

Products to delight and engage the curious mind





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Background to TMCkids LearnPLAY

"As a mother, artist and educator I have always been passionate about the curiosity and creative spirit in children. Cultivating and nourishing those qualities is important, something we all innately like to do. To me, curiosity and imagination is one of the most important aspects of life. There are many different ways to promote and nurture a child's inquisitiveness and their unquenchable desire to learn. One is simply PLAY. It's a cardboard box that has been transformed into an imaginary house, or perhaps it's a log in the forest. My daughter and I spent many hours on a large fallen tree in our back woods. One day she would pretend it was a ship and we'd sail away to many places. Another day it was a place for tea with our dogs and so on.

We started TMCkids out of our house. Our daughter, in many ways, was a major inspiration to us, offering up opinions and ideas on the products we were developing. As our company grew, our staff's children would join in conjuring stick and grass soups, building forts in the woods, and chasing butterflies with abandon. All of these experiences as parents, genuinely loving children and marveling at their free and creative spirit, helped shape this line we call LearnPLAY. Literacy, is a critical part of learning and cultivating curiosity. Reading to gain knowledge, to inquire, to answer questions or to simply be transported with words. Storytelling, wonderment, contemplation, expression, looking at things creatively and inquisitively is all part of a world that is rich and full of discovery. We developed our TMCkids LearnPLAY products and spaces to delight and promote expression, curiosity and discovery that ultimately helps shape the desire and longing to learn more! The potential to be a life-long learner begins when a baby is first born. The parent or caregiver is the best person to begin this exciting and fulfilling journey with their child. We hope you enjoy TMCkids LearnPLAY products. Designed by parents and artists with much thought to the content and purpose.

Thanks to Dr. Susan B. Neuman for her Early Literacy expertise, and Dorothy Stolz and Marisa Connor all for their passion and support along the way.

-Sherri and Blake Ratcliffe

TMC LearnPLAY

We are artists, designers, educators, woodworkers and engineers.

Made in Michigan

TMC LearnPLAY

About Us

We are a dedicated group of artists, woodworkers and engineers who are passionate about making products that are strong in design and craft. From backgrounds in the fine arts—painting illustration writing—to theater design and education, our team is an eclectic mix of talent and passion. We are loyal to the basic tenants of good design which starts where pencil meets paper in a sketchbook. We value quality craftsmanship and innovation. Our factory is located in Grand Rapids and includes second and third generation woodworkers. Creativity, curiosity and imagination is constant. We see life-long learning as a way of being. We have a deep respect for nurturing this in children. Nature is a huge inspiration. We are members of USGBC and BIFMA.



A nurturing parent or caregiver is the best teacher for promoting early learning and literacy. Talking to your child, asking questions is so important in a child's development. A close, emotional bond with a parent or caregiver in a child's early years, helps a child grow both emotionally and physically, which in turn provides a stable and open foundation for a child's learning. Parents and caregivers are the best first teachers in a baby's life to begin that journey of curiosity, expression and learning.

Our LearnPLAY products are designed to encourage a parent or caregiver to talk and engage with their child, to spark conversations and curiosity, whether through the questions posed on our Learning Panels or by creating a thoughtful, dynamic space in our Kitchen, where a meal and a conversation may be shared.



Libraries today are community resources. Many libraries are teaching parents and caregivers the best methods to engage with their child in meaningful play that encourages early literacy. Parent involvement in learn/play before a child begins school, has been shown to lead to higher rate of success during their school years.



Parents and caregivers are the best first teachers.



Curiosity+Creativity+Discovery



child walking into a library is presented with endless learning opportunities. He or she can flip through a picture book about the planets, consult a history book on early America, or study the glossy pages of a book about underwater sea creatures. These are traditional purposes for which the library was created, but as they adapt to the changing needs of their communities, libraries are faced with the task of engaging children with topics and activities that go beyond the standard story-time. Libraries today are teaching parents and caregivers how to engage with their child to best encourage early literacy. "Extensive research strongly indicates that parent-child interactions greatly enhance a child's pre-literacy skills."

The First 5 Years

A child's brain development during the first five years is profound. Research shows that a child's early literacy skills begin developing at birth. Daily interaction with a baby or young child that encourages talking, reading, playing and singing is enormously important.

PLA/ALA and ALSC's* Every Child Ready to Read parent education initiative, encourages parents to incorporate five practices of early literacy with their child: talking, singing, reading, writing and playing. It also suggests that the public library is a perfect place to offer such assistance in this important developmental area. The library provides a safe, clean, nurturing and inquisitive environment, where discovery, play, problem-solving, conceptual inquiry and motor skills can all be expressed. We designed and developed TMCkids LearnPLAY products with these attributes.

Schools, Healthcare, Facilities, Museums and More

Early Learning doesn't have to be just for school or library settings. The LearnPLAY products belong in any setting that wants to invite inquiry and wonderment.

¹Nurturing Knowledge Neuman and Roskos (2007) *Public Library Association, American Library Association and Association for Library Service for Children



Dr. Susan B. Neuman, Professor of Education at New York University, a leading educator and researcher in the field of early literacy, explains how "unconstrained" skills such as vocabulary building, are tools a child continues to use throughout their life. With this in mind, our Learning Panels using these "unconstrained" learning techniques to expand a child's understanding of word meanings and concepts. Inquiry, asking questions leads to the formation of new and complex connections in a child's mind. This type of learning has a cumulative effect. Studies indicate that children learn by doing, which is why we integrate interactive components in our LearnPLAY product line.

Constrained Learning

"Constrained Learning" (Letter Recognition, Shape Recognition, Number Recognition) is an important part of literacy but its uses are finite. We have developed a few Learning Panels for such learning with examples shown below. Even our "constrained" panels can invite discussion. For instance the alligator, bird, cow and dog on the panel below, can all be woven into a story by a young child. Or a parent can use them to ask questions, such as, "Which one of these creatures doesn't have 4 legs? Can you name other animals with 4 legs? How would you walk on 4 legs?"





At left:

I. Counting Trees

2. Shape, color and phonetical awareness.

Unconstrained Learning Reading Comprehension and Life-long Learning

Dr. Susan B. Neuman states "because comprehension of text—the very purpose of reading—depends not only on a small set of procedural skills, but on a great infusion of knowledge: Knowledge of words and their meanings, the concepts that connect them, and the ability to think critically about what one reads. Serving as a foundation for literacy learning, it is knowledge, not the learning of the letter 'n,' that accelerates children's achievement." ² Even in infancy, these important connections form: in language, in the understanding of our surroundings. The connections that are formed provide rich, contextual foundations that sustain us throughout our life.TMCkids is passionate about developing and cultivating learning areas where such fertile ground begins, develops and grows.

Our philosophy is to encourage children to question. For example, one may show a child a row of houses and suggest different ways to look at the picture. As a parent or caregiver reads to the child, they can ask questions about what they see in the panel, look for shapes in the houses, house size relationships, or ask more probing questions such as, "Which house would you like to live in? Why?" A narrative begins in the young child's mind. This type of parent-child inquiry can easily start at the library, and continue with questions about the stores or buildings the child might see on a walk or drive home from the library. A conversation begins. Vocabulary and background knowledge are born.

In the Neighborhood

Looking at shapes within a picture.

Size relationships big-small counting. Make up a story about the house you would like to live in. Pets—dog/cat offers a common storytelling narrative

Other possible inquiries:

Can you find all of the flowers in this picture?
Can you find the red door?
Is the tree the tallest in the picture?
Which door looks like an upside down U?
What do you suppose the dog is looking at?

²Overcoming the Knowledge Gap: The Case for Content-rich Instruction Dr. Susan B. Neuman



How many windows do you see? Which house has a triangle shape? Are there any rectangles? Are there any squares? Which house is the tallest? Which house is the shortest? Can you find a cat? How many spots does the dog have? Which house would you like to live in?



Dr. Susan B. Neuman on Comprehension

"Perhaps the true path to literacy is not procedural skills that stand out in the crowd, but the knowledge of content and concept that underlie its foundation. In this case, our efforts would be to get children to think, grapple with ideas, to experience the 'ah-ah,' the 'flow' that comes when we achieve something meaningful against resistance. In this scenario, knowledge is the headline star with conventional literacy skills, the supporting cast members."

Lessons for My Mother: Reflections on the National Early Literacy Panel Report



TMC LearnPLAY

According to Harvard University's Center on the Developing Child, "In the first few years of life, more than I million new neural connections are formed every second....through the interaction of genes and a baby's environment and experiences, especially "serve and return" interaction with adult....These are the connections that build brain architecture – the foundation upon which all later learning, behavior, and health depend."

Center on the Developing Child Harvard University "We need to expose children to language-rich and content-rich settings that help them acquire the broad array of knowledge, skill and dispositions that build a foundation for literacy and content learning.The early years are just too precious to get it wrong." —Dr. Susan B. Neuman

Lessons for My Mother: Reflections on the National Early Literacy Panel Report



TMC LearnPLAY



TMCkids' LearnPLAY products are innately expressive. We work in wood for its warm, tactile quality. Holding a paddle from our Discovery Box or a wood peg on our Learning Panels offers a connection to something organic and natural. Sitting under one of our trees, provides a sense of richness and atmosphere. Wood is timeless and has a presence that we feel is important to life.

We believe in non-electronic pedagogy. You will not find screens for swiping or computer technology in our product offerings. We feel technology diminishes the present and human connection.

TMC LearnPLAY Nature + future stewards

We are strong believers of the importance of biophilic design which maintains that nature and the natural world is important to human experience. Our product designs are inspired by nature, and the material we use, namely wood for its source — trees, beautiful and living. Wood connects us to the natural landscape.

We are artists and designers, We develop spaces where creativity and the imagination are a constant. We have a deep respect for keeping and nurturing these qualities in children. We hope to inspire children to observe and be curious of their environment, whether urban, suburban or country. Nature exists everywhere.

The library is a perfect place for children to explore.TMCkids strives to bring the outdoors in with trees, birds and animals.





Study published by JAMA Pediatrics: How Does Type of Toy Affect Quantity, Quality of Language in the Infant Playtime?

The study concluded that electronic toys diminish the quality of conversation between a child and parent. The study revealed the dialogue was much richer when a child and parent were reading books or playing with traditional toys.

> Our Learning Desk with wood tablets provides an intimate place where a parent or caregiver can sit with their child. The Nature Series panels prompts a child to search for bugs, birds and other natural curiosities with an accompanying magnifying glass. The magnifying glass, as we know, opens up the world in so many ways...





milkweed

The Monarch Butterfly Life Cycle

5 Early Literacy Practices

Talking Singing Reading Writing Playing

Every Child Ready to Read [ECRR] ALA/PLA Incorporating the 5 practices in our PLAY Kitchen! Of course talking and playing...

Reading







Writing with magnets

Singing/Rhyming

Pat-a-cake, pat-a-cake, baker's man. Bake me a cake as fast as you can; Pat it and shape it and mark it with "B", And bake it in the oven for baby and me.





