

Welcome

Stay and Play: A new way to engage family, friends and neighbors who care for young children



CALIFORNIA
STATE LIBRARY



Welcome from the California State Library



Jody Thomas, Library Programs Consultant

Stay & Play Pilot Project Overview



Julie Weatherston, Stay & Play Project Manager



Family Friend and Neighbor (FFN):

“Anyone who cares for a child but is not a licensed provider. This group includes extended family members, friends, and neighbors (FFNs), and other adults that might receive pay or barter for providing care.”

The David and Lucile Packard Foundation, 2015. Informal Child Care in California: Current Arrangements and Future Needs.

Brief Background

- In 2016 Oakland Public Library received a Packard Foundation Grant to create programming specifically for FFN in their community.
- The resulting Oakland Play Café led to a Pilot Grant to test this service model.
- Stay and Play was the name given to the tested model that resulted.
- Builds on the Early Learning with Families (ELF) Initiative.



Five Components of Stay and Play

1. Targeted and focused outreach to FFN providers
2. Library Storytimes specifically designed for informal caregivers and children
3. Play opportunities that model high quality care settings and encourage caregiver/child interactions
4. Programming, resource materials, and community experts to better equip caregivers with child development and early learning information
5. Provision of food or opportunities to accommodate the food needs of caregivers and children

