

CREATING ENVIRONMENT FOR “LEARN BY FUN” BY STUDYING VARIOUS EXCLUSIVE TOY LIBRARY SPACES

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Abstract – The impetus of this research is analyzing and understanding basic needs of toy library. The spaces in toy library play an important role in child's aptitude and artistry. This study basically includes understanding the child's education with the help of toys and various activities according to development. Keeping today's scenario in mind, It is essential to have a place where kids can enjoy and have some fun, recreational time, which does not include mobile, television and other digital gadgets.

This study shows that play is very important in today's world. Thus, to have a better education path which promotes Creating environment for “Learn by Fun” by studying various exclusive toy library spaces.

Key Words Impetus, Aptitude, Artistry, Recreational time

1. INTRODUCTION

A library is a curated collection of sources of information and similar resources, selected by experts and made accessible to a defined community for reference or borrowing. A library's collection can include books, periodicals, newspapers, manuscripts, films, maps, documents, microform, CDs, cassettes, videotapes, DVDs, and other formats.

1.1 TYPES OF LIBRARY

According to the mode of services rendered to the readers; libraries are broadly divided into five types:

1. Academic Library
2. School Library
3. Special Library
4. Public Library
5. National Library

1. Academic Library

Academic library is the library which is attached to academic institutions like colleges and universities.

2. School Library

School libraries serve students from Kindergarten to grade 12.

3. Special Library

Special libraries are in specialized environments, such as hospitals, corporations, museums, the military, private business, and the government.

4. Public Library

A public library (also called circulating library) is a library which is accessible by the public and is generally funded from public sources (such as tax money) and may be operated by the civil servants.

5. National Library

A national library is a library specifically established by the government of a country to serve as the preeminent repository of information for that country. Unlike public libraries, these rarely allow citizens to borrow books. Often, they include numerous rare, valuable, or significant works.

1.2 TOY LIBRARY

A toy library lends or hires out toys, puzzles, and games, functioning either as a rental shop or a form of family resource program. It offer play sessions for families and a wide range of toys appropriate for children at different stages in their development. It provides children with new toys every week or two, saving parents money and keeping children from getting bored.

The aim is to provide a quality Toy Library service for families, groups and childminder's in the local area, with a wide range of fun, stimulating and educational toys. The Toy Library is available to all parents and carers of children under 5 years of age. Qualified and experienced Children's Centre staff is available to offer advice and support on age appropriate toys. There is a catalogue system available which enables the borrower to choose a toy and reserve it.

1.2.1 Types of toy lending libraries

1. Community toy library
2. Supplemental toy library
3. Cooperative toy library
4. Mobile toy library

1. Community toy library

Community Toy library is where fun, creativity and play are valued and promoted. To support play time and bonding for parents and their toddlers, educational toys are curated and placed at these Toy Library. Parents also get to meet with other families when they visit these Toy Libraries. The library enhances the total developmental aspects of a child naturally since play is a child's first motivation to learn.

2. Supplemental toy library

Supplemental Toy Library is usually attached to other main facilities like hospital or nursery and operated as an additional service.

3. Cooperative toy library

Cooperative toy library is the library where volunteers run co-operative toy library with no paid staff handling its operation.

Example: The Pittsburgh Toy Lending Library, a volunteer-run cooperative play space and toy library, promotes early childhood development through creative play and family enrichment.

4. Mobile toy library

The Mobile toy library is defined as the travelling toy library with a wide variety of educational toys, games, books and puzzles. These can be used by families in developing the skills needed to support their children to learn through play.

2. INTERNATIONAL TOY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The **International Toy Library Association** is an association of toy library associations and individuals from around the world who serve children by giving them opportunities to experience play at their homes by lending toys and games to them as well as offering shared play opportunities at their library facilities with other children.



Figure 1 International Toy Library Association

2.1 AIMS, MISSION AND VISION

ITLA is committed to the belief that play, playthings and playful interaction are essential to optimal educational,

physical, psychological, social and cultural development and wellbeing.

The AIMS of the Association are:

- To disseminate the concept of toy libraries as a means for bringing play and play materials to people.
- To serve as a link between national toy library organizations, providing an opportunity for international exchange of ideas and materials.
- To maintain a liaison with other organizations and associations pertaining to developmental and social issues, health, education and play.
- To promote the development, production, and creation of toys and games that foster educational, physical, psychological, social and cultural growth, and to disseminate information about such toys.
- To organize periodic international events and conferences dedicated to discussing various aspects of play, playthings and playful interactions.

ITLA's MISSION Statement:

"To advocate for toy libraries and toy librarians on how to make play come alive for the optimal development of communities"

ITLA's VISION is that:

"Every community in the world has access to toy libraries that contribute to the well being of all"

2.2 WORLD PLAY DAY

The World Play Day, sponsored by the International Toy Library Association (ITLA), is held on the 28th of May to commemorate the day the ITLA was proposed in 1987. Unlike most official "days," the World Play Day is more of an attitude of connecting generations through play than a day of scheduled or planned events.



