

Subject: GMCM's To The Dot - Summer 2008



**Green Mountain
Children's
Museum**

To the Dot!

It's been an exciting several months at Green Mountain Children's Museum (GMCM). Read on...

• • • **Kids Day** • • •



In May 2008, the Green Mountain Children's Museum participated in Burlington's annual Kids Day festivities on the waterfront. Over 200 kids of all ages made creative and colorful sock puppets to bring home. They played at our sand and top tables with their parents, siblings and friends. We had great feedback from both families and event organizers. Special thanks to the volunteers who helped coordinate and facilitate this event. Attending Kids Day has been a goal for years, and we had an extremely successful debut!

• • • **Site** • • •

We continue to negotiate with CEDO regarding the terms for occupying a part of the Moran Plant. Sustainability is, of course, a critical objective.

At the end of May, William Greaves, a Virginia architect who has designed several children's museums, accepted our invitation to come to Burlington. Along with GMCM, he participated in the City's process to interview local Architectural and Engineering firms' proposals. Mr. Greaves also visited other buildings in addition to the Moran for comparison. His experience and insight was extremely valuable. A big thank you to Mr. Greaves, and to everyone who helped support his visit and made him feel welcome!

• • • Getting Involved • • •

We're celebrating continuous volunteer interest as we re-organize and plan for our next phase. Green Mountain Children's Museum thrives on our connection with the community. If you know someone who would like to lend their time and talents, please invite them to learn more from our website, www.gmcm.org. To volunteer, contact us at info@gmcm.org. If you haven't been able to actively participate yet, this would be a great way for you to help!

• • • Summer Fun • • •

Heading to the beach this summer? That's the perfect place for free play. Why not bring along some fun recycled toys for playing in the sand? We'll bet you have these in your house already . . .

- Turn an empty gallon milk jug into a big sand scoop! Just rinse it out, cut it in half across the middle, and put some masking or electrical tape along the edges. Now you have a scoop, and a "bowl" to put your sand (or water) in. Just don't be surprised if your child wants to use the scoop to bury you in the sand!
- Turn an empty plastic bottle into a funnel! After a quick rinse, cut it in half across the middle and you have a fun funnel. (Plus, now the bottom is a sand cup, perfect for building a sand castle.) Bring along a couple of empty flavored-water bottles, and let the funneling begin!
- Don't forget to bring your plastic colander! You'll be surprised at the uses your child will create for it. Sifter, hat, sinking boat . . .

Bonus: When we show our kids how to recycle, we're showing them that household items can have many useful lives. Have a great time at the beach!

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