

# HANDMADE IN ***MAKESHOP®***

CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF PITTSBURGH

GRAINLINE

LENGTHEN OR SHORTEN HERE

WAISTLINE

# Welcome to **MAKESHOP®**

**MAKESHOP®** at Children's Museum of Pittsburgh is a rich and supportive informal learning environment for children and families to engage in authentic making experiences.

The Children's Museum partnered with the University of Pittsburgh Center for Learning in Out of School Environments (UPCLOSE), and Carnegie Mellon's Entertainment Technology Center (ETC) to create **MAKESHOP®**. The project embodies a dedication to furthering informal learning opportunities and research-based exploration of digital and physical processes.

**MAKESHOP®** provides open-access to digital media resources and physical materials. The result is a robust place for curiosity, exploration, creativity and innovation. A dedicated facilitation team, comprised of skilled makers, artists and educators introduce children and adults to the diverse materials and processes of making, as they help visitors translate their visions into tangible objects.







# MAKESHOP<sup>®</sup>

## Consulting Services

As an extension of our mission to provide innovative experiences that inspire joy, creativity and curiosity, the Children's Museum of Pittsburgh offers consulting services in all areas of planning, developing and operating maker spaces.

Collaboration begins early in the process to allow for the integration of ideas, enriching the experience of the project. We trust you to share with us who you are and who you want to be, so we can help you take the necessary steps to get there. In this way, our solutions are responsive to the local culture of your institution.

We offer a wide array of options within these services, to provide choices for institutions or organizations wishing to develop innovative programs or to obtain recommendations regarding administration, planning and management strategies.





## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Discover ways to recruit, train and grow a creative, committed and collaborative staff that is capable of delivering high-quality programs. Opportunities range from single-session trainings, to hands-on workshops, to multi-day trainings.



## PLANNING AND DESIGN

Enhance learning environments through the design and development of flexible workspaces and multi-purpose exhibit components that facilitate programs and learning experiences.

## LEARNING AND RESEARCH

Enrich the learning potential of making experiences through our research and evaluation services that support the design and implementation of innovative exhibits and learning opportunities in both formal and informal educational environments.



# MAKESHOP<sup>®</sup>

## Exhibits and Furnishings

**Children's Museum of Pittsburgh offers exhibits and furnishings designed to facilitate creative learning through hands-on making experiences.**

**We are invested in the success of maker spaces. We are eager to share what we have learned through careful prototyping and rigorous testing by our visitors. This approach results in robust products designed to meet the unique operational goals of a maker space.**

**We offer options for customizing the exhibits and furnishings for institutions or organizations wishing to purchase items developed and designed by us. All items include program guides to help facilitate and operate maker programs.**

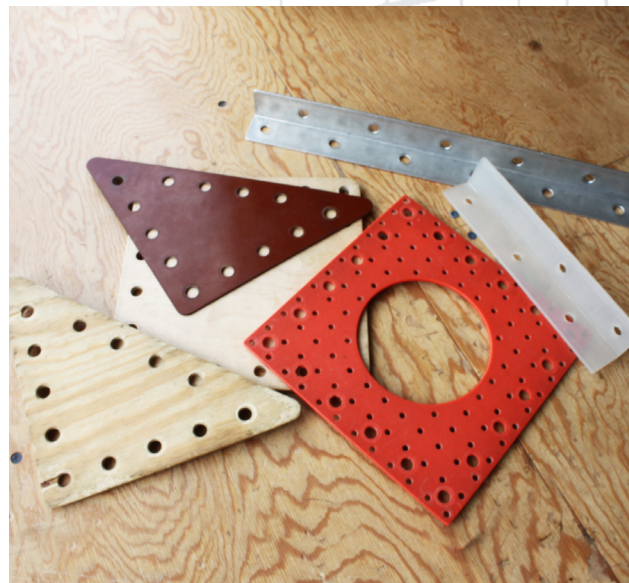






## BUILD-IT

Create unique structures with this custom made building system that lets children explore the process of attachment using real materials and tools. All pieces are drilled with a standard hole-pattern, making all pieces interchangeable. When this regular building system is paired with an unusual array of materials, users have endless opportunities to experiment. No two structures will ever be the same.



## CIRCUIT BLOCKS

Visitors explore electricity through trial and error as they make a circuit with Circuit Blocks. A variety of components can be connected to a battery station with alligator test leads, closing the circuit. This activity encourages ongoing exploration and learning. Magnetic terminals connect easily with the alligator clips without any fine motor skills making this experience perfect for visitors of all ages. The kit includes blocks, various motors, lights, switches, repurposed parts, battery stations and test leads.



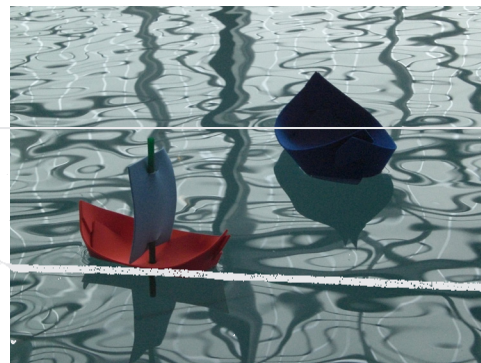
## STACKING STONES

These are handcrafted building blocks that are comprised of angular cuts on the surface, making them a challenge to stack. Through trial and error, visitors can attempt to build various structures of their design. Learning how to think critically and problem solve the Stacking Stones provide endless opportunities for engagement.



## DIE CUTTER STATION

This versatile activity consists of an Accucut GrandMark Die Cutter and a custom designed mobile cart with under counter storage, or a table with storage. Both pieces can be designed as stationary components, or as mobile units for use in multiple spaces. Multiple finishes and color options are available. A starter kit with one custom die is included with each unit.



## CUSTOM DIES

Custom dies are available for use as a stand-alone activity or with other programs. Options include a boat, a rocket and an infinity puzzle.



## SILKSCREEN COUNTER

Experience the silk screen process from beginning to end. The print making counters let artists of all ages and abilities, explore positive and negative space, color and form. This interactive consists of a custom built counter equipped with two printing beds, four blank screens, start-up supplies, and an instruction signage package. The beds are equipped to accept both blank and photographic screens.

Access to running water is recommended.







## STORAGE CABINETS

This is a completely contained, movable storage unit filled with the basic tools to create a maker space in flexible, temporary or classroom spaces. Each unit includes basic tools, hardware, and soft goods needed to facilitate a variety of scalable activities that are based on the projects designed and prototyped in the permanent MAKESHOP®.

The custom built storage unit consists of drawers, adjustable shelves and peg wall, providing multiple, flexible storage options. The cabinet has lockable casters to facilitate easy set-up. The unit is available as a tall storage unit or a counter-height unit. The counter height unit can be fitted with a removable table top. All options can be customized to fit specific use and space requirements.



## ALL PURPOSE TABLE

This is a custom designed, circular table with a smooth acrylic top that is easy to clean and suitable for a variety of activities using wet and dry media. The center of the table is fitted with a heavy rubber storage bin, which can be used to hold tools, materials or items for display.

The circular shape lets visitors work independently or collaboratively with other visitors.







**CONTACT INFORMATION:**  
**[exhibits@pittsburghkids.org](mailto:exhibits@pittsburghkids.org)**  
**[www.pittsburghkidsdesign.org](http://www.pittsburghkidsdesign.org)**

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