A child who does not play is not a child, but the man who does not play has lost foreve child who lived in him.

Pablo Neruda - Chilean poet 1904-1973

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TMC LearnPLAY Why PLAY?

- promotes creativity
- promotes exploring new things
- promotes cooperation with others
- provides the opportunity to develop strength in character, self-confidence and curiosity
- provides the opportunity to be expressive





Children love exploring their world with a full sensory approach. Providing experiences that engage the senses is an integral part of the TMCkids' LearnPLAY line.

We are artists. Our roots in fine arts training offer an imaginative approach to early learning products and spaces. We strive to design products that are smart, creative and relevant to a child's world.

We are always sketching and tinkering with children in mind



Another aspect of our LearnPLAY line is to encourage children to PLAY, with peers or by themselves. Creating products or a space where children play solo helps to build character and expression.

Whether on a boat or tractor, children can imagine sailing high seas or plowing through cornfields. Sometimes a child's growth stems from having space to imagine and play with other children. This is also important. When a child has to find and create their own fun, all sorts of imaginative ideas come into play. Studies suggest this also allows children to develop what has been coined "grit and perseverance."

In his book *How Children Succeed: Grit, Curiosity and the Hidden Power of Character,* Paul Tough, states a growing number of educators, psychologists, economists and neuroscientists are questioning old assumptions like if "success" should be measured by IQ tests and "cognitive skill" and if the only way to reach "success" is to begin as early as possible in the child's life a routine of heavy practice and drill. He mentions that these researchers — among whom are Noble laure-ate James Heckman and Geoffrey Canada of the Harlem Children's Zone— are finding perhaps, "what matters most in a child's development, is not how much information we can stuff into her brain in the first few years of life. What matters, instead, is whether we are able to help her develop a different set of qualities, a list which includes persistence, self-control, curiosity, conscientiousness, grit and self-confidence. Economists refer to these as non-cognitive skills, psychologists call them personality traits, and the rest often think of them as character".

The act of PLAYING creates an environment for that exact growth. So when we design a sailboat, we think about how two can sit on the bench seat and sail away, navigating the imaginary voyage of story with shared engagement. Shared cooperation with the rudder; shared narrative as they talk about pirates they may meet along the way. Or in the Kitchen where they make a meal together. Allowing the space for kids to simply PLAY together and imagine, can help in developing their character. To face adversity and setbacks on their own is important too for a child's development. We design and build for the library market, and have since the start of the company in 1998. We build for longevity, both structurally and aesthetically.

As part of our company's principles, we believe in creating products with long life-cycles, which in turn, helps this amazing planet we live on.

TMC LearnPLAY Product



Learning Corners

TMCkids' sculptural, free-standing corners provide a little nook in small or large, expansive spaces. Our Learning Corners offer a place to sit where a parent or caregiver can read a book or interact with the Learning Panels. Our Learning Panels are easy to swap out, allowing for a fresh and dynamic place to visit. This system can be configured for larger spaces too. Please contact customer service for information to modify dimensions.



Learning Corner - Tree

Sit under the tree, look for the bird, pet the squirrel, count the leaves, or play peek-a-boo. Endless fun. Pictured with the background panel that holds up 6 Learning Panels or mix in the Discovery Box (pictured left). The Bunny Browser (page 99) offers a perfect accessory for books that may relate to the surrounding Learning Panels.











Learning Corner - Planting

Children love to pretend play. This Planting Box encourages children to plant the flower, vegetables and seeds, and water the plants with the accompanying watering can. The vinyl planting furrows that emulate dirt are easy to clean. A cubby compartment holds the planting paddles, and books too! The arc background panel and Puddle Bench (pictured left) offers up more interactive possibilities. Pair it up with our Tractor or Potting Shed!



Approx. Dimensions: 74" L x 48" D x 30" OH

Box for Planting Paddles and related books too. Includes 6 Planting Paddles and a Watering Can.





Learning Corner Accessories

These items may be part of the Learning Corners or may be used separately, adding more functionality and PLAY to the early learning spaces.



Magnetic Board w/solid Maple frame

Dimensions: 30" L x 21" H



Magnets - ''On the Farm''

Weave stories with picture magnets.



Bunny Browser

Book proximity for integrating stories or informational non-fiction material. Perfect for early learning areas.

Dimensions: 16" L x 6" D x 5.5" H



Cube

Dimensions: 18" L x 18" D x 19" H



The Discovery Box

Our Discovery Box is an open-ended PLAY box for all kinds of subject matter. Pictured here, it is shown as a Planting Box. The connecting bin provides a storage place for the paddles as well as related books. To name a few, other paddle subjects include Hibernation, Architecture (design a town), Earth Dwelling Creatures and Farm. Children learn so much by building! Here is a perfect place to do just that. This becomes a dynamic place, with many opportunities, to change content and discovery! Mount to a Learning Corner, Wall Mural or as a stand-alone on the floor against a wall.



Paddle/Book Cubby Dimensions (interior): 6.5" W x 6.25" H



The Discovery Box Paddle Series

Planting Paddles













.0

Cow





Pony



Pig



Herb Paddles



Flower Paddles



Tree Seedling Paddles





The Learning Desk

Our Learning Desk is a quiet, intimate place where a child and parent or caregiver can sit and discover the world set before them. Text content on the tablets prompts looking for bugs, owlets and more. Questions such as Can you see the snails eyes? or Can you find the beetle? or What else might you see in this pond? Another tablet is for building a lego structure. Tablets and magnifying glass are included with desk. Legos, however are not included. We have designed a trough to hold the parts and pieces, or consider putting a few content related books in there too. Desks can be mounted to Learning Corners and or Wall Murals.



Dimensions: 16" W x 16" H x 14" D Tablet Dimensions: 14.75" W x 8.5" H





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The Monarch Butterfly Life Cycle

Learning Desk Tablets

Nature Set — Series No. I



What Do You See? - butterflies 1 (front) What Do You See? - butterflies 2 (back)

What Do You See? - honey bee-1 (front) What Do You See? - honey bee-2 (back)

What Do You See? - frog (front) What Do You See? - snail (back)



What Do You See? - birds (front) What Do You See? - grasshoppers (back)

TMC LearnPLAY





What do you see? Can you find a bee?

What Do You See? - owls (front) What Do You See? - bee (back)

Learning Desk Tablets

Nature Set — Series No. 2



What Do You See? - rabbit ear 1 (front) What Do You See? - beach pea 2 (back)

What Do You See? - snake - I *(front)* What Do You See? - frog in grass-2 (*back*)

What Do You See? - turkey (front) What Do You See? - vultures (back)

What Do You See? - acorns (front) What Do You See? - fungi (back)



What Do You See? - flowers (front) What Do You See? - roots (back)

Learning Desk Tablets

Lego Tablet



Pictured at right shows the trough, holding box for Lego parts, and Plover Stools.



Incorporate Learning Desks with our Wall Murals.

Create beautiful wall vignettes combined with rich content in the Learning Tablets. Pictured at right: Learning Desk with Mama Bear in the Pines Wall Mural and Plover Stool







Structures



The Birdhouse

For tight spaces, The Birdhouse maintains a 2' × 2' footprint and holds up to 4 Learning Panels. Jose the Heron makes for a friendly bird to greet the children. Plover Stools are pictured as an optional perch when interacting with the Learning Panels. The Birdhouse is available with maple veneer or laminate sides and a wood roof.

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The Potting Shed



Pictured with Flower Box, Chicken Coop and Hen Appliqué.



Pictured with Learning Panels and Workbench mounted on the side of the Potting Shed.

We all know how exciting forts can be. This Potting Shed was inspired with just that in mind. Children can imagine their own world and transform it into a playhouse—a puppet stage, a store, a post office or a quiet reading nook. An optional mat is also available (as pictured). See following pages for more accessory options.



Dimensions: 48" L x 48" D x 72" H [not including topper]

The Potting Shed + Add-ons





Chicken Coop with Hen Appliqué

The Chicken Coop offers an opportunity to store and count eggs. Add your own eggs or little chicks for more PLAY!

Workbench with optional Work Crates

This Workbench is perfect place for play items and storage. As a potting shed workbench, it's a place to pretend plant, do texture rubbings or store tools. Or a bakery, for making cookie cut-outs and storing mixing bowls. Or a post office for sorting letters and stamping letters with stickers. In other words, functional and fun for the imagination.

Flower Box for books

These Flower Boxes are perfect for storing books about plants, farming and the like. Book proximity is an important element for early learning spaces. Flower boxes mount to the side of the Potting Shed.



Flower Box for planting

This Flower Box comes with a furrow with paddles for planting flowers, herbs or tree seeds. A cubby for the paddles and books.





The Potting Shed Toppers Add-ons to create a new defined space:

Post Office School Bakery



Flag for Post Office or School

Add relevant elements to the new space: letter, stamps, rulers, cash register, cookie cutter puzzles and more. Consider our Boxes to place nearby, for books!

Cupcake for a Bakery







Magnetic Whiteboard for puppet show announcements

Dimensions: 42" W x 23" D x 60" H



Built-in puppet bin

Imagination Theater

A puppet theater with a built-in puppet storage bin and magnetic whiteboard for puppet show announcements or other interesting content. Simple and easy to use, this is a surprisingly fun place to put on a show. Curtain rod and curtain included.
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9 Bin Cubby Unit

A clever piece that uses the magnetic whiteboard for visual themes and informational content. The cubbies below provide little treasure spaces for more items that relate to the topic on the whiteboard. Puppets, little board books, laminated matching games and puzzles are perfect for these clear plastic bins. The added element of surprise delights children when they open the bin to find out what is tucked inside.

Plastic cubbies are included in this unit.

Magnetic Board





The Sailboat

Sail away on the open water. This sweet little boat offers a place for children to set sail on a voyage and imagine – meet pirates or whales along the way. A small scale boat with a rudder that really moves! The Sailboat is wood with a floor surfaced in teak laminate. The sail is made of real canvas. Locking casters are standard. *Bon Voyage!*



Dimensions: 36" W x 72" L x 67" H



The Tractor + Hay Wagon

Ride on the Tractor through imaginary fields or down country roads. The steering wheel has an on/off button prompt. Solidly built to withstand the most rugged farmers! One Learning Panel can be placed on each side of the tractor (Learning Panels not included). Add the Hay Wagon to make room for farm animal passengers or to give more kids room to PLAY! Dimensions: 36" L x 27.5" W x 18" OH



Dimensions: 62.5" L x 37" W x 32.75" OH

The Kitchen

Everyone knows the kitchen is the place for conversation and always bustles with activity. Our kitchen is built for the most rambunctious of cooks and built to last. The materials are .75" thick with a 1" thick counter top. The refrigerator door has a pinch free gap and built-in shelf stop that prevents the door from swinging 180 degrees. The refrigerator door can be magnetic, just like at home, which is perfect for letters, recipes, poems, pictures or whatever. We've added a few accessories — a spoon rack, doweled hook, measuring cup rack with a book display ledge and appliqués.



