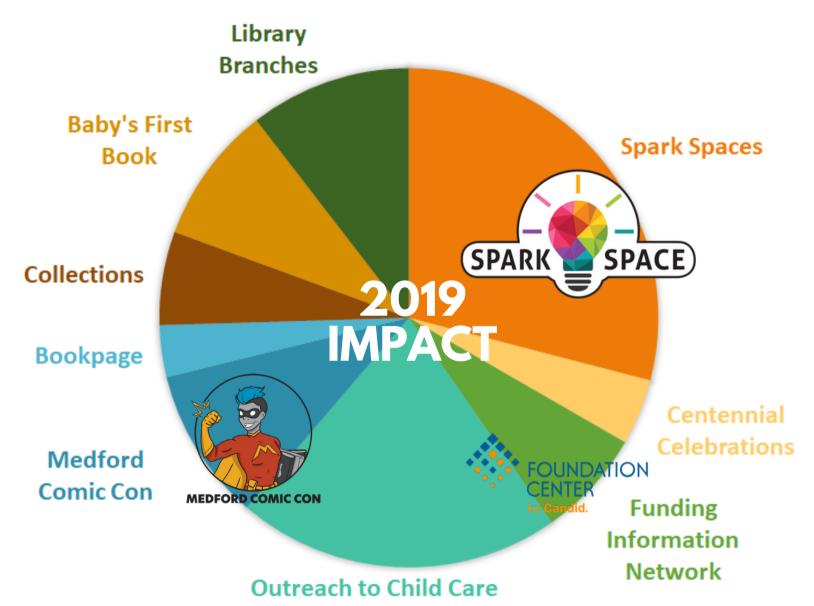


You Invest. Your Libraries Transform.

The Jackson County Library Foundation distributed over \$85,000 to libraries in 2019.





You Invest. Your Community Thrives. White City Spark Space

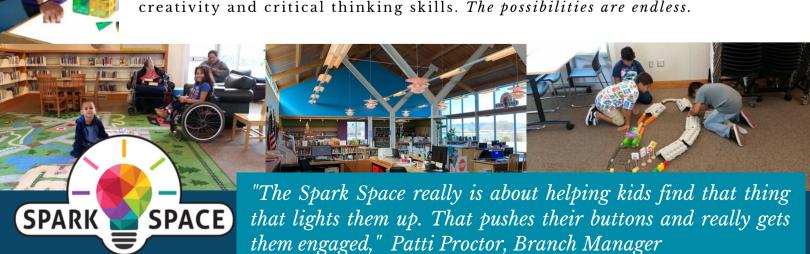


Walking into the White City Library Branch, the first thing you notice is the light. On a spring morning, the large windows let in huge swaths of blue sky and sunshine. The recent renovation to accommodate the Spark Space installation has added color and open sight lines that bring in views of the surrounding community and the rolling hills beyond. Centrally situated in a busy suburb, flanking a city park, and on the direct path many kids walk from home to school each day, this library has established itself as a community center. Branch Manager Patti Proctor embraces this role and all the rewards and challenges that come with it. "We have a lot of kids in here," she says. "This is a vibrant, child-friendly space". Vibrant is a good word for it. This is no hushed and solemn literary temple. This is a hangout, full of energy, light, and color.

Patti advocated to bring Spark Space to her branch. "I wanted to bring Spark Space here because we serve so many kids. White City is such a young area, fully 25% of the population is under the age of 18. And we're creating lifelong learners. We start them young with Storytime for babies and toddlers, and now we have Spark Space and all the programming and tools that come with that. We want them to build this positive association with the library when they're kids, so that when they grow up they remember us. When they need resources and support, they remember the library and they come back here. That's what a community library is."

Spark Space at the White City Library is focused on those young patrons. Many of the available activities focus on building things by hand instead of on a computer, and technology is integrated as a way to encourage kids to improvise and find creative solutions. One of Patti's favorite recent stories started with an idea the kids had about a new challenge for the programmable bots. "So I started collecting found objects," she says, "Egg cartons, paper towel rolls, that kind of thing, and I handed them over and they created this whole obstacle course and then programmed the bots to go through it. It was amazing."

JCLF is proud to support this Spark Space designed to develop individual creativity and critical thinking skills. The possibilities are endless.



You Invest. Your Impact Multiplies. Outreach to Child Care Theme Bags

Funding secured by the Jackson County Library Foundation allowed Outreach to Child Care staff to create 14 new Spanish Theme Bags. Included in each bag are nine books as well as a manipulative (toy, game, etc.) that extends the children's learning around a particular theme. These bags support early learning educators in curriculum design and instruction, enriching the children's subject knowledge and literacy development. Previously, theme bags were only available in English, so this funding increased the equity of the Outreach to Child Care program, ensuring that more children served are receiving a strong foundation in their preferred language. As often as possible, the books selected for the Spanish Theme Bags were written by a bilingual and/or biracial author, so the collection is also more culturally authentic.

THEMES:

¡A contar!/Let's Count! * De colores/Colors
Emociones/Feelings * Familia/Family
Leyendas y cuentos de hada/Legends and Fairy Tales
Invierno/Winter * Amistad/Friendship
¡Celebra la diversidad!/Celebrate Diversity!

Cuentos cómicos/Silly Stories
¡Anima con rima!/Rhyme Time

Música y movimiento/Music and Movement
Transporte/Transportation * Mascotas/Pets

Jackson County Cultural Coalition of the Oregon Cultural Trust



from the Jackson County Cultural Coalition.

You Invest. Your world expands.



