

Kids Stuff

Brick Builders display imagination

By **ANGELA COOPER-McCORKLE**

EVERETT – Bricks of every rainbow shade spilled off the edges of the long table at the Everett Library as a members of the Brick Builders club exercised their imaginations.

The boys and girls there built everything from the kitchen sink to entire worlds with thousands of blocks supplied by the library.

The free Thursday club drew about a dozen kids on a recent visit. Some had worked on their projects every week for a month. The library keeps Lego creations together until the end of the month, when it's time to break everything down and

Rufus, Bob, Averua, Princess Elena, Madeline and Maple Syrup were just a few.

Khloe Bennett 9, and her friend had brought all those Lego people and pets to live in their creations.

They had built a Lego aquarium out of clear plastic windshield pieces with a sapphire blue top. Another underwater scene with a white coffee filter stuck to the back looked just like a seashell. The shell and other creations with coffee filters stuck on were more than interesting to look at — they could sail across the table like ships, blown by a fan.

There was a little trouble in their Lego land though.

“Kitty wants to fly in a rocketship to escape squirrel,” Bennett explained. Even imaginary worlds have villains.

Not everyone was a Lego lover.

Mom Nicole Chan had brought her kids to the club for about six months for them and herself.



Shawn Campbell, 10, enjoys building an airplane with superheroes on it as part of the weekly Lego building club Thursday afternoons at the Everett Library, 2702 Hoyt Ave.

Doug Ramsay photo



begin new builds.

There were so many new faces to meet.

Suzy, Aches, Lucy, Fluffles,

“I don't like playing or stepping on Legos,” she said. “They forced me to play one day, then abandoned me after they dumped a tub of Legos out. I spelled out ‘I don't like Legos’ in Legos,” she said with a laugh.

But she loved what the bricks do for her kids, 5-year-old Phillip and 7-year-old

Cynthia Chan.

It was a fun, free, all-weather social activity that got the children thinking, and didn't overwhelm Phillip who had a sensory processing disorder.

“I'm a master at making sinks,” Cynthia Chan said. She could assemble a miniature in five seconds flat. Her Lego

house was overflowing with useful items, from coffee makers to a soufflé for when her miniature friends needed a nibble. A boat for sleeping in was moored next door. There was even a poison dart frog to guard the Lego vegetable garden.

March 28 was the last Brick Builders of the month. That

meant time to deconstruct all the houses, planes, aquariums and ships.

But Cynthia Chan didn't mind at all. “It's fun breaking things apart!” she said.

To check out Brick Builders and other free library programs for kids go to www.epls.org and click the Events tab and select Youth Events.

Fun at your local library

Snohomish Library 311 Maple Avenue

- The Sinking of the Titanic: April 12 ~ April marks 107 years since the sinking of the Titanic. Come learn more about the infamous ship through hands-on activities and experiments. 4-5pm

- Oreo Taste Test: May 3 ~ Oreos now come in all kinds of flavors. Put on your scientist hat, and taste test them. Which is the best? Which flavor surprised you? 4-5pm

- Explosive Volcanoes: May 10 ~ Learn all about volcanoes, including the ones right here in Washington State. Find out what makes volcanoes erupt through fun (and explosive!) experiments. 4-5pm



- LEGO LAB: May 25 ~ Come and build to your heart's content using LEGO®, Roylco straws, K'NEX, and more! This program promotes discovery and self-directed learning. 10am-

Noon

Monroe Library

1070 Village Way Monroe

- Double Bubble Science: April 16 ~ Test your bubble know-how! How many different surfaces can they land on without popping? And find out the best way to battle gas bubbles. Activities

designed for ages 9 and up. 3:30-5pm

- Come Fly with Me: May 7 ~ Come learn more about our feathered friends and why they can fly. Plus, take home a special, nut-free treat for them to enjoy! For grades K-5. 3-4pm