



bigbuild

EXPLORE THE PLAY & LEARN ISLANDS™!

What is a Play and Learn Island™?

Rancho Cucamonga Public Library Services are proud to present the Play and Learn Islands™: Big Build, Discovery Dig, IlluminArt, and Healthy Mind, Body & Earth! A Play and Learn Island™ (PAL) is a grant funded project designed to incorporate play into the library. PALs have interactive toys, and related book materials to support the particular theme of each PAL. The PALs are interactive discovery spaces designed for children and their families to explore and enjoy.

"Play is essential to development because it contributes to the cognitive, physical, social and emotional well-being of children and youth. Play also offers an ideal opportunity for parents to engage fully with their children" (Ginsberg, 2007.)



FOR MORE INFORMATION (909) 477-2720 x5024
www.rcpl.lib.ca.us

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Why play in the library?

For children, play is a way of gaining knowledge (1). Libraries are committed to serving all members of our library community – from babies to adults. Play incorporates many of the basic skills that are essential building blocks for a child's overall development (2). Rancho Cucamonga Library Services developed the PALs to increase our services to children and their families. Children learn best when they are doing hands on, constructive activities (3). Play is a valuable way of learning for our youngest library members. Children are having fun but also learning at the same time with the PAL. With play, children gain a better understanding of themselves and the world around them (1). Through play, children are learning in a fun and inviting environment. Play helps strengthen relationships with parents and peers by offering an opportunity to interact together in a shared activity (2).



The **Big Build's** interactive toys and materials will enhance a child's ability to:

- Collect, sort and catalog
- Design, test and re-design
- Share and collaborate
- Invent

The **Big Build** is both fun and educational and brings families closer together. Parents can work on projects with their children and have a great time collaborating and sharing ideas. Children of all ages will be able to build everything from a small stack of blocks to constructing 3-dimensional designs.

Sources of information:

(1) Berns, Roberta. *Child, Family, School, Community*. Wadsworth/Thomson Learning Publishing Company: Belmont, CA., 2003

(2) Ginsberg, Kenneth R. "The Importance of Play in Promoting Healthy Child Development and Maintaining Strong Parent-Child Bonds." *American Academy of Pediatrics*. January 2007. www.aap.org/pressroom/playFINAL.pdf. 23. February. 2010

(3) Herr, Judy, & Libby-Larson, Yvonne. *Creative Resources for the Early Childhood Classroom*. Clifton Park, NJ: Delmar Learning, 2003