Figure 2 World Play Day

3. CHILD PSYCHOLOGY

Child psychology, also called **child development**, the study of the psychological processes of children and, specifically,

how these processes differ from those of adults, how they develop from birth to the end of adolescence, and how and why they differ from one child to the next.

The study of the mental states and processes of children and specifically, how and why they differ from one child to the next, known as child psychology.

3.1 Tips to understand child's psychology better

1. Observation Is Key

One of the simplest, yet most effective, ways to learn about child psychology is observation. Show interest in what children are doing or saying. Observe their actions, expressions, and temperament when they eat, sleep, and play. Keep in mind that the child is unique and may have a personality that stands out, even as he grows.

2. Spend 'Quality' Time Playing With Children

Conversations with your kids let you know what's happening in their life, what their favorite music or TV show is, and what gets them excited and what doesn't and spend quality hours that allow you to understand their psychology.

3. Children Need Your Undivided Attention

If you try to talk to your kid while you are doing something else, chances are you'll miss on the most important insights; kid might give you about himself. When you pay undivided attention to your kid, he or she feels safe and validated and is likely to open up to you more.

4. Understand How A Child's Brain Functions

The brain is shaped by the experiences that the child has, and this in turn impacts how he responds to different situations. Knowing how his brain works will help you transform negative experiences or meltdowns into positive experiences or opportunities.

5. Listen – Let Your Kids Tell You Their Stories

Talking is good, but listening is important when you have a conversation with your child. Initiate a conversation to get your child talking and then listen to what they are trying to say. Kids may not be able to express themselves clearly, which is why you should pay attention to the words that they use and their non-verbal cues as well.

Focus on:

Tone: the way they stress a word or phrase.

Expressions: which tell you how they feel. Try to gauge their emotions when they speak about something to understand if they like it, if they are afraid of it, or if they are stressed about it.

Body language: watch out for eye-contact, how they use their hands and the posture.

6. Educate Yourself About Child Development

Be proactive in understanding the different stages of child development to know how well your kid is faring. Take time to read books, online journals, and speak to a specialist who can give you some insight into child psychology and development.

4. COLOR PSYCHOLOGY

Color psychology is the study of hues as a determinant of human behavior. Color influences perceptions that are not obvious, such as the taste of food. Colors can also enhance the effectiveness of placebos. For example, red or orange pills are generally used as stimulants. Color can indeed influence a person; however, it is important to remember that these effects differ between people. Factors such as gender, age, and culture can influence how an individual perceives color.

4.1 CHILD AND THE DIFFERENT COLORS

Blue- Blue enhances creativity and stimulates a cool and relaxing environment. It should not be used in excess as it can also depress or invoke feelings of sorrow.

Red- Red is the color of passion and strong feelings of threat, love, or excess stimulus. In school rooms it can be used in combination with other colors as it can help in detail oriented or repetitive tasks.

Yellow- This is indeed the color of happiness and sunshine for children. Yellow stimulates intelligence and is ideal for use in kids' rooms, study rooms and play areas. It should not be overdone as it can make children feel stressed.

Green- The color of abundance can relax and contribute to better health in kids.

Pink- This is a calming color. It can lower heart rate.

Orange- Many educational institutes use this color as it enhances critical thinking and memory. Test rooms in this color are known to enhance performance in exams.

Purple- This color ideal for kids as it is attention grabbing.

4.2 CHILD LEARNING PATTERNS

Color can help connect the neuropathways in the brain. When correct color is found for a person's problem subject, then that subject actually becomes a lot easier for the child; the student actually experiences joy of learning. Children wearing colored goggles who were made to complete pegboard tests were found to solve the tests much faster when wearing goggles of their favorite color.

4.3 COLOR AND PHYSICAL REACTIONS IN CHILDREN

Children also react to colors on a physical level. The explanation behind this is that the light enters the Hypothalamus which controls the nerve centers, as well as the heart rate and respiration. The wavelength and energy of each color varies and affects children differently. Even newborns react to light, a fact highlighted by infant jaundice being treated with blue light.

Color brings about a vascular reflex action by increasing perspiration, the eye blinking rate and also stimulating a noticeable muscular reaction. Blue color, as shown by above experiment, reduces the blood pressure. Reactions to orange, red and yellow are same and reaction to violet color is same as that to blue. The reactions to temperature of the color are another matter; warm colors can calm one child but they may excite others. Likewise cool colors might stimulate one and relax another.

One shade of pink can be calming, another can be stimulating. Blue violet may be a mystical and spiritual color, but to some groups of college students, Blue violet induced feelings of fatigue and sadness. These students also found a shade called "cool green" as angering and confusing.

4.4 GUIDELINES FOR EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTES

- 1. Pre-school and elementary school-** Warm and bright color schemes are ideal.
- 2. Upper grade and secondary-** Cool colors are recommended to enhance concentration.
- 3. Hallways-** Wide range of colors can be used to impart distinctive personality.
- 4. Libraries-** These do well with cool green or pale/light green for enhancing quietness and concentration.

