



## Proposal: Wiggles N' Giggles Gross Motor Skill Development Program

### Overview:

Watertown Family Connections (WFC) proposes to host the **Wiggles N' Giggles** a Gross Motor Skill Development Program at the Watertown Public Library (WPL) Community Room. This program aims to provide an engaging and educational experience for children aged 0-5 and their parents. The program will focus on physical development, play-based learning, and socialization. This program known currently as **Open Gym** program, successfully held at the Watertown Area YMCA for nearly 30 years, has an impressive average attendance of 500 child visits each year. However, due to the YMCA's new location, relocating this valuable program within walking distance for families is essential to maintain its success.

**Gross motor skills** refer to the large, sweeping movements we make with our arms, legs, and torso. These skills involve using large muscles in the body and are crucial for movement, coordination, and balance. Here's why they're important for children:

1. **Strength and Confidence:** Developing gross motor skills helps children gain strength and confidence in their bodies.
2. **Physical Activity:** Gross motor activities provide exercise and physical activity, promoting a healthy lifestyle.
3. **Foundation for Complex Skills:** These skills lay the groundwork for more complex activities in the future, such as playing team sports.

### Program Details:

- **Name:** Wiggles N' Giggles
- **Duration:** September 2024 – May 2025
- **Time:** Wednesdays, 9:00 am – 10:30 am
- **Room Usage:** 8:30 am – 11:00 am (including setup, breakdown, and cleaning)
- **Commitment:** WFC commits to paying \$3000 for the Community Room during the specified period, guaranteeing their use on the listed dates.
- **Payment Schedule:** WPL will bill WFC three equal installments of \$1000 every four months (November 30th, February 28th, and May 31st).
- **Equipment:** Refer to the equipment list provided for the program.
- **Room Condition:** WFC will conduct a pre- and post-program room check to maintain its condition.
- **Deposit:** WFC would pay a deposit of \$100 as other organizations/businesses that rent the space.
- **Liability:** All WFC participants/families fill out a Participant Form that includes a Liability Waiver
- **Rules/Expectations:** Participants will follow the posted Rules/Expectations for WFC Participants.
- **Exclusion:** No space commitment needed during June, July, and August.
- **Staffed:** Two Playologist run the program

## **Program Components:**

1. **Large Motor Skill Development:**
  - Provide a positive outlet for children's energy.
  - Offer a variety of equipment for large motor development.
  - Encourage climbing, crawling, swinging, and other physical activities.
2. **Play-Based Learning and Socialization:**
  - Facilitate learning through play.
  - Promote social interaction among children and parents.
  - Emphasize colors, shapes, and spatial awareness.
3. **Participant Requirements:**
  - Children must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver.
  - All participants fill out a Participant Form, sign a Liability Waiver, and a Photo Release form.
4. **Room Organization:**
  - Downsize equipment for storage efficiency.
  - Collaborate with WPL to reorganize storage in the program room.

## **Key Benefits for Watertown Public Library (WPL):**

1. **Daily Programming for Families:**
  - Consistent daily engagement with families, fostering a sense of community.
  - Provides a valuable resource for parents and caregivers of young children.
2. **No Overlap with Existing WPL Tuesday & Thursday Early Childhood Programs:**
  - Ensures that the Wiggles N' Giggles program complements rather than competes with other library offerings.
  - Maximizes utilization of the Community Room throughout the week.
3. **Complementary Programming to WPL Early Childhood Programs:**
  - Enhances the library's commitment to early childhood education.
  - Creates a seamless transition for families attending both WPL and WFC programs.
4. **Enhanced Community Engagement:**
  - Attracts families from diverse backgrounds, promoting inclusivity.
  - Strengthens the library's role as a community hub.
5. **Partner Collaboration:**
  - Fosters collaboration between WFC and WPL, leveraging each other's strengths.
  - Encourages joint initiatives and shared resources.
6. **Parent and Child Engagement:**
  - Provides a supportive environment for parents and caregivers to engage with their children.
  - Encourages positive interactions and bonding.
7. **Data Sharing:**
  - WFC commits to sharing relevant data (demographics, attendance, etc.) with WPL.
  - Facilitates informed decision-making and program improvement.
8. **Guaranteed Payment:**
  - WPL will receive a guaranteed payment of \$3000 for the committed use of the Community Room.
  - Supports the library's financial sustainability.
9. **Availability During Summer Months:**
  - The room will remain available during June, July, and August, allowing flexibility for other library activities.

## **Dates of Program (Wednesdays):**

- **September:** 11, 18, 25
- **October:** 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
- **November:** 6, 13, 20
- **December:** 4, 11, 18
- **January:** 8, 15, 22, 29
- **February:** 5, 12, 19, 26
- **March:** 5, 12, 19, 26
- **April:** 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
- **May:** 7, 14, 21, 28

## **List of Equipment that could be used (and moved to library location):**

*Please note that not all equipment is used at one time:*

- |                                |                          |                       |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| • Tumble Forms                 | • Hula Hoops             | • Scooters            |
| • Gym Mats                     | • Tunnels                | • Soft Blocks         |
| • Cones                        | • Balance Beams          | • Large Foam Legos    |
| • Wagon                        | • Hopscotch Mat          | • Musical Instruments |
| • Walking toys                 | • Toddler Riding Toys    | • Obstacle Course     |
| • Teeter Totter                | • Toddler Roller Coaster | • Parachutes          |
| • Rocking Fish                 | • Bean Bag Toss          |                       |
| • Large Balls                  | • Small Slide            |                       |
| • Little Tikes Basketball Hoop | • Small Trampoline       |                       |
|                                | • Bouncy Bear            |                       |

## **Reference links:**

Insurance Certificate

Participation Registration Form

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/18d6ved245qLP9JQIM2M6TAOIrHbRux07/view?usp=sharing>

[Expectations / Rules](#)