The Kitchen Trio





Other Kitchen Trio configurations available upon request.

Dimensions: 66" L x 14" D x 45" OH Counter: 24" H and 14" D

The Kitchen Corner



Kitchen Corner configurations are available with one or two backdrop panels as pictured.

Dimensions: 71.5" L x 62.5" W x 45" OH Counter: 24" H and 14" D



Kitchen Accessories



Spoon Rack

This wood utensil rack keeps things tidy and offers a warm, tactile quality to cooking. Using eye-hand coordination to feed spoons into the rack's holes makes for a fun activity too. Bake a cake or make a tasty soup.



Doweled Hook

This wood Doweled Hook is perfect for hanging pot holders, aprons, pots and pans or other kitchen items.



Book & Measuring Cup Rack B

Measuring cups and teaspoons are fun cooking tools. Size relationships and colors are just a few inquiries to understand. Put the cups in order by size! The book rack display is perfect for recipes or cooking books such as *Give a Moose a Muffin* book!



Bowl of Fruit Appliqué

A colorful bowl of oranges and lemons add rich color and delight to the kitchen area. Count the fruit and point to the lemons and oranges.

Kitchen Table Set

Just the right size for kids and adults to share a meal and conversation. Stools are 12" high and table is 24" square and 20" high.





Arbor Tree

As a stand-alone or an enchanted forest, these 96" tall trees add an inviting quality to any space. A perched bird adds a bit of whimsicality and bird watching potential. The tree's base is available with a wood cap or powdercoated white metal. Consider adding TMC's benches or stools to create seating pods. Pictured with Puddle Stools.







Specialty Tables + Storage

Alphabet Table

[dry erase finish optional]

Field Guide

- Trace the letters with fingers or markers
- Trace only the capital letters.
- Trace only the lowercase letters.
- Trace only the letters in your name.
- Sound out the picture accompanying each letter.
- Make up a story about an object.

E - Elephant make up a story about an Elephant. Name him or her with the letter E: ELLIE

• The rainbow colors offer another discussion: Where is the color yellow?

Make an I Spy game out of it:

Can you find the musical instruments? I see something that would be used on a rainy day. What lives in the African Savannah? Can you find the letter your name begins with? Can you give me a clue to look for something?





Form words, stories, explore colors, and capture children's imaginations as they explore the world of letters and phonetics.

The 42" diameter Alphabet Table with optional marker well is pictured on the following page. A 36" diameter table without marker well is pictured left. Leg style options include Plover (pictured), Kestrel and Lorca in 20", 24" and 26" table heights. A dry erase finish option is available for all styles, which allows children to trace the letters with markers or circle objects for I SPY!

Play the I Spy Game - I spy something you would use on a rainy day.



Pictured with marker well option.

Let the adventure begin!

Animal World Table

Inspire those inquisitive minds with this exciting new table, offering hours of fun and discovery. Learn about the world and its creatures. Available in 36", 42", 48" diameters with wood or metal table leg styles (Plover, Kestrel or Lorca), 20", 24", 26" high. Pair them up with our stools or chairs to complete the set.

Animal World Table with Plover leg



Animal World Table with Lorca leg



Alphabet Table with Kestrel leg



DIA 36" H 20", 24" and 26" DIA 42" H 20", 24" and 26" DIA 48" H 20", 24" and 26"



Whiteboard Table



Draw, write stories or collaborate

A mobile whiteboard table is easy to move and lock into place. The center well provides a tidy place for markers. Available with colored laminate sides or maple veneer. Drawing or writing, children will have fun expressing themselves!





Octagon Play Table

This Octagon Play Table is not only functional, but offers an attractive solution to a group playing area. The cubby in the center provides a go to place for items such as blocks, interlocking puzzles or other types of building toys. Available in wood, laminate or Lego work surface.

The Little Book Truck

Book proximity is key in early learning spaces. Whenever possible, placing relevant books near our Learning Panels, Kitchen or other structures enhances the learning experience. The Little Book Truck is just the right size for books and can be easily moved about. A good tag-along for story hour too or as a grouping for more book positioning. Available in wood or laminate exterior. Locking casters are standard.





Boxes and Bunnies

Boxes and Bunnies are perfect for quick reference and storage. The Bunny offers a charming display option for small board books or bookmarks. Our simple boxes are used to store books or puppets. All are available in many finish colors or in clear maple.



Dimensions: 16" W x 16" D x 9" H 16"W x 16"D x 6"H



Bunny Browser

Dimensions: $16"L \times 6"D \times 5.5"H$



The Toy Cart

Toy and puzzle storage can be a challenging task. Combining storage with a play surface makes this a versatile product and takes up little space. Laminate surface on top is perfect for easy cleaning too. With locking casters, you can place it next to a soft seating grouping or as a stand-alone.

Dimensions: 48" L x 24" D x 18" H



Puddle Stool and Whistler Lounge Chair

The Learning Ped — Nature Observation

Place the Learning Ped — Nature Observation next to a window in a library and invite a child with friend or parent to sit and look out the window and search for animal tracks, birds, animals or other natural features outdoors. Encourage observation and contemplativeness. The questions are structured to spark conversations and create the desire to learn more about their surroundings. May also be specified with a shelf to display nature books or perhaps activity worksheets created by the library.



Learning Panel included.





Architectural Elements

Canopy Tree

Sometimes interiors have necessary steel beams that interrupt the space. This is an attractive solution for such a dilemma. Pictured is a tree cladding a $10" \times 10"$ beam. For other sized beam applications, please contact customer service. The beautiful wood canopy creates dappled light, adding an element of enchantment to any interior. The woodpecker detail offers an opportunity for bird watching too.

Dimensions: 107.5" L x 105.5" D x 96"" H





Wayfinding Mobiles

A Flock of Geese Mobiles to delight and direct

Mobiles and Wayfinding

Butterflies, birds and other elements can be seen flying above the furniture of any setting with TMCkids' suspended Mobiles. Create an environment above the tables and chairs or even lobbies. Available in three sizes and an array of wood finish colors. For a full look at our Mobile offerings, please see our LearnPLAY Price List.







Approximate Dimensions [will vary depending on mobile]:Small12" WMedium24" WLarge36" W

Mobiles...an eye-catching aerial detail that can guide the way to an exciting learning environment.

The Tampa Clouds mobiles create a magical space in the North Tampa Library, Florida.



THE REPORT OF A DAMAGE AND A



Appliqués or ceiling accents

Whether on the wall or suspended from the ceiling as a kaleidoscope of butterflies, or flock of birds, these familiar shapes offer an exciting opportunity for beauty and visual interest. Available in numerous wood finish colors.

Approximate Dimensions [will vary depending on appliqué]: Small 12" W Medium 24" W 36" W Large

Kaleidoscope of butterflies







Rhinoceros







Moose

Bear



Dolphin





Salamander

Butterfly

Dragonfly



Seahorse

Whale

Flock of Birds









Cow



Fox





White Oak



Hen



Seastar



Car

Train



Standard and custom ImPrinted Bird Appliqués Prince William County Public Library Montclair Community Branch - Montclair, Virginia Colorful butterfly, bee and dragonfly Appliqués offer a sophisticated and colorful addition to walls.



ImPrinted Appliqués

Our ImPrinted Appliqués offer a painterly detail in the applique. Below are some standards we offer. This process also includes custom.





Murals provide an opportunity to bring delight and thematic imagery into a space. Create walls as long spans or stand-alone. Incorporate Learning Panels, Learning Desks for fully integrated space. On the following pages are some of our standard mural offerings using a few signature techniques: InRelief, CutThru/ Appliqué and ImPrinted.





ImPrinted





Houses - InRelief Pictured as an InRelief process. Laminate overlay on wood panel provides solid color. Wood veneer houses are another option with grain and finish.





Incorporating Murals with Learning Panels makes for an exciting, defined space. Pictured here is the friendly Francis the Frog on a Wall Mural. The library wanted to use words to convey more concept and meaning, thus grow.







Approximate Dimensions: 72" W x 53" H

Murals are constructed using .5" North American hardwood plywood. Options include an Appliqué style, where mural pieces are attached directly to a wall, or InRelief where .25" thickmural pieces attach to a .5" backer panels that is mounted to the wall.

Grove Trees with Fence



Pictured left is the appliqué style. At right is the InRelief style, where trees/fence are attached to backer panel. Dimensions: 119.75" W × 95" H

Grove Trees



Pictured left is the appliqué style. At right is the InRelief style, where trees are attached to backer panel. Dimensions: 119.75" W x 95" H







Mabel the Whale Dimensions: 95.5" W x 95.5" H

In the Neighborhood Dimensions: 142.5" W x 95.5" H

ImPrinted Murals





Dimensions: 48" W x 95.5" H

Dimensions: 95.5" W x 95.5" H

The Garden Landscape may be specified in smaller sections for tight wall applications.



ImPrinted Murals



Grove Trees - Spring Dimensions: 111.25" W x 95.5" H



Grove Trees - Autumn



Mama Bear and HerTwo Cubs

Dimensions: 142.5" W x 95.5" H



Mama Bear in the Pines

ImPrinted Murals





The Little Train

Dimension: 95.5" W x 95.5" H





Storytelling Murals in 48" square Fox and Mouse, Mama and Baby Bear and Be

ty the Bird
Seating

TMCkids offers several seating styes and sizes. Pictured here are a few examples.







Chairs + Tables

TMCkids boasts sophisticated chairs and matching tables for kids and adults too.

Cubbies + Bookcases

TMCkids offers storage solutions for books, backpacks and other knickknacks.







3 Tier Display

Book Display











Leaf Sprout Display

Cubbies





Book Bins - linear



Book Bins - arc



Book Bins - perimeter



End Panels

Ponder, discover and learn about the world we live in.



TMC LearnPI AY





Learning Panels 1.3

Can you make the car go up and down the hills?





"I think these Learning Panels are beautifully done, both aesthetically pleasing and engaging for children. They represent a perfect compliment to activities that emphasize informational text in libraries and early literacy settings. I believe they will offer hours of fun and interactions among children and their friends and adult companions, and will be very helpful in extending children's natural instinct to learn about their world."



Susan B. Neuman is a Professor in Teaching and Learning at New York University specializing in early literacy development. Previously, she has served as the U.S. Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education. In her role as Assistant Secretary, she established the Early Reading First program, developed the Early Childhood Educator Professional Development Program and was responsible for all activities in Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Act. She has served on the IRA Board of Directors (2001-2003), and other numerous boards of non-profit organizations. She is currently the Editor of Reading Research Quarterly, the most prestigious journal in reading research. Her research and teaching interests include early childhood policy, curriculum, and early reading instruction, Pre-K-grade 3 for children who live in poverty. Dr. Neuman was also commissioned by PLA/ALA to evaluate the first edition of Every Child Ready to Read @ your library [ECRR].

TMC LearnPLAY

Talking... asking questions... reading...and curiosity abounds!

