

BU Toy Library



Language and Literacy Resource Center



2016-2017 issue

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A Brand New WEBSITE!

With gratitude to Erin Finnegan (graduate student in the Master of Instructional Technology program), Helmut Doll (Professor, Chair, Department of Instructional Technology), and Amy Deschaine (photographer), the BU Toy Library is proud to announce the debut of its brand new website! Visit butoylibrary.bloomu.edu to see how this student-faculty team helped Dr. Mary Katherine Duncan (Founder, Director, BU Toy Library) translate Gardner's (1993, 2006) theory of multiple intelligences into a practical, functional website to showcase examples from the BU Toy Library's collection of literacy and play resources.

400 East Second Street
Bloomsburg University

butoylibrary@bloomu.edu
butoylibrary.bloomu.edu

MCHS 1247

Open

Monday—Thursday
10:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

&

Friday
11:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

Contact

Dr. Mary Katherine Duncan
mduncan@bloomu.edu
570-389-4469

PSYCH 337: Service Learning Experiences



Students enrolled in PSYCH 337 Developmental Psychopathology (Fall 2016) examined protective factors that may promote children's mental health. With funds from a 2016 College of Liberal Arts' Curricular Enhancement Award and with gratitude to the Melissa and Doug® toy company for partnering with the BU Toy Library: Language and Literacy Resource Center, PSYCH 337 students created a kitchen play space at a local shelter for women and children. The **Heart of the Home Project** offers displaced children and families a setting to foster positive experiences and positive qualities that underlie healthy development.

*"This project made me think about how I have lived in Bloomsburg for years and have not truly helped/influenced the community here. I feel as though in the future, **I need to be involved wherever I live.**"*

*"This **opened my eyes** to what a child's play space should include."*

*"I learned that there are many ways **I can apply what I'm learning at school to real life.**"*

*"This service learning project made me more aware of **how children build developmental assets through play.**"*

Heart of the Home:

Discovering Developmental Assets through Kitchen Play



Mary Katherine Duncan and Annemarie Shankweiler
Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania

PSYCH 337: Service Learning Experiences



Students enrolled in PSYCH 337 Developmental Psychopathology (Spring 2017) hosted an afterschool Service Club for children in Grades 5 through 8. This service learning experience challenged undergraduate psychology majors to implement a developmental asset-building activity to support children of incarcerated parents. According to the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections, “In Pennsylvania’s prisons, tens of thousands of children live outside the walls.” PSYCH 337 students led a team of middle school children in hand-fashioning greeting cards designed to support children’s early literacy skill development and to restore or maintain the relationship between children and their incarcerated parents.



Dozens of handmade greeting cards such as these (left) were delivered to the State Correctional Institute in Muncy, PA for use by children and their mothers during scheduled visitations. Themes included birthday, missing you, thinking of you, encouragement, love, school days, holidays, etc. All cards were created on white cardstock using colored pencils and stencils cut out from the BU Toy Library’s die cut center.

Honors Program Service Project



Dr. Joan Miller (Faculty Emeritus, Department of Nursing, Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania) and her husband, Dr. Fred Miller, led a group of students from the Bloomsburg University Honors Program on a service trip to Jamaica over the 2016-2017 Winter Break. Among other outreach projects, they visited primary and elementary schools to introduce children to the concept of Good Work. Using a curriculum and interactive workbooks created by Dr. Mary Katherine Duncan, BU students led children through hands-on activities and discussions about what it means to do work that is excellent, ethical, and engaged. Copies of the curriculum and workbook are available at the BU Toy Library.



DIY-Designer Diaper Bags

Under the direction of Mrs. Kurecian, St. Columba School's Art Teacher, fifth grade students created placards to adorn dozens of clear tote zip-top tote bags donated by the Jones Center for Special Education Excellence. The BU Toy Library's die cut center and supplies from a National Honor Society Phi Kappa Phi Literacy Award were instrumental in the success of this project to benefit Your Loving Choices, Inc. (Bloomsburg, PA).

