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## From the Playroom

## Summer is Coming!

As we near the end of the school year, our team at Children's Institute is in awe and grateful for the work Primary Project teams do to support young learners' adjustment to school across the country. Earlier this year in our fall edition of From the *Playroom,* we shared how Primary Project teams show up every day as "Champions for Children!" Over these last several months as our team engaged with all of you through consultation meetings, trainings, and certification visits, we have heard from teachers, parents, administrators, program

A HUNDRED YEARS FROM NOW IT WILL NOT
MATTER WHAT MY BANK ACCOUNT WAS,
THE SORT OF HOUSE I LIVED IN,
OR THE KIND OF CAR I DROVE.

BUT THE WORLD MAY BE DIFFERENT, BECAUSE I WAS IMPORTANT IN THE LIFE OF A CHILD.



supervisors/mental health professionals, and child associates the impactful stories about how you are making a difference in the lives of students at your school. Thank you for your commitment and passion to improving the lives of children!

We encourage you to think about these helpful tips as the school year comes to an end:

- Celebrate! Supporting students all year long is tough work! Find time to
  celebrate the work you do in Primary Project and your accomplishments. Be
  playful! If you have something that you want to highlight across the larger
  Primary Project community, send us a Primary Project Proud submission
  highlighting an accomplishment from this year.
- Review your data: Take the time to understand the data that has been collected, the evaluation reports you have available to you, and how Primary Project is making a difference for students. This is the perfect time to reflect

on what went well and what you may consider doing differently or better next year. Be sure to take the time to share your data with your building administrator and teachers who support the program!

- Complete the Best Practices Rubric: As a team, reflect on this past year and discuss program implementation overall. Use the rubric as your guide to understand how you are doing and ways your program can improve next year.
- Plan to plan for next year: It is never too early to start planning for next
  year! Use what you learn from reflecting on this past year to identify
  adjustments or improvements for next year! Look out for an End of Year
  survey from Children's Institute. On that survey there is an opportunity for you
  to tell us what we can be doing better and what you need from us next year!
- Take inventory in your playroom! In the words of Garry Landreth, "toys should be selected not collected." The end of the year is a great time to do some spring cleaning! What has been the most popular? What hasn't been played with at all? What do you need, or would you like for your playroom?

Wishing all of you a peaceful and playful summer!

In partnership, Lynn, Shelley, Lindsay, and Arlene

## **Check It Out!**

Children's Institute has updated the Primary Project webpage. On our website, you will find information about Primary Project, including a brief history of our evidence-based results. Visitors can find the Primary Project video, blog, newsletter, and information about National Certification in a new, easy format. Commonly used resources including a link to Bringing the Lessons Home parent articles are available at the bottom of the page.

Check it out by visiting: *Primary Project* 

## **Bringing the Lessons Home**



BRINGING THE LESSONS HOME for Families and Caregivers



With the relaxed pace of summer, the break from school can feel long for parents of school-aged children. Parents often look to summer programming through our communities to provide some structure and keep children engaged socially, physically, and mentally. It can be tough to navigate work schedules and find resources to provide consistent structure and routine. In the absence of structured summer activities and programming, children often resort to forms of media including television, video games and phones, or tablets.

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends that parents of school age children (5-11 years old) set reasonable boundaries on how much screen time is appropriate for your child. All children and families are different, which is why the AAP suggests using the 5 C's of Media Use to establish individualized healthy media habits at home.

Bringing the Lessons Home - English Bringing the Lessons Home - Spanish

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