

Viewer Reflection Questions

We invite you to think about the following questions as you view the exhibits. Please use the post-it notes to record and post your responses to the exhibits on the “Thoughts & Comments” sheet. We also invite you to share your reflections at the end of the afternoon. Thank you for becoming an active participant as we deepen our understanding of teaching and learning.

- What do you find compelling about the exhibits?
- What is something in the exhibits that might contribute to your own work and learning?
- How do the exhibits extend or challenge your ideas about the connection between teaching and learning?
- What ideas, perspectives, and questions should the exhibitors consider as they continue to deepen their work?

Exhibits will remain on display until June 11, 2010.

Many thanks to every teaching team, Maria Epps, Melissa French, and Tavia Mead for their extraordinary efforts, to Ben Mardell, Mara Krechevsky, Celina Benavides, and Melissa Rivard of the Making Learning Visible Project at the Harvard Graduate School of Education for the many ways they have supported this event, and to Hallie's Flower Garden for providing the flowers.

For more information, please visit:

<http://boston.k12.ma.us/baldwine/c/>
<http://pzweb.harvard.edu/mlv>

Making Learning Visible at the Baldwin Early Learning Center An exhibition by teachers for teachers

May 26, 2010

1:45 - 3:15



Welcome to the Baldwin Early Learning Center! We have spent the past school year exploring how to enhance individual and group learning, in part by making learning visible. This school-wide exhibition highlights what teachers and others have learned through working together to investigate:

- Ways to support children's narrative abilities
- Children learning through peer feedback
- Expanding small group learning opportunities in the OWL (“Opening the World of Learning”) curriculum
- Using children's interests to increase engagement in curriculum
- Supporting health and wellness

The Program

- 1:45-2:10 Viewing the Exhibits (*Please see the viewer reflection questions on the back of this program in order to share your responses to the exhibits.*)
- 2:15-2:40 “See/Think/Wonder”: Please go to the exhibit indicated on your handout to participate in a guided discussion.
- 2:45-3:15 Whole-Group Discussion and Refreshments (Auditorium)

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the Making Learning Visible Exhibition at the Baldwin Early Learning Center. The Baldwin is a pilot Boston Public School serving 178 children, pre-K through 1st grade.

Our exhibition has 19 exhibits created by our lead teachers, surround care teachers, administrators, art teacher, school nurse, and a parent. The exhibits focus on questions we find most pressing in our teaching.

For example, we know that narrative development is critical to young children's acquisition of literacy skills; before children can learn to read and write they must learn to talk and tell stories. Support for oral language and narrative development is especially critical for our English Language Learners. Several exhibits consider ways teachers help children develop storytelling abilities.

We also know that children are in groups all the time in school, but these are not necessarily learning groups. A number of exhibits explore the ways teachers can support children sharing ideas and giving each other kind and specific feedback, helping children learn from and with one another.

America is suffering an obesity epidemic—68% of adults and roughly one in three children are overweight. This epidemic has an economic element. In neighborhoods with less available health care and nutritional consultation, and numerous fast food establishments, obesity is more commonplace. Three groups of teachers consider ways to create healthy attitudes and habits about exercise and nutrition.

The OWL curriculum is used across Boston Public Schools K-1 classrooms. It is an important tool to help children learn but, like all tools, it is most effective when used skillfully. Several exhibits consider how to maximize learning in an OWL classroom.

Engaging children in their own learning is critical. Several exhibits address the conditions necessary to create and sustain children's deep engagement in learning.

This is our first exhibition of learning. While we have much experience making bulletin boards to display children's work and learning, the move to share our own questions, practices, and adult learning has been a new experience for many of us. Coming together as an adult learning community to support and learn from one another has pushed our thinking in critical ways.

We hope that you will learn from our experiments in teaching practice, be provoked by our questions, celebrate the abilities of our children, and join us in exploring issues central to the education of all young children.

Graciela Hopkins, Principal

Exhibits on the First Floor

1. ***“Do Teachers Know Everything?”: Helping Children Learn From and With One Another***, Carmel Higgins (K0/K1)
2. ***Engaging Children in the Scientific Method***, Chris Dowd and Clivelande Remy (K0/K1)
3. ***Supporting Children in Sharing Their Work***, Adrienne Ho (Art Teacher)
4. ***The Path to Meaningful Learning and Ownership***, Meg Hicks (K0/K1) and Angela G-Giorgis (OWL Coordinator)
5. ***Weaving MLV into the Curriculum***, Anna Ruane (K0/K1) and Mary Jane Brady (Special Education Coordinator/Grantwriter)
6. ***What Makes You Healthy?***, Sim Lee (K0/K1) and Joel Remy (School Nurse)
7. ***“Why Does the Princess Have Two Buildings?”: How Do Teacher and Student Questions Shape a Communal Narrative***, Kendra McLaughlin and Ken Poirier (K0/K1)
8. ***Yoga, Music, and Movement in the Classroom***, Maritza Alvarez and Margaret Li (K0/K1)
9. ***“You Can Go So Many Miles With Water”***: *Adult Learning in MLV*, Tavia Mead (Curriculum Coordinator) and Graciela Hopkins (Principal)
10. ***“What really is storytelling?”***: Neca Mutawakil and Santa Lugo (K0/K1)

Exhibits on the Second Floor

11. ***Bringing Stories to Life***, Jennifer Gilleberto (K2)
12. ***Contagious Book Making***, Mona Lisa Miller (1st grade)
13. ***Exercise?***, Scott Chamberlain (K0/K1) and Evie Collie (K2)
14. ***Feeling Inspired***, Melina Evangelinos and Claudia Rufo (K2)
15. ***Guiding Student Displays***, Lena Jar-Curran and Lisa Soto (1st grade)
16. ***How Does Physical Activity Enhance the Learning Experiences?***, Claudine Milano (1st grade) and Brenda McGonagle (Reading Recovery)
17. ***Liana Tells, Writes, and Illustrates her Story about the Dog***, Stacy Valley (K2)
18. ***Through a Child's Eye***, Tracy Vasselín (K2)
19. ***Being in the Moment***, Velina Batcharov (Parent)