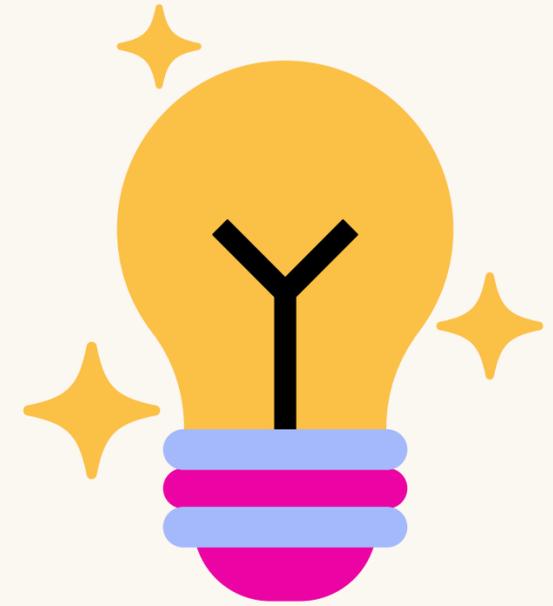
Plymouth District Library  
scooney@plymouthlibrary.org  
734-453-0750 x265

**MICHELLE BERENS**

Plymouth District Library  
mberens@plymouthlibrary.org  
734-453-0750 x274

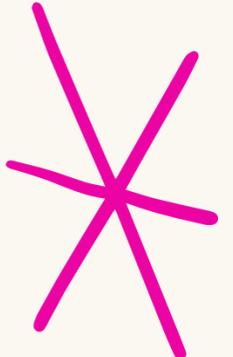


QUESTIONS?



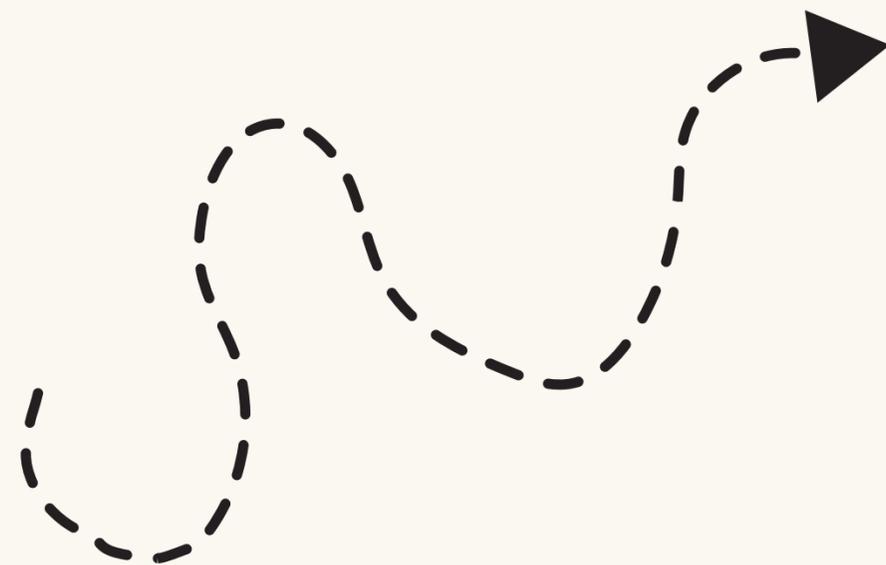
COMMENTS?

IDEAS?





THANK



YOU!