Five Pilot Libraries

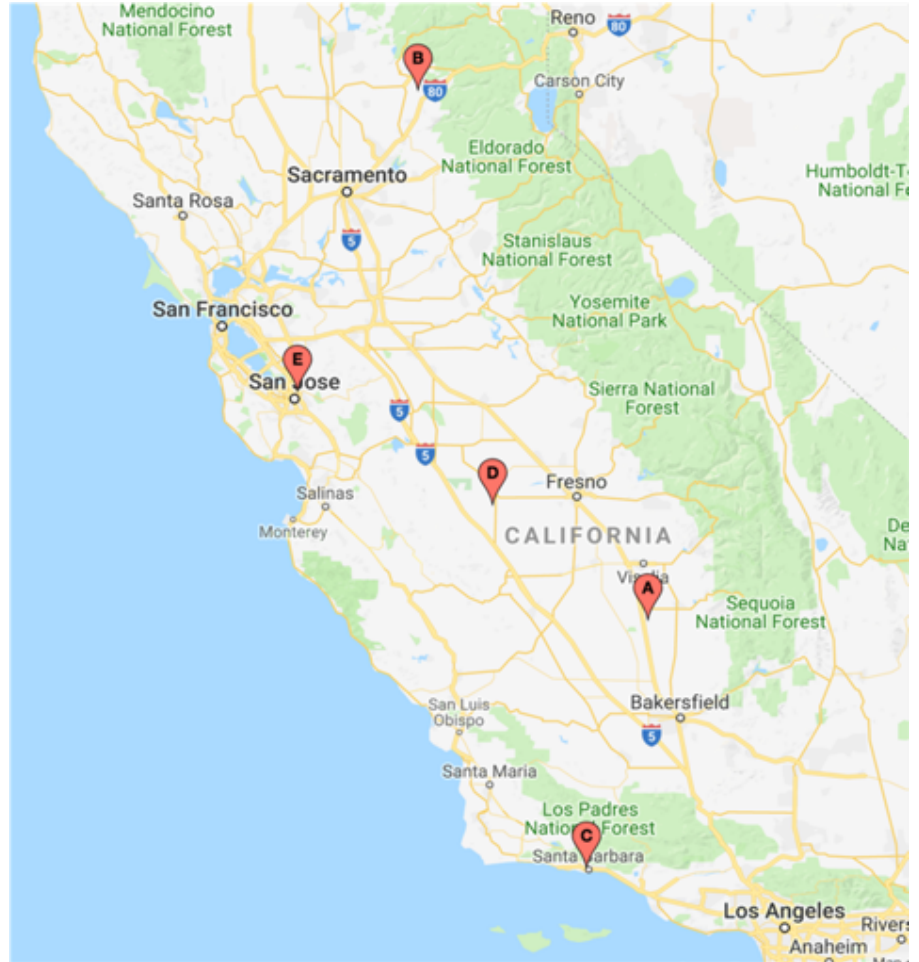
Fresno

Grass Valley

San Jose

Santa Barbara

Tulare





DONNA MORELLO



AMY RUTTEN



RACHEL TUCKER



MELLISA HANNUM

***GRASS VALLEY LIBRARY – ROYCE BRANCH
NEVADA COUNTY COMMUNITY LIBRARY***

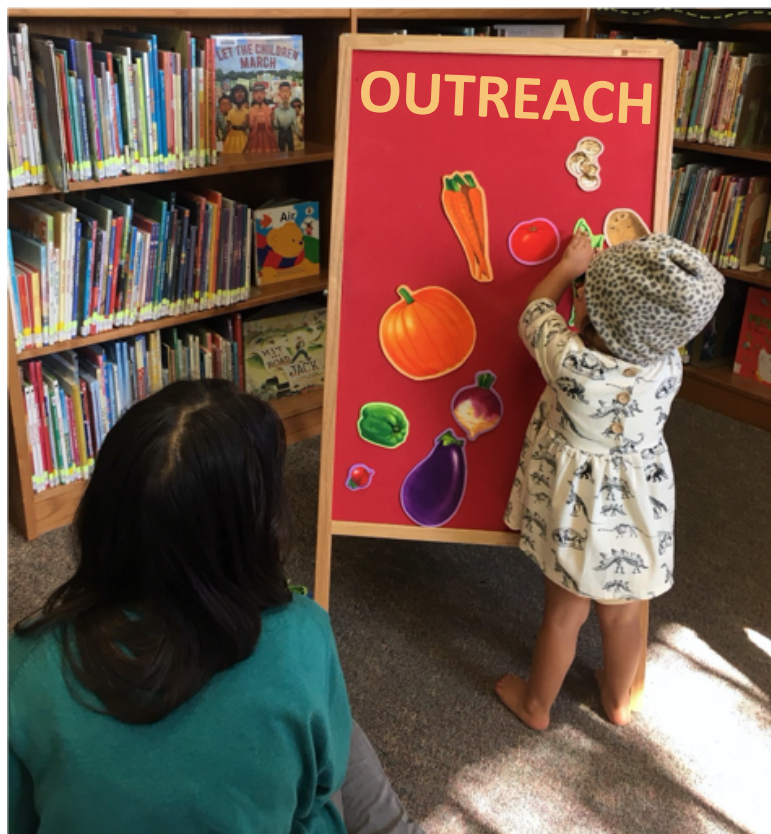


NEVADA COUNTY
Community Library

Create. Connect. Inspire.

Why Stay and Play?





Stay and Play

Thursdays 10am - 12pm
at the Grass Valley Library

Calling all grandparents, nannies, aunts and
uncles, and all other caregivers!

Join us at the Grass Valley Library for time to play, learn,
sing, read, and have fun together! Each session will feature
a storytime, snacks, and an opportunity to learn together!
Once a month a guest speaker will come to discuss topics
surrounding childcare and answer any questions you have.

No registration required. Ages 0-5.

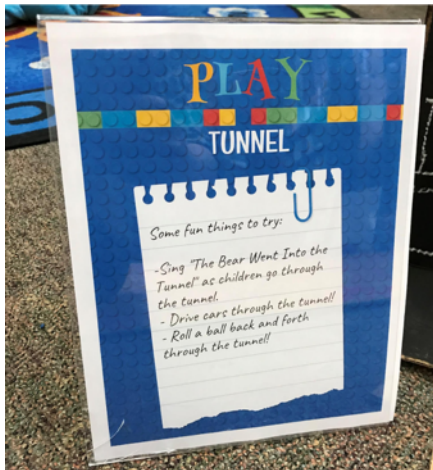


Grass Valley Library

207 Mill Street
Grass Valley, California 95945 | 530-273-4117
mynevadacounty.com/library

How the Five Early Literacy Practices Influence Setup





Creating a Community Space Different from a Regular Storytime



Time-Lapse Video

SNACKS!

Why we do it the way we do.



Modeling Caregiver Interaction

- Two grandmothers come as strangers, and leave as friends, trading info and taking selfies to show their kids (parents of children attending) that they had made friends at the library today.
- Grandmother said it was her “favorite day.”
- The child in my care doesn’t “have any other opportunities to socialize with kids, so this is perfect!”



Community Partners

- Sierra Nevada Children's Services
- FIRST 5 Nevada County
- Public Health
- 2-1-1
- Office of Emergency Services
- Grass Valley Police Department K-9
- Child Advocates of Nevada County
- Child Safety Puppeteers



Stay and Play

Eastside Branch Santa Barbara Public Library



Gwen Wagy



Cristal Gavilanes



How Is Stay & Play Different From Traditional Library Storytime?



Flexible start time before Library opens

- No stress about being “right on time” with toddlers.
- Lowered caregiver concern about “making too much noise in the Library.”
- Allowed for parent / caregiver drop-off & exchange.

How Is Stay & Play Different From Traditional Library Storytime?



How Is Stay & Play Different From Traditional Library Storytime?

