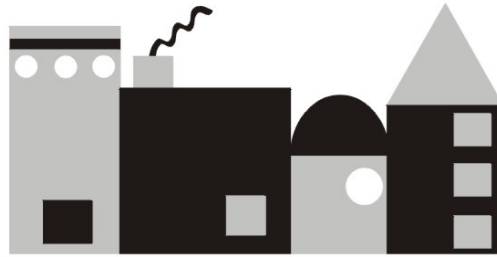


# Messages of the Built Environment



**Every shape has a job.  
Every building has a story.**

*Messages of the Built Environment* provides a construct to help families, schools and community educators stimulate excitement about learning and strengthen language development, critical thinking and math skills for young children.

The program is adaptable for many ages, but is designed around the goals of preschool through early elementary grades.

**Easy-to-use materials link  
home, school and community learning**

*Classroom Lesson Plans* use the school building and surroundings for experiential learning activities.

*Pocket Guides* provide age appropriate homework – helping parents link what children learn in school with explorations at home and in the community.

*Large Group Activities* help families and other inter-age groups explore ideas, express those ideas through hands-on creations, and reflect on their ideas

*Professional Development workshops and institutes* teach inquiry and community-as-text strategies for teachers, after-school providers and parenting specialists to support critical thinking, conversation, and academic outcomes for children.