

# National Air and Space Museum Early Childhood Programs



Join us at the National Air and Space Museum  
for the official launch of our  
Early Childhood School Programs

## Flights of Fancy

**October 22, 2008**  
**10:30 to 12:00**

- Astronaut Gear with Curiosity Zone  
Welcome Center, Gallery 108
- Moon Rocks with Curiosity Zone  
Welcome Center, Gallery 108
- Explore Flight with Curiosity Zone  
Welcome Center, Gallery 108
- Recycled Rockets with VisArts at Rockville  
Space Race, Gallery 114
- Decorate an Airplane  
Barron Hilton Pioneers of Flight, Gallery 208
- Enjoy Live Music with Rocknocoors  
Space Race, Gallery 114

These programs are made possible through the generous support of the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation



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National Air and Space Museum



**SCIENCE  
IN PRE-K**

A Partnership between PNC Grow Up Great,  
DCPS and the National Air and Space Museum



# What is inquiry?

A process of gaining understanding through questioning and exploring.

in-depth

over time

many facets

exploration

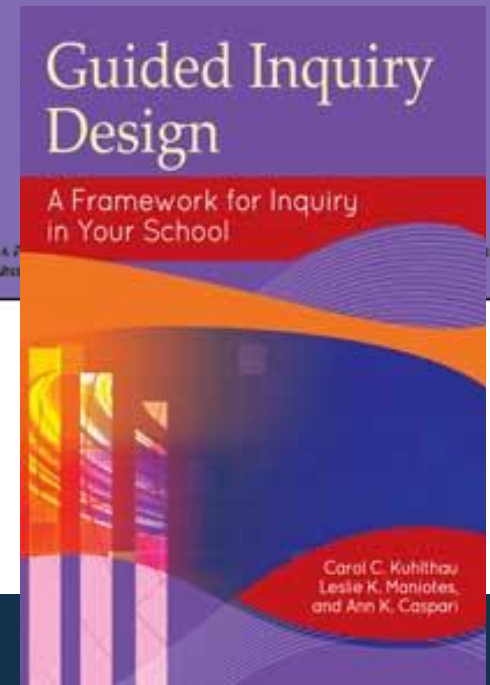
one complex topic or question

# Guided Inquiry Design Process



Texas Guided Inquiry Design: A Framework for Inquiry in Your School  
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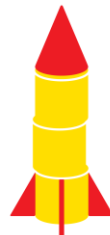


# What are young children like?

- They are active.
- They are concrete.
- They are curious.
- They ask questions.
- They use their imaginations.
- They listen to and tell stories.



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# Science in Pre-K Professional Development

- 5 year collaboration with DCPS
- Funded by a Grow Up Great with Science grant from PNC Foundation
- Steady growth of program and gradual buy-in from all levels



- 7 class sessions at the museum
- mentoring, field trips, classroom visits
- for lead and assistant teachers
- based on Young Scientist Series and EDC model for professional development



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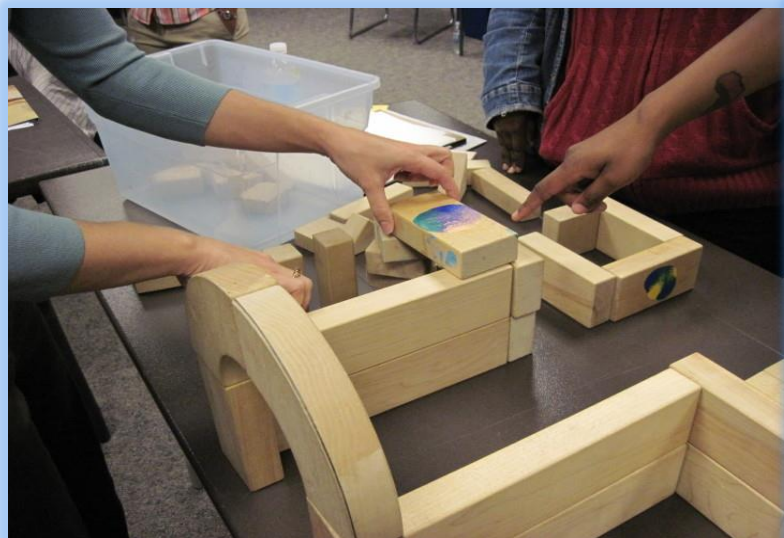
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# TEACHERS LEARN ABOUT BUILDING STRUCTURES