The more a child is talked to, the more understanding he/she will have of their world. Vocabulary will improve and the child will begin to relate to his/her environment in a deeper and more inquisitive way. When a parent or caregiver poses questions to their little one they will find out all sorts of interesting things. These Learning Panels are open-ended, and allow a parent or caregiver the opportunity to expand upon with storytelling and questions. We provide a supplemental Field Guide to offer further questions a parent or caregiver might ask a child. The conversation can go on in all different directions as you will see. Here are a few ideas that come to mind and by all means, just a beginning...



Concept

The Migration Panel poses the question, "Where do I go in the summer and Where do I go in the winter?" The child sees the map of the United States and Mexico. He or she can move the monarch butterfly, sandhill crane or whale up and down, tracing their routes. What happens in the winter in the north? Why would a butterfly travel south in the winter? What starts to emerge through inquiry and discovery is the concept of migration. Learning by doing and questioning, a narrative begins. This kind of approach is key to our Learning Panel philosophy. Libraries may also augment the concept of migration with books that further illustrate the magical voyage of some living creatures. (Please see the following page for more interactive elements to this particular Learning Panel).



Where we

Plane

Boat

Car



Migration Model: APC1616-MG01 16" X 16" Sliding Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH 3RD GRADE STEM

Guide

An introduction to Migration

He or she can move the monarch butterfly, sandhill crane and whale up and down, tracing their migratory routes. Through inquiry, discovery and learning-by-doing, the child begins to understand the concept of migration.

• What happens in the winter in the north?

• Why would a butterfly or crane travel south in the winter?

• What other living creatures make a magical voyage called migration?

• Geography - what countries do you see? What ocean does the whale swim in?

PRESCHOOL

- Can they name the creatures? [whale, crane/bird and butterfly]
- Count the creatures.
- Which one is not like the others? Whale swims; the other creatures fly.
- Ask about naming the colors they see on the panel.
- Ask about other adaptations to seasons.

BABIES

• While baby moves the creatures up and down, parents say the words [up and down] to reinforce the concept. Movement also helps with motor skills and coordination.



Match the Leaf to the Seed Model: APC1616-LS01 16" X 16" Peg Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH 3RD GRADE STEM

Guide

An introduction to Botany

What plant has leaves? What plant has pine needles? What do plants need to grow? Do you have any of these leaves in your yard? What time of year are leaves green? Are pine trees green all year round? Types of trees:

Deciduous trees lose their leaves in the fall.

• Which ones lose their leaves? Maple [top leaf] and Oak [middle leaf] Conifer trees have pine cones and needles. Pine tree [bottom]

Maple leaf matches to maple seed.

- Have you seen these seeds in trees in your yard or neighborhood?
- The maple seed falls from the tree like a whirling helicopter.

Oak leaf matches to the acorn.

•The acorn is the seed of an oak tree.

• What animals like to eat acorns? [squirrels, wild turkey, and deer]. Pine needle branch matches to the pine cone.

- Pine cones are the seeds for growing more pine trees. PRESCHOOL
- Count the leaves. Count the seeds.

- Putting the peg in the hole helps with motor skills and coordination.
- Sound out the word leaf with green. Green leaf.



Tree Rings Model: APC1616-TR01 16" X 16" Flat Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH 3RD GRADE STEM

Guide

Concept of counting and botany

Counting game as well as an introduction to how a tree grows.

Questions to ask:

• Do you know what these tree rings tell us?

The age of the tree: a new ring grows each year.

• Do you know why some rings are wide and some are narrow? Wider rings show a good growing season for the tree [rain and cool climate]. Studying tree growth also helps in understanding climate change over a span of years.

Other questions:

- What shape do the tree rings make?
- Can you think of other ring shapes?

Bicycle tire

Cheerios

Donut

• Can you pair words starting with "R"? Example: round rings, red rings, etc.

• How do you keep track of your age?



The Bird Count Model: APC1616-BC01 16" X 16" Peg Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH KINDERGARTEN STEM

Guide

Concept of counting and number recognition

Count the birds and match the number to the bird count.

Questions to ask:

- What colors do you see in the birds?
- Which bird box has the least?
- Which bird box has the most?
- Can you think of words that begin with the letter "B"?
- Can you think of words that rhyme with the letter "B"?
- How many birds do you see in total?

- Sound
- Counting
- Motor skills for putting the peg in the hole.



My Habitat Model: APC1616-MH01 16" X 16" Sliding Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH KINDERGARTEN STEM

Guide

Introducing the concept of Habitat An area of environment where the animal lives.

Questions to ask:

- Where do the bird and squirrel live?
- Where does the rabbit live?
- How are the rabbit and squirrel the same?
- How is the woodpecker different?
- Can you think of other types of habitats?
- How many creatures do you see?
- Would you like to live in a tree? Can you think of other animals that live in trees?
- What color are the leaves, squirrel, rabbit and woodpecker?
- Have you seen any in your yard recently?

BABIES

- Sliding the animals back and forth, up and down.
- Make a sound of a squirrel while moving the squirrel.



Count the Trees Model: APC1616-HT01 16" X 16" Flat Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH KINDERGARTEN STEM

Guide

Concept of counting

Questions to ask:

- Which trees are higher?
- Which trees are lower?
- What color are the trees?
- What color are the birds?
- Can you find any rectangles in this picture?
- Can you find any ovals?
- Can you make up a song these birds might sing?

- Which one is the tree? Point to the tree.
- Which one is the bird? Point to the bird.



Butterfly Collection Model Number: APC1616-BT01 16" X 16" Peg Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH KINDERGARTEN STEM

Guide

Concept of a collection

A counting game using butterflies introduces the concept of collection. A group of similar objects.

Questions to ask:

- What are some other collections? Example: stamp, coin, leaf, book
- What color are the butterflies?
- How many butterflies do you see in total?
- Are you the same age as any of these numbers?
- Which butterfly groupings makes a square?
- Which one looks like an upside down "L'?
- If the butterfly wanted to camouflage itself what color flower would it land on?
- What letter does butterfly begin with?

BABIES

- Point to the butterfly and count.
- Motor skills for putting the pegs in the hole.



What Letter Do I Begin With? Model Number: APC1616-LB01 16" X 16" Peg Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH 2nd GRADE STEM

Guide

Phonetical awareness

Developing familiarity with upper and lower case letters. Sounding out the creature and matching the letter.

- Can you count how many creatures there are?
- Which ones are similar [butterfly and caterpillar]?
- What colors are the sun, butterfly and caterpillar?
- Which one can fly?
- Can you think of other words that begin with "S"?
- Can you think of other words that begin with "C"?
- Can you think of other words that begin with "B"?
- What does the caterpillar turn into?
- Pretend it's a sunny day, can you tell a story about the caterpillar and the butterfly?



Animal Diet Classifications Model Number: APC1616-AD01 16" X 16" Peg Style

AGES: PRESCHOOL THROUGH 3RD GRADE STEM

Guide

Animal Diet Classifications

This panel exposes the child to the terms: herbivore, omnivore and carnivore.

Questions to ask:

- What is your diet classification?
- Which of these animals live near you?
- Can you name other animals that are herbivores?
- Can you name other animals that are omnivores?
- Can you name other animals that are carnivores?
- In what ways are they the same? [four-legged mammals]
- All the terms end in [suffix] vore, which comes from a Latin word **vorare** to eat.

PRESCHOOL

- Count the animals.
- Name the letter they begin with and think of other words that begin with that letter.
- Which one has antlers?
- Which one has a tail about as big as his/her body?
- Motor skills for putting the pegs in the hole.



Arctic Camouflage Model Number: APC1616-AC01 16" X 16" Flat Style

AGES: PRESCHOOL THROUGH 3RD GRADE STEM

Guide

Introduces the concept of camouflage, predator and geography

Questions to ask:

• Camouflage - the animal's fur turns color according to its environment.

• In the winter season there is snow. These arctic animals turn white, so they blend in with the habitat.

• Predators - the wolf is a predator to the fox, Arctic hare and caribou.

• Geography - the map provides the animals' location.

How cold is the arctic in the winter?

PRESCHOOL

- Count the animals.
- Can you find words that rhyme with fox?
- How do you adapt to winter?
- How do the animals in your neighborhood adapt to winter?

Pond Life

Can you name these creatures? What letter do they begin with? Can you match the colors?



Pond Life APC1616-PL01 16" X 16" Peg Style

AGES: PRESCHOOL THROUGH 1st GRADE

Guide

Introduces the concept of phonetics and matching colors

- Butterfly
- Turtle
- Salamander

Questions to ask:

- Can you think of other creatures you might see by a pond?
- How many creatures do you see?
- Which ones can fly?
- Which ones are insects?
- Which one is an amphibian?
- Which one is a reptile?
- Which ones have legs?
- Which one has a shell?
- Can you think of a word that begins with the letter to describe the creature: Example: *Silly salamander or beautiful butterfly*
- Does your name begin with any of these letters?

Can you make the Mountain goat climb up and down the Mountains?



Mountain Goat Climbs a Mountain APC1616-GM01 16" X 16" Slider Style

AGES: PRESCHOOL THROUGH 1st GRADE STEM

Guide

Introduces the concept of up and down and the letter $\ensuremath{\mathsf{M}}$

- Can you find a blue M? How many do you see?
- What is the M when turned upside down?
- Do you know why mountain goats can climb steep mountains?
- Can you think of other animals that climb mountains?
- Would you like to climb a mountain?
- Did you know Mountain Goats are herbivores and like to eat grasses, ferns and lichen?
- Can you think of any animals that begin with the letter M?



How many flowers are growing in the pot? The bees are buzzing about. Can you make one fly on top of a flower? Which flower is unlike the other?

Buzzing Bees APC1616-BE01 16" X 16" Slider Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH 1st GRADE STEM

Guide

Concept of seeing visual dfferences between like objects, counting and understanding the idea of landing on top of something

Questions to ask:

- Can you make the sound of a buzzing bee?
- How many bees do you see?
- Do the bees fly up and down?

• Do you know why bees like flowers? [Flowers provide nectar which is food for a bee. Bees also collect pollen on their bodies when they land on the flowers which helps the flowers pollinate as bees move from flower to flower.

- How many flowers do you see?
- Do you like flowers?
- Can you think of a word that begins with the letter B to describe the Bee: Example: *Bashful Bee, Buzzing Bees*



Butterflies in Flight APC1616-BF01 16" X 16" Slider Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH 1st GRADE

Guide

Concept of movement, direction and counting

- What color are the butterflies?
- Do you know other creatures that fly?
- Have you seen a butterfly?
- Butterflies like to eat the nectar from flowers.
- Do you see butterflies in the winter? Why?

Can you make the dolphin leap over the wave?



