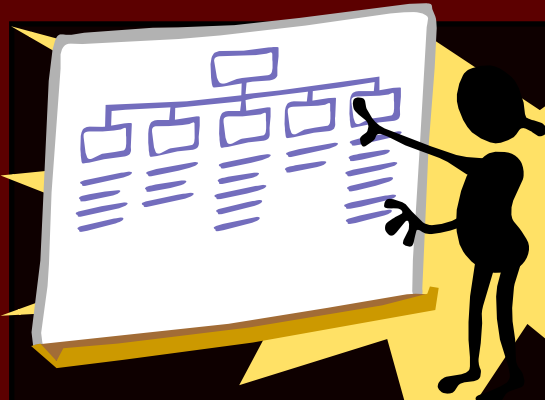


BU Toy Library



Language and Literacy Resource Center



**Mission
Defined!**

Spring 2015 issue

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Mission

To advance the academic and professional development of members of Bloomsburg University and the local community by providing access to a comprehensive selection of books, toys, reference materials, training opportunities, and other resources.

Goal and Objectives

Goal #1: Service

Provide faculty, staff, and students access to language and literacy resources to support their research, scholarship, practice, creative activities, community-based programs, and outreach initiatives.

Goal #2: Research

Identify, acquire, develop, and assess evidence-based resources to advance language and literacy skills across the lifespan.

Goal #3: Teaching

Create training materials as well as on- and off-campus presentations to share information about evidence-based resources and practices with members of the BU community and beyond.

3213 MCHS

**400 East Second Street
Bloomsburg University**

**butoylibrary@bloomu.edu
(570) 389-3915**

Open

**Monday—Thursday
8:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.**

or

Contact

**Dr. Mary Katherine Duncan
mduncan@bloomu.edu
570-389-4469**

Goal #1: Service

With funding from a 2014-15 National Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi Literacy Award, Dr. Mary Katherine Duncan, Dr. Jennifer Johnson, and a team of dedicated undergraduate students led by Laurie Ganey (psychology major) completed three projects for Handmade Literacy for Our Hometown while vastly expanding the BU Toy Library's die cut center.

Journals

We crafted two dozen journals for Jared Boxes that were delivered to the Janet Weis Children's Hospital. The journals provide seriously ill children and youth a place to record their thoughts, feelings, and self-discoveries in both words and pictures.

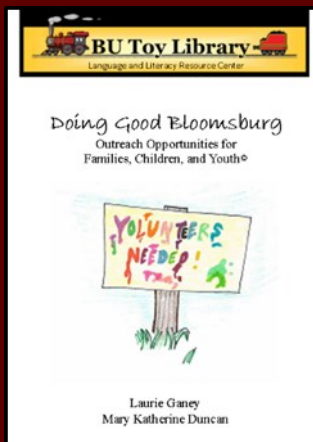


Memory Books

In collaboration with 16 elementary and middle school students who were enrolled in an afterschool service club, we fashioned 20 memory books for new mothers and mothers-to-be who receive services at Your Loving Choices. The scrapbooks provide new parents a place to record memories of their newborn babies' first year of life through hand-written notes and photographs.

Lifebooks

We created a dozen Life Books for children and youth in foster care. These scrapbooks provide a place for boys and girls to record places where they have lived, people who have loved them, people whom they have loved, favorite memories, wishes, and friends.



Doing Good: Bloomsburg

This full-color booklet lists and describes many of the opportunities for our youngest citizens to participate in volunteerism and community outreach in Bloomsburg, PA. With funding from the 2014-15 Phi Kappa Phi Literacy Award, we duplicated and distributed more than 500 copies of the guide. The booklet is also posted online at www.bloomu.edu/toy_library.

Goal #2: Resource Acquisition



BU Toy Library Connects with K'NEX

Members of the BU Toy Library: Language and Literacy Resource Center's Task Force visited K'NEX Headquarters on Friday, December 5, 2014. Dr. Mary Katherine Duncan, Brianna Haines, Mrs. Anita Wasileski, and Dr. Pamela Smith offered the company's CEO and other members of the company's executive team an overview of the mission, goals, and operations of our university-based toy library.

Members of the K'NEX team visited Bloomsburg University on Monday, March 30, 2015 to tour the BU Toy Library: Language and Literacy Resource Center and to observe K'NEX resources being used to support assessments and therapies in the University's Speech and Language Clinic.

We thank K'NEX Brand Toys for their generous donations of Lincoln Logs, Tinker Toys, and K'NEX Toys. We look forward to growing this partnership in the months to come.

Goal #3: Teaching

This semester, Dr. Mary Katherine Duncan was a guest speaker for two sections of Dr. Caryn Terwilliger's **EDFOUND 409 Multicultural Education** course. Through a presentation entitled "Unleashing the Power of Play," Dr. Duncan reviewed updates to the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual's (DSM 5) conceptualization of Autism Spectrum Disorders and discussed the value of play as an opportunity to discover affected children's unique profile of cognitive competencies and character strengths.

The BU Toy Library: Language and Literacy Resource Center also participated in the **24th Annual Health Sciences Symposium at Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania**. To complement the symposium's theme of "Death and Dying: End of Life Issues," Laurie Ganey and Carly Tessein (advanced undergraduate psychology majors) presented a poster about the value of shared reading and play in helping children adjust to traumatic life events.