Relaxed

- Free play
- Outside as much as possible
- Music in background
- Less overwhelming for those not comfortable with a large-group, guided activity
- Quiet spaces for children who needed it

Spread out over 2 Hours

- Enough time to build individual connections
- Caregivers could take turns staying with children and running errands





Food

- Coffee for adults
- Families walked over after school breakfast distribution
- Snacks after storytime



Guests

- Prepared outreach specialists for a more informal group
- Short presentation & then one-on-one conversations with caregivers



Participant-led invites:

- Experts that could answer developmental questions from caregivers
- Children engaged with garbage truck led to inviting Waste Management
- FoodBank



- 8:30 open
- 40 minutes free play
- 9:40 informal group time
- 40 minutes free play
- Gradual “good-byes”

Familiar schedule
and room set-up



Physical Components

- Movable storage
- Learning toys
- To-be-cleaned bin
- Dishwasher





Successes

- Steady attendance
- Requests for more programming at the branch
- High number of Spanish speakers
- Caregivers sending photos of Stay & Play to child's parents
- Engaged staff
- Growing numbers of caregivers with children in the Library at all times
- Caregivers who had at first been reluctant to use books in the Library got Library Cards at the end of the year

Successes



"Eastside Library Re-Opening" CityTV video on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UTVtWcFDE-A>

Stay & Play featured at 2 minutes; Free Play and Stories at 4:29

Panel Discussion:

How to maintain outreach when in-person services are not possible

Moderator:

Barbara Bruxvoort,

Stay and Play Advisory Committee Member

Library Services Manager, San Bruno Public Library



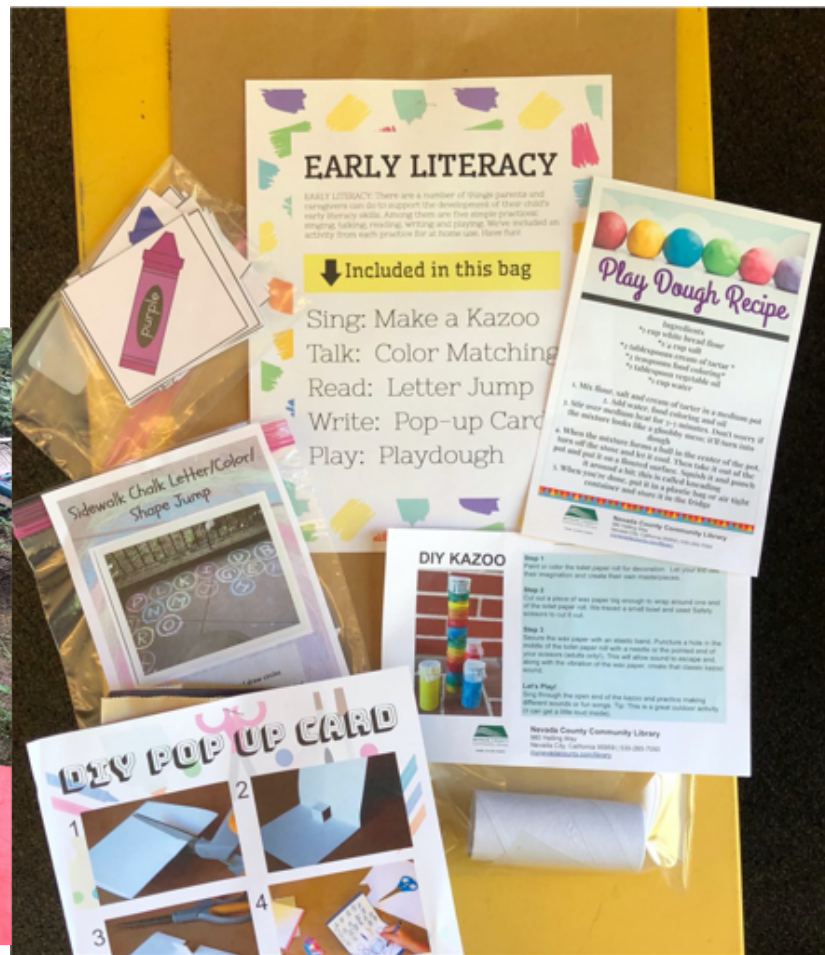
Keeping Things Active Through Covid Closures

Grab-and-Go Bags Filled with Early Literacy Activities

- Talk
- Sing
- Read
- Write
- Play

Storytime Starter Kits

- Shaky egg
- Scarf
- Bubbles



Q & A



This project was made possible with funding from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation and funding from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered in California by the State Librarian.

Advisory Committee Members:

Carolyn Brooks, El Dorado County Library; Barbara Bruxvoort, San Bruno Public Library; Suzanne Flint, Child Development Specialist; Kathi Guerrero, El Dorado County First 5; Margaret Jerene, Alameda County First 5; Nina Lindsay, Oakland Public Library; and Lisa Regalla, Bay Area Discovery Museum

Project Evaluation: Engage R&D