Dolphin Dip APC1616-DD01 16" X 16" Slider Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH 1st GRADE

Guide

Concept of over and under and upside down

Questions to ask:

- How many dolphins do you see?
- Dolphins can use their bodies to flip out of the water. Can you?
- Do you know what the dolphin's tail and flippers are used for?
- Do you know why my underside is lighter? To prevent predators from seeing me as I swim in the ocean.
- Does the water look calm?
- What else do you suppose lives in the ocean?
- Do you like swimming in the ocean?

• Can you think of a word that begins with the letter D to describe the Dolphin: Example: *Diving Dolphin, Daring Dolphin*



Fish Anatomy APC1616-FS01 16" X 16" Peg Style

AGES: PRESCHOOL THROUGH 1st GRADE STEM

Guide

Introduces fish anatomy and number recognition

Questions to ask:

- What color is the fish?
- Can you point to your eye and nose?
- Where does a fish live?
- Can a fish live on land?
- What do you suppose he uses his fins and tail for?
- What do the gills do?
- Would you like to swim with this fish?
- Can you think of any creatures that begins with F?
- $\ensuremath{\,^{\circ}}$ Can you think of a word that begins with the letter F to describe

the Fish: Example: Fast Fish, Fat Fish



AGES: PRESCHOOL THROUGH 1st GRADE STEM

Guide

Understanding and identifying the differences in Pinnipeds marine fin-footed mammals

Questions to ask:

- What do all of these mammals have in common?
- Can you sound like a Sea Lion or Seal?
- Do you have ears?
- Can you think of other mammals that live in the ocean?
- Can you think of other mammals that can live in very cold habitats?



Fish in Water APC1616-WT01 16" X 16" Flat Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH 1st GRADE STEM

Guide

Observing fish swimming in the water

- How many fish do you see?
- What color are they?
- What color are their eyes?
- Do they look like the color of the water? Camouflaged?
- Can you see the sunlight reflecting in the water?
- What does the bottom of the ocean look like?
- Would you like to swim with these fish?
- Are the fish about the size of your hand?
- Can you think of a story about these fish? What are their names?



Seagulls Perched on a Pier APC1616-SE01 16" X 16" Flat Style

AGES: PRESCHOOL THROUGH 1st GRADE STEM

Guide

Introducing the concept of high and low, counting and discovering visual differences in a picture

Questions to ask:

- Can you name the seagulls?
- Can you think of other birds that live on the water?
- Can you perch yourself like you are standing on a pier?
- Have you seen seagulls resting on piers?
- What do you suppose they are thinking about?



Spot the Seahorses APC1616-SH01 16" X 16" Flat Style

AGES: PRESCHOOL THROUGH 1st GRADE STEM

Guide

Concept of counting

- Where do seahorses live?
- How are the seahorses holding on to the kelp?
- What color are the seahorses?
- Can you name them?
- Do you know why we call them seahorses?



What Am I? Sea Creatures APC1616-WS01 16" X 16" Peg Style

AGES: PRESCHOOL THROUGH 1st GRADE STEM

Guide

Animal Classification

This panel exposes a child to the terms Mammal, Crustacean and Fish.

Questions to ask:

- Can you name other mammals that live in the ocean?
- Can you name other crustaceans that live in the ocean?
- Can you name other fish that live in the ocean?
- Which one is your favorite?
- Which one has whiskers?
- Which one has a tail?
- Which one has flippers?

Penny the Pelican is standing on the pier waiting for her friends.

Can you tell a story about Penny?



Penny the Pelican APC1616-PP01 16" X 16" Flat Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH 1st GRADE STEM

Guide

Telling a story

This panel offers an opportunity to make up a story about Penny the Pelican. Encourages observation, imagination and building a narrative.

Questions to ask:

After the story consider asking questions such as:

- Does Penny have big feet?
- Can you point to Penny's eye, bill, and tail?
- Can you think of other birds that live in the ocean?
- Can you think of a word that describes a pelican that begins with the letter P? Example: *Pretty Penny, Persnickety Penny*



Match the Flags APC1616-MF01 16" X 16" Peg Style

AGES: PRESCHOOL THROUGH 1st GRADE

Guide

Concept of matching flag color and pattern

Questions to ask:

- Which flags have the color blue?
- Which flags have the color green?
- Which flag has the color pink?
- How many flags do you see?
- Which flag is your favorite?



A Sailboat APC1616-SB01 16" X 16" Peg Style

AGES: PRESCHOOL THROUGH 1st GRADE STEM

Guide

Concept of matching shapes through a boat's parts

- What color is the flag on the mast?
- What color is the hull?
- What color is the sail?
- What color is the rudder?
- Have you been on a sailboat?
- What other boats have you been on?



Up and Down the Waves APC1616-WV01 16" X 16" Slider Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH 1st GRADE

Guide

Concept of movement and direction Up and down, forward and backward.

Questions to ask:

- Does the water look calm?
- What letter does boat begin with?
- Can you think of other words that rhyme with boat?
- Would you like to sail on the open water with big waves?



The Red Lighthouse APC1616-RL01 16" X 16" Slider Style

AGES: PRESCHOOL THROUGH 1st GRADE

Guide

Concept of movement and direction

Concept about moving around an object and teaching what lighthouses are used for:

- If you were sailing on the boat what would you see on the pier?
- What color is the lighthouse?
- What color is the water?
- Can you point to the sun and cloud?
- Would you like to sail on the boat?
- What do you suppose lives in the water?



Submarine Adventures APC1616-SA01 16" X 16" Slider Style

AGES: PRESCHOOL THROUGH 1st GRADE

Guide

Concept of movement and direction

Introducing the wonders of underwater travel in a submarine; Sub meaning under or below.

Questions to ask:

- Can you think of other creatures you might see underwater?
- How many creatures do you see?
- Which one can fly?
- Which ones have sharp teeth?
- Which fish has the same color as the submarine?
- Which one swims in a school of fish?
- Would you like to take a ride in a submarine?
- Can you see any aquatic plants?



Submarine Portholes APC1616-SP01 16" X 16" Peg Style

AGES: PRESCHOOL THROUGH 1st GRADE

Guide

Concept of matching

Identifying partial shapes with the matching sea creature.

- Can you point to the blue creature?
- Can you point to the orange creature?
- Can you point to the grey creature?
- Can you find the circles? What color are they?
- Which sea creature would you like to meet?
- Can you point to the creature with sharp teeth?
- Which creature has long tentacles?

Mama and baby bear go looking for wild blueberries, but first they have to cross a river!

The bears are the water. The bear cub is her mother's back. In or Cn

Mama and Baby Bear Model:APC1616-MB01 16" X 16" Peg Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH PRESCHOOL STEM

Guide

Telling a story

This panel introduces the concept of "in" and "on", while also offering the opportunity to make up a story about a mama bear and baby bear. Encourages observation, imagination and building a narrative.

Questions to ask:

- Which bear is bigger? Why?
- Am I bigger than you?
- What is a river?
- What else might be swimming in the river?
- Have you ever had a piggy back ride? Where?
- Do you like eating blueberries?
- Did you know bears can swim much like a dog?



Fox and Mouse Model: APC1616-FM01 16" X 16" Flat Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH PRESCHOOL STEM

Guide

Telling a story

This panel offers an opportunity to make up a story about the fox and mouse. Encourages observation, imagination and building a narrative.

Questions to ask:

- How are the mouse and fox similar? [Tail, ears, fur]
- Where do they live?
- Which one is bigger?
- Which one is smaller?
- Can you think of other words that rhyme with fox?
- Can you think of other words that rhyme with mouse?
- Can you think of a word that describes a fox that begins with the

letter f ? Example: Funny fox, mad mouse



Francis the Frog Model: APC1616-FF01 16" X 16" Flat Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH KINDERGARTEN

Guide

Telling a story

This panel offers an opportunity to make up a story about the Francis the Frog. Encourages observation, imagination and building a narrative.

Questions to ask:

- What color is Francis? Can you think of other green creatures?
- Where might you find him?
- What do you suppose he likes to eat?
- Do you know where he goes in the cold winter?
- Do you know what sounds he makes?
- His feet are webbed to help him swim. Do you like to swim?

Betty the Bird is perched on a tree branch waiting for her friend. Can you tell a story about Betty?



Betty the Bird Model: APC1616-BB01 16" X 16" Flat Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH KINDERGARTEN

Guide

Telling a story

This panel offers an opportunity to make up a story about Betty the Bird. Encourages observation, imagination and building a narrative.

Questions to ask:

- Does Betty have fur or feathers?
- Can you tell where she is standing?
- Do you think Betty's coloring would blend into a tree?

- Whistle a bird call.
- Flap your arms like you are flying.

Baxter the Bison is out on the open range. Can you tell a story about who he meets out on the range?



Baxter the Bison Model: APC1616-BX01 16" X 16" Flat Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH KINDERGARTEN

Guide

Telling a story

This panel offers an opportunity to make up a story about Baxter the Bison. Encourages observation, imagination and building a narrative.

Questions to ask:

• What color is Baxter? Can you think of other hoofed creatures?

- What does an open range look like?
- What do you suppose he likes to eat?
- Can you think of a song with buffaloes in it?
- What do you think he likes to eat?

Thomas the Turkey is out walking the open prairie. Can you tell a story about his adventure?



Thomas the Turkey Model: APC1616-TT01 16" X 16" Flat Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH KINDERGARTEN

Guide

Telling a story

This panel offers an opportunity to make up a story about Thomas the Turkey. Encourages observation, imagination and building a narrative.

Questions to ask:

- Does Thomas have fur or feathers?
- Can you name all of the colors in his feathers?
- What color is his neck?
- Does he look happy or sad?

BABIES

• A bird call. Example: "Gobble, Gobble"

Pat-a-cake, pat-a-cake, baker's man. Bake me a cake as fast as you can; Pat it and shape it and mark it with a "B", And bake it in the oven for baby and me.



Pat-A-Cake Model: APC1616-PC01 16" X 16" Flat Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH KINDERGARTEN

Guide

Nursery Rhyme

Using the power of nursery rhyme to nurture literacy

Questions to ask:

- Do you like cake? What is your favorite kind?
- Can you name the colors in the cake?
- Are there any shapes?
- Is this a tall or short cake?
- How many layers do you think it is?
- If this was a birthday cake what would you add to the cake?
- Can you sing Happy Birthday?
- How many candles would you put on your birthday cake?
- Do you know what the ingredients are in a cake?
- What else do you bake in an oven that you like to eat?
- Can you think of other words that begin with the letter B?



Hickory, Dickory, Dock Model: APC1616-HD01 16" X 16" Sliding Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH KINDERGARTEN

Guide

Nursery Rhyme

Using the power of nursery rhyme to nurture literacy and introduce the concept of up and down

- Can you name the parts of the mouse? Tail, Eye, Ear and Nose?
- Is the color of the clock and mouse similar? What color are they?
- Can you name the numbers on the clock?
- Have you seen a mouse in your house?
- What shape is the clock face?
- Can you find any other circles?



