



January 2010

Busy Brains  
Children's Museum

Coming soon to  
Lake County, Illinois

224.381.0138  
[info@busybrains.org](mailto:info@busybrains.org)

#### In This Issue

[Auction Help](#)

[Special Needs](#)

[Easy Ways to Help](#)

[The winner!](#)

[The Importance of Play](#)

[2010 Forecast](#)

[Traveling Exhibits](#)

Do you own a business or work for a business that would like to donate an item or service for Busy Brains Children's Museum? We are hosting a silent auction at Mickey Finn's on April 30 and we are currently looking for items or services to be donated. All items are tax deductible as we have our 501c(3) status!! Such a great way to contribute to a wonderful organization!!

Please contact

Busy Brains is hard at work on finding a location so that Lake County families can enjoy all the benefits of their own museum. If you want to help, let us know!

## News

### And the winner is...

Thanks to everyone that voted to name our newest traveling exhibit. Let me introduce you to...

#### Pegometry

And the winner of the contest is...

#### Candice Rastrelli



## The Importance of Play

This is the first in a series of articles.

Play - It is child's work.

Jean Piaget, a well known child developmental psychologist, described play as "child's work." Play is defined as behavior that is freely chosen, personally directed, and intrinsically motivated. He suggested that play is reflective of the children's experiences and interactions with their environment. Simply stated, when children play they learn to explore the world around them.

Jamie DeYoung-Ciszewski at  
jdeyoung13@yahoo.com

**Special Needs**

As the museum begins to prepare the permanent site and exhibits, it is turning to families with special needs children for input. The special needs survey is available to take online at: [Special Needs Survey](#)

On March 1, 2010, we will randomly pull one survey. That lucky winner will receive a gift certificate to create a tile (in the comfort of their own home), which will be displayed in the permanent museum. Want a more crucial role in developing the Busy Brains Children's Museum? Contact: Kathy Goers [kathygoers@busybrains.org](mailto:kathygoers@busybrains.org) for information on active committees.

2 easy, everyday ways you can help build Busy Brains

Shop online at:  
[www.goodshop.com](http://www.goodshop.com)

Search online at  
[www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com)

Every time you use these sites, they will make a donation to Busy Brains!

[www.busybrains.org](http://www.busybrains.org)

**Wish List**

Please contact Kathy Goers at [kathygoers@busybrains.org](mailto:kathygoers@busybrains.org) if you are able to help with any of the following:

- Volunteer from home! Research on the internet, then enter information onto a database.
- Grants Committee- Volunteer-willing to make initial/follow up phone calls (sometimes lengthy)- will train
- Marketing Committee- Volunteer Graphic Designer

Today, numerous psychological studies continue to demonstrate a strong correlation between play and important child developmental milestones. Specifically, play supports:

Social development: allowing children to experiment with social roles and norms and understand how to interact and get along with others

Language and emotional development: supporting language acquisition by exploring ways to express thoughts

Emotional development: feelings, and emotions

Motor development: Providing opportunity to use muscles that support physical gross and fine motor skills used to control the body.

When children play they are not simply passing time by, they are actually working to develop and build physical and mental skills that they will use meet the challenges and obstacles that await them in life.

**The museum in 2010...**

As we look ahead to 2010, this promises to be the most exciting year ever for Busy Brains Children's Museum. Yes, we will remain active in Lake County by participating in a variety of community events. We will also keep up our busy schedule with birthday parties and corporate events, but we expect this year to be more than that; much more in fact.

At this moment, we are in active discussions with a Lake County municipality who has shown very strong interest in serving as the permanent location for Busy Brains. Quite obviously, we are very excited about this prospect, and look ahead with optimism that an agreement will be announced in the coming weeks.

The space itself is open, accessible, inviting and will function as a terrific place for local children and their families to play and learn. If you've been thinking about joining us as a volunteer, now's the time. You have what is perhaps a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to become involved with the design and creation of our exhibits...to help promote Busy Brains and its permanent location...to generate ideas for fundraisers and assist in the planning...to identify and aid in the pursuit of grants. When we open our doors, you'll be able to tell family and friends that you had a hand in our success.

Along with volunteering, you can also take the simple step of joining our group on Facebook and/or LinkedIn. Perhaps you'll consider or recommend us for a birthday party or corporate event. Whatever your level of interest and available time, Busy Brains has a place for you.

Stay tuned in the coming weeks for updates on our progress and ultimately the big announcement.

**Events**

- Marketing Committee-Volunteer Website designers to assist with web changes
- Donation of (Lake County) Storage Space (or person willing to sponsor the cost)

[Click here](#) for other ways to help

Kids! Play games online:

<http://busybrains.org/fun/index.htm>



## Have Exhibits, Will Travel!

See Busy Brains Children's Museum in action at upcoming [events](#) or have us come to you for one of your events. Pegometry, Geariosity, Mystery of Flight, Good Vibrations, Touch! See! Smell! Hear!, Zzrrmmm, Construct, Rub-a-Dub, Pressures, and Excavation-children will get to experience these exhibits and, most importantly, have fun!

Our traveling exhibits are available for your event, birthday party or school! Exhibits offer learning through interactive play. Rentals include:

- Unlimited use of rental exhibits
- Free delivery, set-up and dismantle
- Half-hour teacher training by certified educator and museum representative
- For school/daycare rentals, a letter to parents describing exhibits and learning activities
- Free museum gifts to kids

Specific Illinois state standards furnished upon request [www.busybrains.org](http://www.busybrains.org) for more information and pricing. See you out-and-about in Lake County!



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