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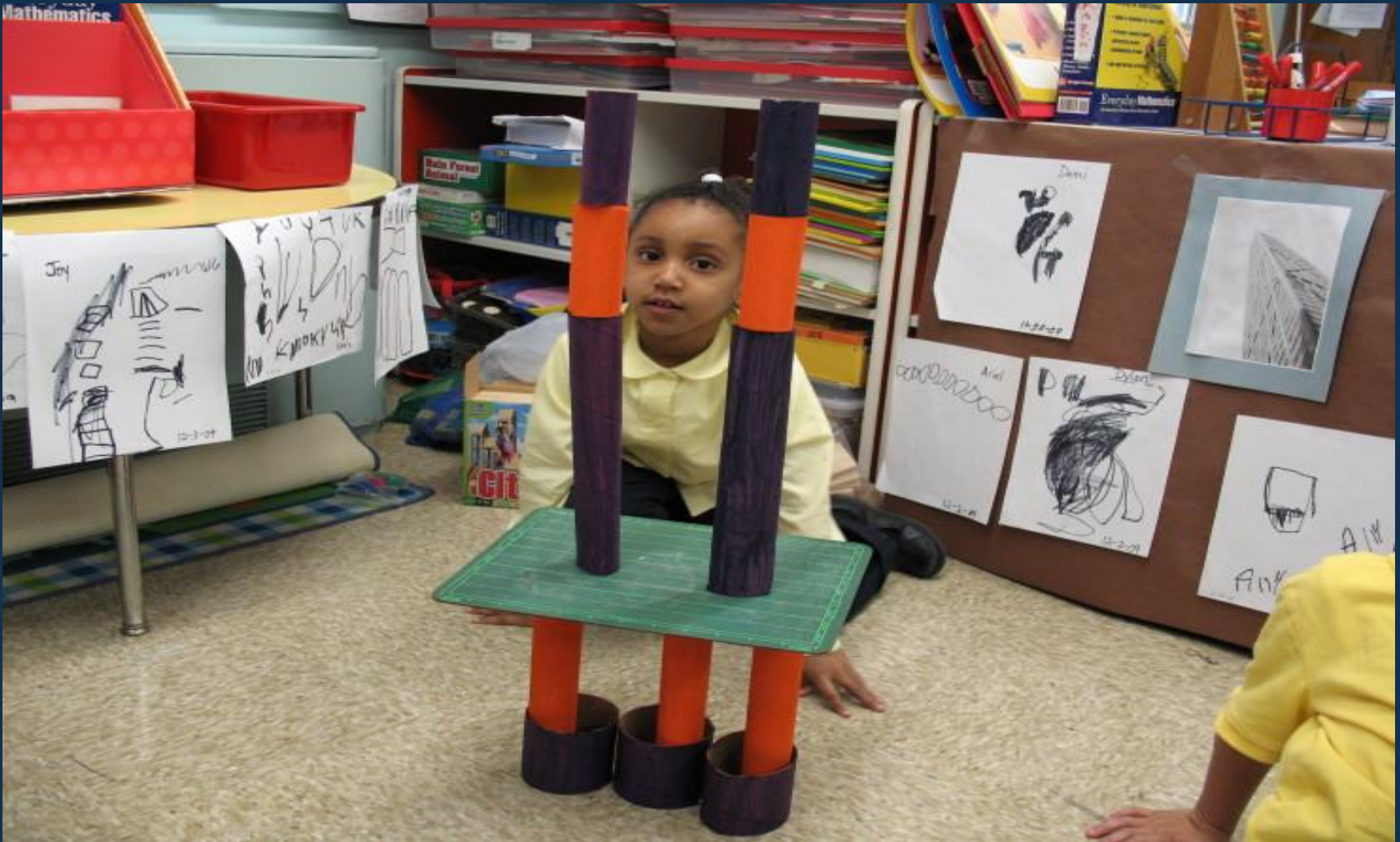
# STUDENTS BUILD STRUCTURES



