

## LEGOs at the Library: Building a Bridge for Reluctant Readers

### Who are these people?

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### Download this presentation:

<http://greatreads.pbworks.com/presentations>

### Where this whole LEGO idea got started...

Catherine's LATI project

- Get reluctant readers into the library!
- How do we do that?
- LEGOs!
- Once they're in, offer books relating to what they're building.

### Why LEGOs?

Promoting play contributes to early literacy development by increasing attention span, memory, creativity, and language and vocabulary skills. It also lays the foundation for logical mathematical thinking, scientific reasoning, and problem solving—things they'll carry with them throughout their school years.

### Acquiring the LEGOs

- LEGOs are not cheap.
- Ask for Donations from families who don't need theirs anymore
- Community partnerships and sponsors
- Community Partnership\$

### How to bring books into the equation

- Storytime
- Booktalking
- Either way: have books on display to check out!

## Outline of a Program

- Welcome!
- Read aloud, or book-talk (from the theme)
- LEGO time!
- Show interest
- Take photos
- Clean up
- Show & Share (take more photos)
- Push the books one last time!

## Tips and Tricks for a Smooth Program

- No LEGOs from home!
- Have a theme for kids to build on
- Keep the lids on until after the booktalks!
- Put DUPLOs down low for the little ones...
- ...and keep the small pieces up on tables.
- Show an interest in what they're building
- Push the books!
- LEGOs have to stay at the library...
- So take lots of photos to immortalize their creations!
- Put those photos on Flickr!
  - <http://www.flickr.com/photos/stmaryslibrary/tags/legos/>
- Have a cue to clean up

## Read-Alouds

- Short & Snappy!
- Just 1... maybe 2.
- Match your theme!

## Booktalks

- Still keep it short!
- Just one or two per age level
- Series are good!
- Some for the theme...
- And several other topics!
- Don't forget the nonfiction!

## Audios

- Offer audios of the titles that you booktalk
- Display even more audios
- Promote “cool” stuff like Playaways!

## Books to Display

- Variety!
- Reading level
- Interest Level
- Topic
- Lots of formats
- Don't forget the non-fiction!!!

## More Resources

Klebanoff, Abbe. "Block Party: Legos in the Library." School Library Journal. 1 July 2009. Web. 14 Mar. 2011. <<http://www.schoollibraryjournal.com/article/CA6666669.html>>.

Heiberger, Katherine. "Tips for Starting a LEGO Club." LEGO Builders of Tomorrow. The LEGO Group, 2006. Web. 14 Mar. 2011. <[http://www.legobuildersoftomorrow.com/tips\\_legoclub.pdf](http://www.legobuildersoftomorrow.com/tips_legoclub.pdf)>