This week, you are going to be working on a project we call: Our Medford. You will be brainstorming, drawing, and building your ideas over the next several days. Use whatever you find around the house and grab a pencil and paper.
Since you have been learning all about design + construction and are the experts, the Mayor has asked all of you to create a solution to the question, "What ideas do you have that could be constructed to make Medford more fair and interesting for children?"

Use the following steps to help guide you and your child's project. Below is a suggested schedule for the project.

**Design Process**

- **Day 1**: Ask
- **Day 2**: Brainstorm
- **Day 3**: Choose

- **Day 1**: Draw
- **Day 2**: Build
- **Day 3**: Share
To understand how to build something that would make Medford more fair and interesting for children, it helps to talk through your ideas.

Use the 5Ws to help guide you:

- **Who** might it help?
- **What** could it be used for?
- **When** could it be used?
- **Where** do we need it?
- **Why** does it make the city fairer and more interesting for children?

**Ideas from Past Students**

- Free homes for all
- Indoor playground for all
- Machines to clean garbage in the city/harbor
- No-money restaurant
- Mobile toy van

**Brainstorm**

Write down as many ideas as you can think of.
Talk together as a family and vote on the idea you think would make Medford more fair and interesting. Which one did you choose? Write down your project idea.

Draw your idea and give it a title. This drawing is your building plan.
Work together to build your model and use your drawing to help guide you. Think about what materials in your house you can use to construct your idea. See slide 6 for material ideas.
WHAT IS A MODEL?

A model is a three dimensional (3-D) representation of an idea. Models can be quick + rough; architects call these “sketch models.”

MODEL-MAKING SUGGESTIONS

When building a model, encourage your student to be as creative as possible with what they choose to build with. Any material can represent anything else: a toilet paper tube can be a tree trunk, a playground tube, or even a person. Anything can be used to make a simple model. Let your child experiment ways to accomplish what they want to build. Keep trying + testing.

MATERIAL IDEAS FROM AROUND YOUR HOME

+ **RECYCLED BOXES**
  - cereal boxes
  - pasta + crackers boxes
  - clean juice cartons
  - shoe boxes
  - shipping boxes
  - jewelry boxes

+ **RECYCLED ITEMS**
  - corks
  - toilet paper tubes
  - paper towel tubes
  - paper cups
  - yogurt cups
  - brown paper bags
  - takeout trays
  - packaging materials

+ **NATURE FINDS**
  - sticks + leaves
  - pebbles/rocks
  - acorns

+ **TAPE/GLUE**
  - clear packing tape
  - white glue
  - glue sticks