**What parents say:**
“For our family, play is a major way of learning. I have been a preschool teacher so I know that play is a very important part of learning. It helps children develop physically, socially, lets them use their imaginations and express themselves.”  
Sandra Lomker, Social Worker

**What parents of children with special needs say:**
“With a special needs child, I look at toys differently. Now, I see possibilities for how a toy can be used. I see toys as a way to reach a child and a way to build on weak spots, as a tool to help him grow.”  
Lorraine MacGowan, children ages 4 and 6

**What childcare providers, teachers, social workers say:**
“I see the whole family benefit. Toy Library supports everyone in the family.”  
Sandra Lomker, Social Worker

It’s about more.
More than toys.
More than books and blocks and puppet shows and wooden trains.

It’s about more than early childhood and the development of social, motor, cognitive and leadership skills.

It’s about relationships.
The relationship between parent and child;
The relationships children form with one another in a safe, imaginative and playful environment.

It’s about relationships built among parents, caregivers and teachers working together to create a nurturing community for all children to grow.

The Toy Library is about potential and opportunity.
It’s about more than children.
It’s about helping adults help children grow.

It’s about building foundations for children through play.

Poem adapted from Pittsburgh Toy Library
Toy Collection
There are 5,000 toys and materials to enrich play-literacy learning experiences.
Toys are selected for quality and safety to foster children’s development and early literacy skills.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Toy Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alphabet, math and science toys</td>
<td>For exploring letters, words, numbers and nature</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building blocks, design toys and musical instruments</td>
<td>For constructing, designing and making music</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cars, trucks, farm animals, dolls, puppet theaters and kitchen sets</td>
<td>For imaginary expression and role playing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First games, strategy games, family games</td>
<td>For problem solving and social skills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marble runs, pegboards, sequence beads, puzzles</td>
<td>For sorting, matching and exploring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riding toys, slides, balance beams and hula hoops</td>
<td>For large muscle and outside play</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music boxes, stacking toys and activity gyms</td>
<td>For stimulating interactive play</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Toy Lending
Toy Library offers a community resource that allows families, caregivers, teachers, social workers, agencies and schools to meet the specific, growing needs of individuals and groups in a very cost effective way.

Items may be borrowed, free of charge, with a valid Monroe County library card.
Borrowing period is 3 weeks. Renewal extensions are possible by phone.

Play-Literacy Learning Environment
Toy Library provides a free, public play space in a safe, indoor environment. Children are given the freedom to explore and play with toys and materials from the Toy Library collection, with other children, as well as their caregivers, and can gain a variety of learning experiences.

Field Trips & Special Programs
With community support, Field Trips and Special Programs for groups of children and adults including training programs for parents, childcare providers or teachers – can be customized to meet specific requests.

Testimonials

What parents say:
“Toy Library gives me a place to go to enjoy my son away from distractions. It is not just a place to go once. It is a lasting experience! We take home a toy or a game and we play with it everyday. My son gets everyone in the family involved. We all get to play and share experiences and memories together.”
Lisa Valcore, children ages 4, 14, and 17

“This is a great way to try out toys and see what our child is ready for, before we buy anything. By the time three weeks is up, he’s ready for something new.”
Dad of a 7-month old child

What parents of children with special needs say:
“Toy Library is so helpful! My daughter has a learning handicap and so the toys are guiding her learning at each step. I can get whatever I need; I always know I can go to Toy Library to find help if I need it.”
Rosemarie Schalm, children ages 4 and 11

What childcare providers, teachers, social workers say:
“Really can’t get over what Toy Library has to offer. I would advise anyone to come and see for yourself.”
Renee Judkins – Home-based Childcare Provider

“I had no idea all this was here and I even live in the neighborhood. I didn’t realize the library people could help me in so many ways. I’ll definitely come again.”
Home-based Childcare Provider