Match the Shapes Model: APC1616-MS01 16" X 16" Peg Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH KINDERGARTEN STEM

Guide

Concept of matching shapes and colors

Can you name the colors? Can you name the shapes? Phonetics introduced with letters A, B, C, D. Sound out the names of the *Alligator, Bird, Cow and Dog.*

Questions to ask:

- Can you think of other words that begin with A?
- Can you think of other words that begin with B?
- Can you think of other words that begin with C?
- Can you think of other words that begin with D?
- Which one of them lives in the water?
- Which one has spots? Can you count how many spots?
- Which one has feathers?
- Can you look for any circles around you? How about squares?
- How many sides are in the square?
- How many sides are in the hexagon?
- What sound does a cow make? How about a dog?
- Would you like to take a dog or an alligator for a walk?

Can you help the puppies find their matching ball?



Puppies and Balls Model: APC1616-PB01 16" X 16" Peg Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH KINDERGARTEN STEM

Guide

Concept of matching colors and counting

Can you name the colors?

- How many puppies do you see?
- How many balls do you see?
- What shape are the balls?
- Do you like to play with balls?
- Let's name the puppies.
- Which puppy has spots?
- Would you like to take these puppies and balls home with you?



What am I? Red or Yellow Model: APC1616-WR01 16" X 16" Sliding Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH KINDERGARTEN STEM

Guide

Concept of matching colors Can you name the colors? What is the rooster?

What is the sun? What is the radish?

Questions to ask:

- Can you point to the bird?
- Which one is a vegetable?
- Which one grows with sunshine?
- Can you name other red things?
- Can you name other yellow things?
- Which one can you feel without touching it? [sun]
- What sound does a rooster make?
- Have you ever tasted a radish?



What am I ? Blue or Green Model: APC1616-WB01 16" X 16" Sliding Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH KINDERGARTEN STEM

Guide

Concept of matching colors

Can you name the colors? Point to the frog, sailboat and leaf.

- Which one can you ride in?
- Which would you find in a lake?
- Which one is non-living?
- Can you name other things that are blue and green?
- How many legs does the frog have?
- How many masts does the sailboat have?
- Can you point to the flag?



Counting I - 4 Model: APC1616-CT01 16" X 16" Peg Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH KINDERGARTEN

Guide

Match the number with the appropriate grouping

Questions to ask:

- Which one can you ride in?
- Which would you find in the water?
- Which one is non-living?
- What color are the cars?
- What colors are the butterfly, whale and pig?
- Which one could you hold in your hand?
- What sound does the pig make?
- Which one has the most in its group?
- Which one has the least in its group?
- If each pig wanted to ride in his/her own car, would there be
- any empty cars? If so how many?
- Which 2 groups, when added together, would equal the number of cars. *Pig and butterfly* 3 + 1 = 4
- Which 2 groups, when added together, would equal the number

of pigs. Butterfly and whale 1 + 2 = 3



Swimming Dogs! Model: APC1616-SD01 16" X 16" Sliding Style

AGES: PRESCHOOL THROUGH 1st GRADE STEM

Guide

Math literacy incorporating counting, adding and subtraction

Questions to ask:

Add more story problems using the puppies. Non-math:

- Up-down concept
- In and out of the pool.
- What color is the pool?
- Can you think of any other things that are blue?
- Would you like to swim with the dogs?



Collecting Seashells Model: APC1616-CS01 16" X 16" Peg Style

AGES: PRESCHOOL THROUGH KINDERGARTEN STEM

Guide

Math literacy incorporating counting, adding and subtraction

Questions to ask:

Add more story problems using the seashells. Non-math:

- Up-down concept
- In and out of the bucket
- What colors does the bucket have?
- Where would you find seashells?
- Can you think of any other things that you would like to collect?



How to Make a Cake Model: APC1616-CK01 16" X 16" Sliding Style

AGES: PRESCHOOL THROUGH 1st GRADE STEM

Guide

Math literacy incorporating counting and adding

Questions to ask:

Add more story problems using the eggs, teaspoon and cup.

Non-math:

- Up-down concept
- In and out of the bowl
- What color is the teaspoon?
- Do you like to bake?
- Do you like to eat cake? What kind of cake do you like?
- What kind of decorations would you put on your cake?



Edwin's Hat Stack Model: APC1616-EH01 16" X 16" Slider Style

AGES: PRESCHOOL THROUGH KINDERGARTEN STEM

Guide

Math literacy incorporating counting and adding

Questions to ask:

Add more story problems using the hats. Non-math:

- Up-down concept
- Top hat, bottom hat, middle hat
- What colors are in Edwin's Birthday Hat?
- How old are you?
- Do you like to wear birthday hats?
- Can you tell a story about Edwin's Birthday Party?



The Lookout Model: APC1616-LO01 16" X 16" Sliding Style

AGES: PRESCHOOL THROUGH 1st GRADE STEM

Guide

Math literacy incorporating measuring and identifying numbers

Questions to ask:

Add more story problems using the animals. Non-math:

- How many animals are there?
- Which ones can fly?
- Which one has wool?
- Which ones have feathers?
- Who is on the top? Who is on the bottom?
- Can you tell a story about what they are on the look out for?



Transportation Model: APC1616-TP01 16" X 16" Peg Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH PRESCHOOL

Guide

Introducing the concept of transportation

Questions to ask:

Match the plane, boat and car to the scene.

- Which one can fly?
- Which can travel on water?
- Which one travels on roads?

Sound out each word.

- Can you think of other words that begin with "P" and "B"?
- Which one is red?
- Which one is blue?
- Which one is orange?
- Which one would you like to travel in?
- Where would you like to go?
- Who would you bring with you?



Car Goes Up and Down Model: APC1616-CG01 16" X 16" Sliding Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH PRESCHOOL

Guide

Introducing the concept of direction

Up and down.

Forward and backward.

Questions to ask:

- What color is the car?
- What letter does car begin with?
- Can you think of other words that rhyme with car?
- Would you like to ride in the car as it goes over the hills?

Would it tickle your tummy?



Neighborhood Model: APC1616-NB01 16" X 16" Flat Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH KINDERGARTEN STEM

Guide

Looking at shapes within a picture

Make up a story about the house you would like to live in.

Questions to ask:

- Can you find all of the flowers in this picture?
- Can you find the red door?
- Is the tree the tallest in the picture?
- Which door looks like an upside down U?
- What do you suppose the dog is looking at?



Walk the Dog Model: APC1616-RW01 16" X 16" Sliding Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH KINDERGARTEN STEM

Guide

The concept of walking a pet in the neighborhood

- What does Rover pass along his way?
- What colors do you see?
- Do you take your dog for walks?
- Can you count how many windows you see?
- Can you point to the tallest door?



Where Do I Live? Model: APC1616-WD01 16" X 16" Peg Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH KINDERGARTEN STEM

Guide

Concept of different places to live [dwelling] Where does a bird, fish or person live?

Questions to ask:

- What colors do you see?
- Which home would be the smallest?
- How many eggs are in the nest?
- Which one would you find in a tree?
- Where do you live?



A Walk Home from School Model: APC1616-AW01 16" X 16" Sliding Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH PRESCHOOL STEM

Guide

Introducing the idea of taking a walk and practicing observing along the way

- Why does the school have a bell?
- Why is there a stop sign?
- Where would you like to go?
- How did you get over the river?
- What kind of ice cream would you like to eat?
- Can you count how many birds there are?
- Would you like to swim in the river? What might you see?
- Do you like going down a slide?
- Do you like going up and down on the see-saw?



NIGHT

Day and Night Model: APC1616-DN01 16" X 16" Flat Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH KINDERGARTEN

Guide

Time

Concept of time using the sun (day) and moon (night)

Questions to ask:

- Do you go to school at night or day?
- Do the birds sing during the day or night?
- Do you see rainbows during the day or night?
- Do you see fireflies at night or day?
- Is your bedtime at night or day?



Sky Shapes Model: APC1616-SS01 16" X 16" Peg Style

AGES: PRESCHOOL THROUGH 3RD GRADE STEM

Guide

Phonetics and abstract shape visualization

- Can you name other objects beginning with O,V and W?
- What other tools do we use to navigate?
- Can you think of animals that travel in groups?
- Can you name other letter formations that can be seen in the sky?
- Can you think of other creatures that use the moon to help with direction?



Food Groups Model: APC1616-FP01 16" X 16" Peg Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH 2nd GRADE

Guide

Concept of food source beyond the grocery store

Questions to ask:

• Can name the food groups pictured?

[milk-dairy, egg-meat, bread-grain]

- Can you name other types of food groups?
- Which one is different? [Bread- comes from plants not animals]
- Do you have a favorite food?
- Where would you buy these food items?
- Have you ever milked a cow?
- Who raises cows and chickens for our food?
- Have you ever been to a farm? What did you see there?





Chicken and Eggs Model: APC1616-CE01 16" X 16" Peg Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH 2nd GRADE STEM

Guide

Concept of counting and matching

Questions to ask:

- Can you count all of the eggs?
- Can you count all of the chickens?
- Do you eat eggs for breakfast?

BABIES

• A bird call. Example: "Cluck, Cluck"



Watering Cans Model: APC1616-WC01 16" X 16" Flat Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH 2nd GRADE STEM

Guide

Introducing the concept of size relationships and volume

Questions to ask:

- How many watering cans and flowers are there?
- How does a garden grow?
- What other gardening tools are used? [rake,shovel, hose]
- What tools would a farmer use?
- Can you think of other types of tools? For cooking? For eating?
- What words rhyme with can?
- Talk about the different seasons and what happens in each season.



sing the ruler at left, how tall are the flowers, corn stalk and birdhouse? /hich one is the tallest? Which one is the shortest? Which ones are living! /hich one is not? Can you name the vegetable? Is that something you ould have on your dinner plate? Can you find any circles in this picture?

The Garden Model: APC1616-GD01 16" X 16" Flat Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH 2nd GRADE STEM

Guide

Observation in size and measuring

Measuring with a ruler. The concept of size relationships. For pointing and sounding out the words.

- Count the numbers along the ruler.
- What does the bird say?
- What is the bird standing on?
- Which is your favorite flower?
- How many ears of corn do you see?
- Find all the things that are yellow.
- Which one can fly away?
- What letter does ''garden'' begin with?
- Using the yellow ruler on the side, ask: How many inches is your hand?



What Am I? Fruit or Vegetable-I Model: APC1616-FGO1 16" X 16" Peg Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH 2nd GRADE

Guide

Concept of matching

Questions to ask:

- Which one is a fruit or vegetable?
- Can you name other fruits?
- Can you name other vegetables?
- Do you have a favorite fruit?
- Which ones are red?
- Which one is all green?
- Which one grows on trees?
- Can you think of words that rhyme with "P"?
- Do you have a garden?



What Am I? Fruit or Vegetable-2 Model: APC1616-FW01 16" X 16" Sliding Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH 2nd GRADE

Guide

Concept of matching

- Which one is a fruit or vegetable?
- Can you name other fruits?
- Can you name other vegetables?
- Do you have a favorite fruit?
- Which ones are red?
- Which one is all green?
- Which one grows on trees?
- Can you think of words that rhyme with "P"?
- Do you have a garden?