5. ANTHROPOMETRY

Anthropometry refers to the scientific study of the measurements and proportions of the human body. Anthropometry is the easiest way to measure nutritional status.

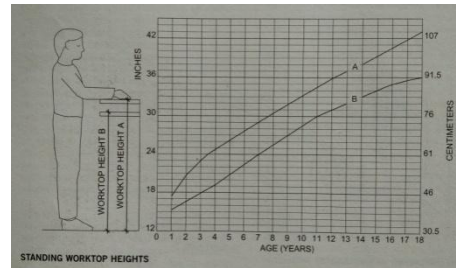


Figure 4 Standing worktop heights

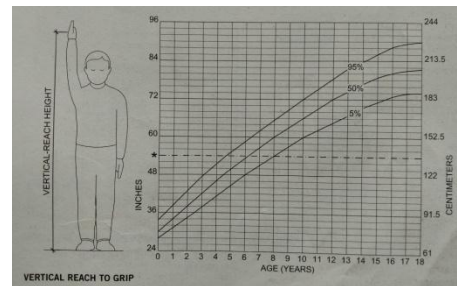


Figure 5 Vertical reach to grip

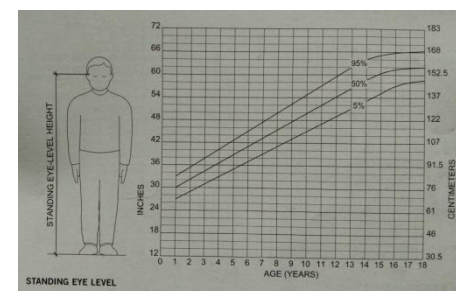


Figure 6 Standing Eye Level

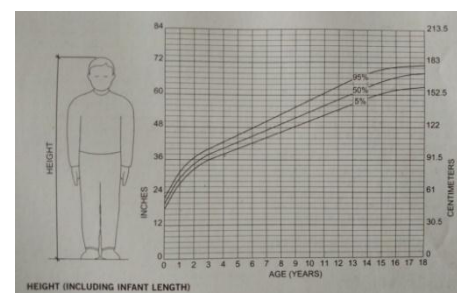


Figure 7 Height

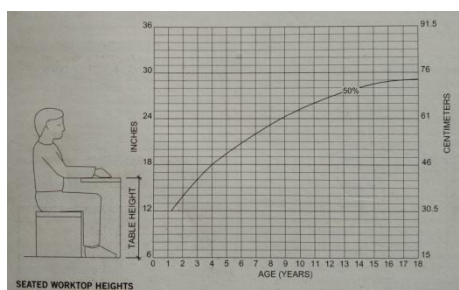


Figure 3 Seated worktop heights

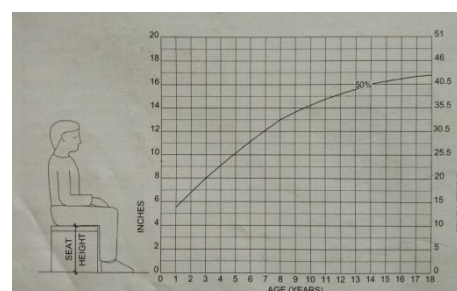


Figure 8 Seated heights

6. BENEFITS OF TOY LIBRARY

Toy libraries offer a variety of benefits for children and their parents. These include:

1. Financial Benefits

Borrowing toys from a library allows parents to spend less money on new toys. In turn, this means that kids from less wealthy families get access to more different toys, and possibly more expensive ones, than their parents could afford to buy for them.

2. Environmental Benefits

When a whole group of kids can share one toy instead of each having their own, fewer new toys need to be produced, which saves resources and energy.

3. Social Benefits

Toy libraries provide a safe place for children to meet and socialize with other children. They can learn important social skills such as honesty, sharing, and taking turns. Toy librarians also interact with the children, giving them a chance to learn how to relate positively to adults.

4. Education

Children of all ages learn by playing. Different types of toys can help children build the skills they need for school, including reading, mathematics, and scientific thinking.

7. CONCLUSION

The dissertation on Kids library was done to study about various design factors and its theory because of the less libraries in India based on this theory. I would like to incorporate all these design factors into a toy library in which we can consider these factors keeping in mind where kids play a centric role. A brief study on kids library based on the development of child's aptitude and artistry. The detailed study evidences that children may benefit cognitively and socially from kids library.

I have studied about the various types of toy libraries, child psychology, color psychology, anthropometry and library furniture.

The literature casestudy focused on the development of child in different stages of childhood with different activities in which they can play and learn

The live casestudy was done to know to about various design factors which I would like to develop and incorporate in kids library where they can assimilate and enjoy at the same time.

Children these days are just becoming mobile puppets and losing interest in real world and the surrounding. So, In order to have more existent world have more interesting for

them, research has been done on this topic on how to recultivate childhood again. So, that they can be active in today's world and not in the digital world. The importance of toys, books, games have to be reached out to all the children which will help in their overall growth and development which does not include digital gadgets.

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