

## Embracing the Power of Play

Buda Public Library working towards 'Family Place Library' Certification

**BUDA, TX – March 9, 2016 –** There is a new space for children and their parents to enjoy at the Buda Public Library. With the addition of a family play space, the library is one step closer to earning a Family Place Libraries™ certification.



**Buda Public Library** 

The Family Place Library program focuses on expanding children's services, while providing resources to parents on how to nurture their child's development. Buda Children's Librarian Martha Sanders is proud that the library is taking part in this initiative.

"A Family Place Library is a library that can make a real difference in helping children become successful learners by starting early with parent education and creating a library environment that invites parents and their children to participate in fun early literacy activities," Sanders said.

Last year, the Buda Public Library was one of 36 Texas libraries awarded a state grant to take part in the Family Place program. Library staff also attended a Family Place Libraries Training Institute in Centereach, New York.



**Buda Public Library** 

One of the components of a Family Place Library includes a specially designed welcoming space. Parents like Amy Creed say the new family play space at the Buda Public Library is a welcome addition.

"I really appreciate the open view throughout the entire youth section and the appealing colors and set-up of the children's area," Creed said. "I think the selection of educational toys is fabulous for imaginative and educational play. This library is a great community resource that just got better!"

For library staff, the positive impact on the community is the big payoff.



**Buda Public Library** 

"Through play, children grow and develop and experience joy in their world. At the Buda Public Library, we value our role in providing joyful early learning experiences. By becoming a certified Family Place Library, the library can serve a real need in nurturing children's development during those critical first years, and will have a greater opportunity of connecting parents with valuable resources and services," Sanders said.

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To learn more about Family Place Libraries, visit www.familyplacelibraries.org

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