Tractor Plowing Model: APC1616-PVV01 16" X 16" Sliding Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH 2nd GRADE

Guide

Concept of movement and direction

Questions to ask:

- What color is the tractor?
- Do you know what is growing in the field?
- What is up on the hill?
- What does a cow sound like?
- How does a chicken call?
- Can you tell what time of year it might be?
- Would you like to drive a tractor?





Three Flowers Model: APC1616-CF01 16" X 16" Peg Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH 2nd GRADE

Guide

Concept of matching colors

Questions to ask:

- How many flowers are there?
- Can you point to the flower stems?
- Which flower is the color of the sky?
- Which flower is the color of a strawberry?



Gardening Tool - Watering Can Model: APC1616-GT01 16" X 16" Flat Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH 2nd GRADE

Guide

Understanding the word "tool" and phonetics

Questions to ask:

- The other tools: shovel, bushel basket, pitch fork.
- How many flowers are there?
- Can you think of another object that has a handle and a spout? Example: teapot
- Would you like to water a garden?
- What would you grow in your garden?
- Do farmers use watering cans to water their fields of corn?





The Flowers Model: APC1616-FL01 16" X 16" Flat Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH 2nd GRADE

Guide

Concept of different heights

Questions to ask:

- How many flowers are there?
- How many flowers do you see?
- What color are the the petals?
- Can you point to the flower stem?
- Which flower would you like to have?



When a lot of water droplets grow bigger in clouds, it makes rain. The rain falls down feeding the plants, people, animals and rivers. Water droplets from the lake evaporate up to make clouds

Water Cycle Model: APC1616-WY01 16" X 16" Slider Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH 2nd GRADE STEM

Guide

Introducing the water cycle concept

Questions to ask:

- Rain also creates puddles. Do you like to jump in puddles?
- Have you ever felt the rain on your face?
- What do you wear on a rainy day?
- Why is water important to all life forms?

The wind is blowing in from the west. What will the clouds do?



The Wind Blows Over a Lake Model: APC1616-WL01 16" X 16" Sliding Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH 2nd GRADE STEM

Guide

Concept of wind and clouds and movement from east to west

Questions to ask:

- Does the wind create movement?
- What happens on a windy day?
- Do the leaves on the trees move?
- Does your hair move?
- When the wind is coming across the lake what do the clouds do?
- Are there big waves on a windy day?
- How might white clouds and very dark grey clouds

change weather?



The Puddle Hop Model: APC1616-PH01 16" X 16" Sliding Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH 2nd GRADE STEM

Guide

Concept of counting, movement and direction

Questions to ask:

- How many clouds do you see?
- Can you count the puddles?
- Do you think the dog is getting wet? From what?
- Can you make the dog hop backward and forward?
- Have you jumped in puddles?
- What do you suppose is creating all these puddles?
- What letter does puddle and pup begin with?
- Can you think of a name for the pup that begins with that letter?
- If the pup hopped forward and backward, how many puddles would he have hopped in?
- Can you count the puddles?



Weather Vane Study Model: APC1616-WE01 16" X 16" Peg Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH 2nd GRADE

Guide

Concept of matching positve and negative shapes

Questions to ask:

- Weathervanes point to wind direction.
- How many weathervanes are there?
- Can you point to the weathervanes that shows living creatures for its decoration?
- Which weathervane would you like to have?

What do you see in the clouds?



Look up at the clouds next time you are outside. You will see all kinds of shapes!

Cloud Shapes Model: APC1616-CL01 16" X 16" Flat Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH 2nd GRADE

Guide

Looking at cloud shapes and encouraging imaginative thinking

Questions to ask:

- Which one of the clouds would you like as a pet?
- What cloud shapes have you seen?
- How many big clouds do you see?
- What do the dog and fish have in common?
- Which cloud do you like?





Rain or Shine Model: APC1616-RS01 16" X 16" Sliding Style

AGES: BABIES THROUGH 2nd GRADE STEM

Guide

Observing weather

Questions to ask:

- What do you like to do on sunny days?
- What do you like to do on rainy days?
- Why are sunny days important?
- Why are rainy days important?
- Which ones do you see in the sky?
- Which one can you hold in your hand?
- Can you say a poem about a sunny day?
- Can you say a poem about a rainy day?



Picture Gazing Just For Babies No. I Model: APC1616-PG01 16" X 16" Flat Style

AGE: BABIES

Guide

Talk to your baby while looking at the pictures Bold, high contrast graphics perfect for the wee ones.



Picture Gazing Just For Babies No. 2 Model: APC1616-PT01 16" X 16" Flat Style

AGE: BABIES

Guide

Talk to your baby while looking at the pictures

Bold, high contrast graphics perfect for the wee ones.



Hinged Door Farm Animals - pictured right is what the child sees when he/she opens the door. Cow-Hen-Peg-Sheep Model: APC1616-CH01 16" x 16" Hinged Door Style

AGE: BABIES THRU 2ND GRADE

Sensory and Cause and Effect is very important in child development

Guide

The element of surprise when they open the door to find out what they see!

- Nursery Rhymes/Songs are important part of Early Literacy practices.
- Call out MOO and Cluck, Cluck,
- Sing Baa Baa Black Sheep.
- Can you find words that rhyme with cow, pig, hen and sheep?
- Can you tell a story with all these creatures in it?



Hinged Door Mode of Transportation - pictured right is what the child sees when he/she opens the door Car-Bus-Train-Helicopter Model: APC1616-MT01 16" x 16" Hinged Door Style AGE: BABIES THRU KINDERGARTEN

Guide

Sensory and Cause and Effect is very important in child development

The element of surprise when they open the door to find out sounds they make!

- Call out vroom, honk, choo choo and chop chop.
- Have you ridden in a car, bus, train or helicopter?
- Can you tell a story about taking a trip on a train?





Guess the Creature No. I - pictured right is what the child sees when he/she opens the door Model: APC1616-GC01 16" x 16" Hinged Door Style AGE: BABIES THRU 2ND GRADE

Sensory and Cause and Effect is very important in child development

Guide

The element of surprise when they open the door to find out what they see!

- Do you have a favorite creature?
- Which one can fly?
- Can you name the colors of each creature?
- Can you name each creature?



Guess the Sea Creature - pictured right is what the child sees when he/she opens the door Model: APC1616-SC01 16" x 16" Hinged Door Style AGE: BABIES THRU KINDERGARTEN

Guide

Sensory and Cause and Effect is very important in child development

The element of surprise when they open the door to find out what they see!

- Do you have a favorite creature?
- Which one does not have spots?
- Which one is spiky?
- Which sea creature would you like to meet in the ocean?



Mounting panels are sold separately from the Learning Panel. Mounting Panels are 3/4" thick and can hold 1 to 5 Learning Panels, or up to 95.5" in length and can get tight joint fastened for longer runs. **Mounting Panels come with predetermined pilot holes machined to accept Learning Panel clips.**

Laminate Mounting Panel - Colored laminate on the front with phenolic backer on the back. Edge is Exposed ply. *Wood Mounting Panel* - .75" Baltic Birch with exposed plywood edge.

Mounting panels are generally field drilled and mounted to a wall using wall fasteners such as long screws into the wall stud, drywall toggles for drywall or cement inserts for cement walls. The position of the holes for the anchors are dependent on the installer and the type of wall the panel is mounted to. Learning Panels are then attached to the mounting panel by slipping them onto 2 clips included.

NOTE: Learning Panels **can not** be installed directly onto drywall, plaster or concrete walls without the Mounting Panel accessory.



Single mount 20" x 20"



Mounts for multiple panels are also available.

Learning Panel Cart

This handy cart was designed for transporting and storing Learning Panels. Lined with felt in just the right places, protects the panels during transport. Holds up to seven Learning Panels.



Recommended heights for mounting Learning Panels

Standard universal heights we suggest 31" from the floor to the top of the Learning Panel. For baby or really small children 24" from the floor to the top of the Learning Panel.

We also recommend ample spacing 2.5"- 3" between Learning Panels panels for ease of use.

Our services range from standard, transactional orders to full space design, incorporating our standard offerings to fully custom.

Libraries, represent the civic pride of the communities that support them and which they serve. Like libraries, TMCkids also understands and respects the importance of community and individuality. When we are asked to design an early learning space, we begin by listening and absorbing the uniqueness and sense of place from the library, its citizens, architects and designers. We believe that in any space we help create, there should be a relevance to the children in their community to give them a perfect place to start their imaginative journey to curiosity and literacy.

Here are a few examples of our early learning spaces.



TMC Learn PLAY PROECTS

TMC LearnPLAY Early Learning Project

Case Study Prince William County Public Library Montclair Community Branch Library Montclair, Virginia Branch Administrator: Elizabeth Hensley Architect: Lukemire Partnership + Studio of Sandra Ragan Design + Fabrication: TMC Design Group

Case Study

Prince William County Public Library Montclair Community Branch Library Montclair, Virginia

Inspired by the library's architectural peaks, a tree was designed with linear branches, mirroring the ceiling pitches, to offer a perfect anchor and focal point to designate the children's area and information desk. The tree was constructed in solid maple with leaves finished in muted Spruce and brightly colored animal and bird flourishes. Sophisticated in design, that appeals both to child and adult. Pictured below are modified Plover Benches to fit the radius of the Story Room's curved wall.









Case Study Prince William County Public Library Montclair Community Branch Library Montclair, Virginia

The Early Learning Space includes our Learning Panels mounted at varying heights on the curved wall of the story room. The library wanted to incorporate a book and poster display onto this curved wall as well. They asked us to incorporate display shelves behind the appliqués as pictured, using a frog's tongue or egret's bill to display content. Our engineers created a unique system to mount all of these flat appliqués and bookshelves onto the curved wall. A Sailboat was added for PLAY with a rudder that moves. Colorful butterfly, dragonfly, bird and bee appliqués were added for color and visual interest on a curved white band, which is suspended above the children's service desk, animated as they seem to soar along this sweep of interior structure.









Case Study Montclair Community Branch Library

The Library also specified our children's furniture using standard cut-out designs from our Design Portfolio: fish, turtle and dragonfly motifs on chairs, end panels, Working Habitat Table as well as the children's service desk. The finish colors combined with all of these tactile details create a place that is timeless, beautiful and approachable to all patrons.









TMC LearnPLAY Early Learning Project

Case Study

Cuyahoga County Public Library North Royalton Branch Library North Royalton, Ohio Deputy Director: Tracy Strobel Architect: Richard Fleisschman + Partners Architects Design + Fabrication: TMC Design Group

Case Study Cuyahoga County Public Library

Cuyahoga County Public Library North Royalton Branch Library North Royalton, Ohio

A Walk in the Woods at North Royalton Branch Library

Cuyahoga County Public Library - North Royalton Branch Library is built alongside a beautiful nature area and reflects the community's appreciation of nature and landscape—an appreciation which TMCkids also shares. Nature preserves and environments like the one at North Royalton inspire TMCkids' work and fulfill us every day. Therefore, when we were asked to design a Children's Portal and an Early Literacy Environment where the library wanted to link nature with the interior space, we were delighted and enthusiastically dove into the task at hand. Throughout the process of designing such a space, we constantly referred back to and built upon our unceasing fascination for all things natural—thus the canopy of trees, flying geese, perched birds, deer tracks and a lone fox. The library was granted permission by artist and writer, Phyllis Limbacher Tildes, to use her illustrations from her books *Eye Guess* and *Animals in Camouflage* for the entryway and custom Learning Panels. This project at North Royalton Branch Library captures the essence of TMCkids' creative style, innovation and technical capabilities.