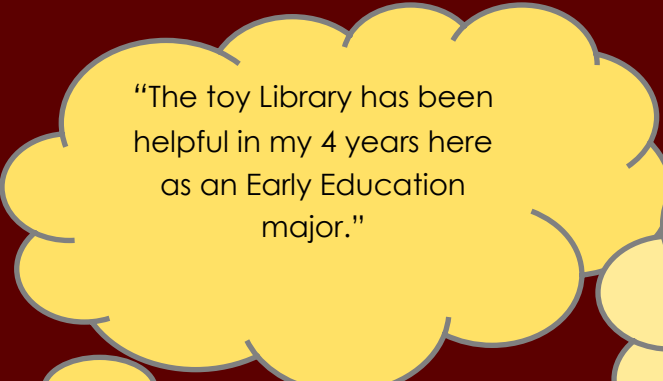


End-of-Year Report

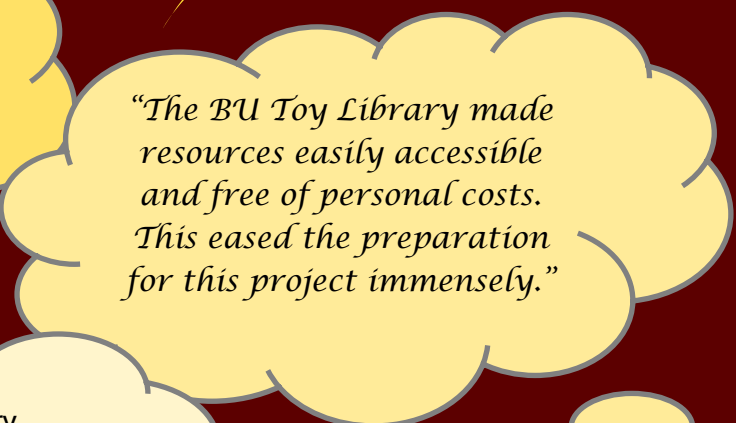
During the 2016-2017 academic year, the BU Toy Library: Language and Literacy Resource Center served a minimum of 131 faculty, staff, and students across departments and colleges as well as professionals and paraprofessionals in our community. Members checked out at least 823 resources, and countless others made good use of the Ellison Die Cut Center. Special thanks to our dependable and knowledgeable staff, including Kellie Fisher (Graduate Assistant, Fall 2016), Taylor Hunt (Graduate Assistant, Spring 2017), Jessika Adams (Undergraduate Student Worker), and Maryann Dambro (Undergraduate Student Worker).

Thank you to all of our members who assisted with our program assessment. Your positive feedback is truly rewarding and your constructive comments inspire our continued growth. We are honored to have played a small part in your academic and professional development. Finally, thank you to the graduating seniors who donated to the BU Toy Library Program Fund. I will be a good steward of your generosity, so that your legacy may be recorded in the good work of the BU Toy Library for years to come.

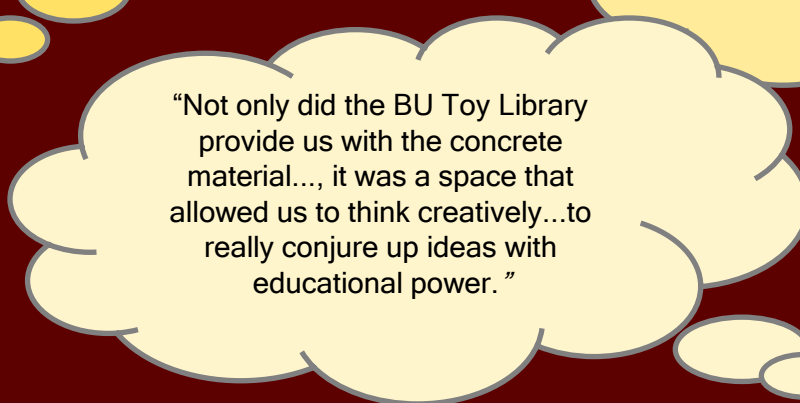
—Mary Katherine Duncan



"The toy Library has been helpful in my 4 years here as an Early Education major."



"The BU Toy Library made resources easily accessible and free of personal costs. This eased the preparation for this project immensely."



"Not only did the BU Toy Library provide us with the concrete material..., it was a space that allowed us to think creatively...to really conjure up ideas with educational power."