
MAKE IT AND TAKE IT WORKSHOPS

Mason Elementary School

Canton, Ohio

Mason Elementary designed a Make It and Take It workshop for students and family members to make literacy-focused learning games that they could play at home that would support the school improvement goal of raising reading levels for K-3 students.

Teachers selected learning games from resources provided by the district's Parent Resource Center. The district facilitator from the resource center also helped organize the workshop. At the workshop, family members and students enjoyed cutting and coloring pieces to play the learning games. On the back of one of their games, parents wrote a small note, like a dedication, to their child saying how they felt about making and playing the game together. The district Parent Resource Center laminated the games and returned them to school to be sent home. Weeks later, families continued to report that their children liked to play the games they made together more than their store-bought games.

Support from the district and donations from businesses of food and incentives helped make the evening enjoyable. Every family in attendance received an incentive to take home. The school also provided transportation for families who needed it. Next year's Make It and Take It workshop will also include math activities.

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