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# Documentation - students draw their work



# teachers explore Shadows and Light





# students explore Shadows and Light

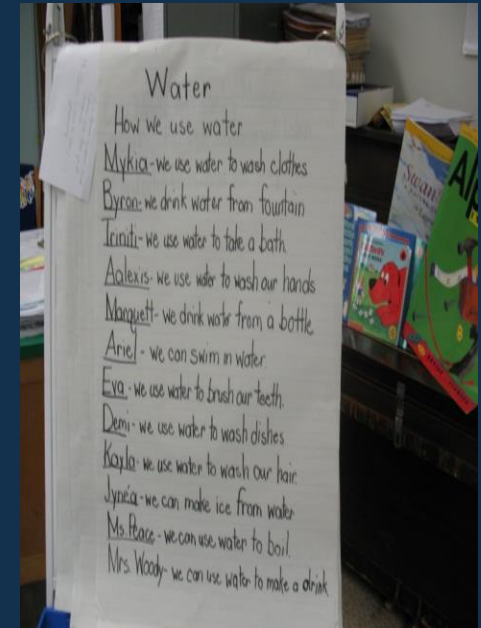


# teachers test physical properties of water





# students test physical properties of water



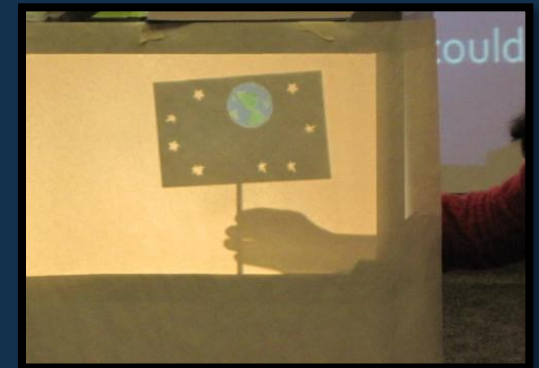


Fully aware of how science is critical in these early years, I can now build on children's natural interest in our world and how things work. The hands-on, exploratory approach to training teachers gave a working model with which to build a truly meaningful experience for the children...I am now encouraged to develop my own skills in questioning and will seek training to do so.

-Ayanna Flowers

The focus was clearly on learning new skills for inquiry that stimulate the students to find their own answers or at least to refine their questions...That concept was new to me and totally refreshing to learn.