Case Study Cuyahoga County Public Library

Cuyahoga County Public Library North Royalton Branch Library North Royalton, Ohio

The Portal

A tall, articulate hallway defines the entrance to the Children's area—a perfect space for a wooded canopy to evoke a walk in the woods. To create a sense of depth, thirteen-foot trees with a flurry of branches and leaves arched over the pathway below. On one side of the path through the entryway, an ImPrinted wall mural incorporates the beautiful illustration by Phyllis L.Tildes from her book *Eye Guess*. Rich and atmospheric, the illustration contains many animals for children to find as they move along the trail. Interactive elements, such as prompts like "Can You Find Me?" plaques, provide a starting point for a child's exploration. The other side of the entryway features a glass wall with contrasting wood trees to create the canopy. Large geese mobiles fly through the space for an enchanted way-finding component, leading patrons into the Children's and Teen areas as well as into the Early Literacy Learning Space.







The Portal



<u>ungi</u>







Pictured is a modified Tree Learning Corner with meandering background panels anchored by trees. A fox, squirrel and animal tracks from our Portfolio create a more woods-like space and add visual and verbal content. The Learning Panels are easy to change, adding a dynamic component to the Learning Space. Also pictured TMCkids Plover Chairs with Plover Table and Plover Stools.





Detail of Fox and Deer Tracks



Case Study North Royalton Branch Library





Baby owls are called owlets. They have big eyes to see better at night. Can you tell a story about these little owlets?



The imagery of Tildes' work was very inspiring to work with in creating custom Learning Panels for North Royalton. Pictured here are a few examples we developed, ranging from teaching nature to telling stories about little owlets or a mouse hiding under oak leaves.

This cute little mouse is hiding under some oak leaves. Can you tell a story about the cute little mouse?



TMC LearnPLAY Early Learning Project

Case Study Oxford Lane Library Oxford, Ohio Branch Manager: Rebecca Smith Architect: SPH Design Design + Fabrication: TMC Design Group

Case Study The Oxford Lane Library Oxford, Ohio

The Lane Library is located in Oxford, Ohio. The library wanted to create an Early Learning Space that celebrated the uniqueness of this special community, capturing endearing designs from the architecture of the downtown buildings, Miami University's classic brick architecture and the beautiful surrounding farms. The library director took pictures of the town for inspiration and authenticity. From these pictures, the TMCkids' design team incorporated the town's building styles and colors to add a custom feel to our LearnPLAY structures. Interestingly shaped windows were framed with wood trim accents; architectural moldings on the facades added contrast and dimension. The director requested we incorporate the Farmer's Market, as it is a popular venue in the town. Along with this broad, conceptual assignment, we were given a plan view of the space from the architect. We "went to town" so to speak and began designing and laying out the vignette flow. As one enters the Lane Library Early Learning Space, they are greeted by the familiar sights of the town's large clock and Farmer's Market.



Case Study The Oxford Lane Library Oxford, Ohio

The Farmer' Market

The Farmer's Market with clock and farm table pictured right, provides a place for children to PLAY. The clock hands move, and a sign asking "What time's lunch?" offers a place to talk time, numbers and meal time for breakfast, lunch and dinner. The Farmer's Market backdrop captures prominent awnings found at Oxford. In a colorful, illustrative style are fruits, vegetables and flowers. A sign perched on top defines the space and offers a letter/word component as well. We added a wood farm table to create a place for fruits, vegetables and a cash register. A wooden hook on the side of the table was added to hang little canvas bags to encourage children to carry the market items to the kitchen and prepare a meal. A window was added for an element of surprise.





Farmers Market

Veinberger Activity Room





The Town Buildings

Pictured above are the town buildings in muted colors and architectural trim elements common in the town of Oxford. Here we also added flourishes to spark conversation: a bird in a bird's nest perched on a windowsill and a little brown dog. The Learning Panels are easy to switch out for new discovery related to many subject matters, so there can always be a fresh look when patrons visit the library. We decided to build a bell tower based on the venerable and traditional architecture at Miami University. We custom matched Miami University's brick color and to emulate the patina copper roof, we chose our standard Barracuda Blue finish. An enchanting anchor which provides a transition between the town, university and the farming area, we transformed an existing steel pillar into a tree with wood panels clad to its sides. The four branches extend out to support a canopy of leaf foliage with CutThru leaf shapes.

Case Study The Oxford Lane Library Oxford, Ohio



The picture here captures the town's architectural characteristics that provided a backdrop for the Learning Panels. The bell actually moves to "toll", but without making sound. Fun to toll though!







Children's Nonfiction 741.5 - 999



Case Study The Oxford Lane Library Oxford, Ohio

The Kitchen

For more PLAY in the library, the Kitchen with a little kitchen table and stool set provides an opportunity to share lots of meals and conversation. We incorporated many thoughtful details: hooks for an apron and pot holders, spoon rack, pat-a-cake appliqué was added for song and poetry, measuring cup rack with a book shelf for added learning—*Give a Moose a Muffin* could be a perfect standby or discuss color and size with the measuring cups. Shelves below the counter make it easy to store dishes, pots and pans and other items. The refrigerator has heavy duty, non-pinching hinges and a magnetic face, perfect for alphabet letters or our magnets, recipes or grocery lists. This kitchen is built like yours at home...heavy duty and ready.



Case Study The Oxford Lane Library Oxford, Ohio





The Farming Area

Farming, is another important part of the Oxford community. The Potting Shed with Chicken Coop and Workshelves, Tractor and Planting Box was a perfect fit. Boxes were added throughout the space for book and puppet storage.

TMC LearnPLAY Early Learning Project

Case Study

Prince William County Public Library Haymarket Gainesville Community Library Haymarket, Virginia Library System Director: Connie Gilman Ph.D. Architect: Lukemire Partnership + Studio of Sandra Ragan Design + Fabrication: TMC Design Group

Case Study Prince William County Public Library

Prince William County Public Library Haymarket Gainesville Community Library Haymarket, Virginia

Gainesville, Virginia, a place of beautiful rolling countryside, dotted with barns, horses and farmland. The library wanted to capture this in their Early Learning Area. A Barn Sensory Wall with a dramatic silhouetted horse, chickens and a little owl perched in the hay loft was specifically designed for Gainesville. The Barn is a place where sensory and surprise were captured, a very important component in Early Learning development. We added Sunflower mirrors, hinged door style Learning Panels and colorful textured tulips. The Sunflower Learning Corner offers a bright and towering element in the space adding a place to sit and read a book or play with the Learning Panels. The Tractor and Hay Wagon were added PLAY items too. Standard TMCkids Lottie Chairs and Plover Tables with beautifully appointed color adds sophistication and functionality for reading, doing puzzles or games in this enchanting space.








A Planting Box with slots for planting wooden paddles representing vegetables and flowers. Good for fine motor skill building as well as warm and tactile. More things to talk about and prompt questions are images of fruit, vegetables and flowers. Ask, "Which apple is unlike the other apples?" or "Can you point to the things you can and cannot eat?" At left shows all of the Sensory Barn prompts.









Pictured are details of the Barn Sensory Wall. Sunflower mirrors and our hinged door panels with song and poems were added for more fun and literacy emphasis. At right a custom Farm Stand Learning Panel for more interactive and discussion about fruits and vegetables.



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A little corner for the Learning Panels and reading books. Kestrel Chairs of varying heights are pictured at the back counter. At right, is a service desk with TMC's Landscape Series: Countryside pattern. The color and craft fit effortlessly into the space, adding whimsical sophistication that both child and adult can appreciate. Our standard furniture portfolio and custom production capabilities offer continuity that can span not only for LearnPLAY, but other areas in the library.



Case Study

Prince William County Public Library Haymarket Gainesville Community Library Haymarket, Virginia

Our storybook, illustrative style in the wall mural captures farm fields, sunflowers, birds and horses in gently rolling hills. Pastoral and colorful, with lots of imagery for children to search through and talk about with their friend, parent or caregiver. The Learning Panels are part of the mural that can be easily switched out, creating new offerings in this whimsical children's entry.



TMC LearnPLAY Early Learning Project

Case Study Cuyahoga County Public Library Brook Park Branch Library Brook Park, Ohio Deputy Director:Tracy Strobel Design + Fabrication:TMC Design Group

Case Study Cuyahoga County Public Library Brook Park Branch Library Brook Park, Ohio

Brook Park is home to a Ford Engine Plant built in the 1950s. The plant is an important part of this community. Many citizens in Brook Park work at the plant. They take pride in what they do. The deputy director Tracy Strobel commissioned us to make a car with an engine for their children's room. This was quite a project to develop and build an interactive engine. It helped to have gear-heads on our engineering team as well as many of our factory workers. The engine is made of wood and fits together like a giant puzzle to allow children to understand the basic mechanics of the engine—spark plugs, pistons, intake manifolds all can be taken apart and put back together. Another design element we thought important was the act of climbing into the car. We really think that made it a very special place to sit. It takes us back to climbing a tree or fort. The car has a bench seat, two steering wheels, a dashboard, reflective side view mirror, acrylic windshield and a back trunk area for books and stuffed animal passengers. The bench seat offers a place for kids or a child and parent or caregiver.



Case Study

Cuyahoga County Public Library Brook Park Branch Library Brook Park, Ohio

Lots of interactive panels on each wheel, with bold graphics, that are just the right height and contrast for the little ones. The automobile's trunk houses Learning Panels that are transportation orientated too. One of the panels prompts a child to park cars!



Case Study

Cuyahoga County Public Library Brook Park Branch Library Brook Park, Ohio

Bench seats in the engine compartment were added for kids or a parent/caregiver to climb aboard and take the engine apart! We added a custom engine diagram so children knew the part names and schematic on how it goes back together.



TMC LearnPLAY For more Case Studies, please visit our website tmcfurniture.com

When the voices of children are heard on the green And laughing is heard on the hill, My heart is at rest within my breast And everything else is still. "Then come home, my children, the sun is gone down And the dews of night arise; Come, come, leave off play, and let us away Till the morning appears in the skies." "No, no, let us play, for it is yet day And we cannot go to sleep; Besides, in the sky the little birds fly And the hills are all cover'd with sheep." "Well, well, go & play till the light fades away And then go home to bed." The little ones leaped & shouted & laugh'd And all the hills echoed.

William Blake





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