-Sybil Peace





# Reserved School Programs

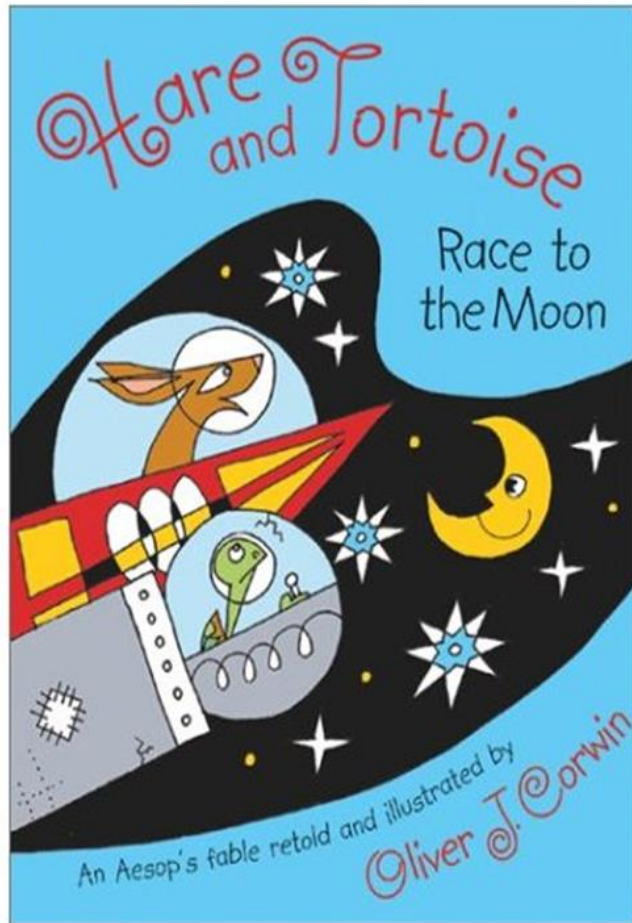


# Drop-in story time for families





# Programs link children's literature to museum objects



# sensory opportunities





# Model building and arts



# Hands-on, active learning

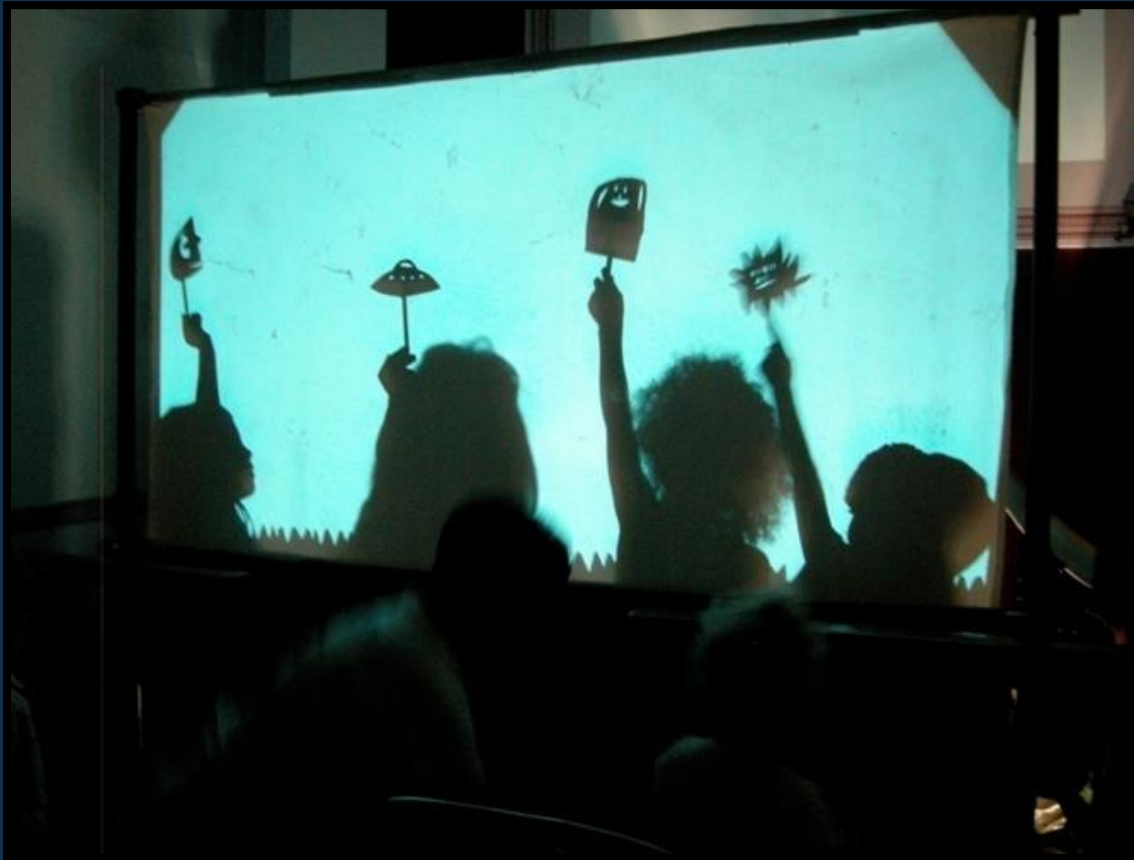




# dramatic play



# Building memorable learning experiences!



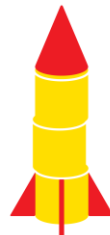


# designing an aircraft

Inspired by the  
National Air and Space Museum



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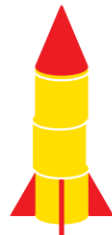


# You try it!

- Explore the available materials
- Design an aircraft
- Build your design
- Test it. Will it fly?
- Refine.




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Please share your  
Seriously Amazing stories!

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