



From the Playroom

Going Slow Is Fast

As we move into a new year of learning and partnership, I was reminded recently about a tenant in Primary Project: *going slow is fast*. In child-centered play, taking the time to follow a child's lead, honor their pace, and create space for their stories is what ultimately allows meaningful growth to unfold. When we slow down to listen and respond intentionally and thoughtfully we help children build trust, confidence, and skills that last far beyond the playroom. This newsletter celebrates the work you do each day and highlights successes within our Primary Project community.

Thank you for embracing the power of going slow to help children move forward.

What's Great In Our State: Highlighting a NYS Program

For the past 13 years, Woodland Elementary School in the East Syracuse Minoa School District has successfully implemented Primary Project in partnership with Contact Community Services. Woodland's school data demonstrates the program's positive impact on student confidence, attendance, and social connections.

[Read about Woodland Elementary here!](#)



New Research Confirms Primary Project's Impact



Children in the referral range (15th-30th percentile) made the most significant progress in task orientation and assertiveness.

Research conducted by Children's Institute between 2021 and 2024 through the *Primary Project Effectiveness Study* demonstrates that Primary Project continues to serve as an effective Tier 2 intervention supporting young children's adjustment to school.

[Learn More Here!](#)

Decades of Dedication: Celebrating Years of Service to Primary Project

At Children's Institute, we believe that every child deserves the chance to thrive. For decades, *Primary Project* has been making that possible by helping young children build confidence, trust, and resilience through the power of play. For me, this program has been more than a job; it's been a lifelong journey of learning and joy.

[Read about Arlene's Primary Project journey](#)



Bringing the Lessons Home: Going Slow is Fast

In child-centered play, the phrase "going slow is fast" means that by taking the time to follow the child's lead without rushing, you speed up their development of trust, emotional regulation, and long-term cooperation. While "fast" parenting (rushing, demanding, or doing things for them) might get you out the door quicker, it often slows down a child's internal growth.



Bringing the Lessons
Home- English

Bringing the Lessons
Home- Spanish

Primary Project Proud



Share your story!

Do you have a team member that goes above and beyond? Does your team do something that you think is worth sharing far and wide? Do you have something that you want to share with other Primary Project programs?

Primary Project Proud is a way that programs across the country can celebrate successes and highlight their accomplishments. Interested programs can complete the brief form to submit. Consider complementing your nomination with a photo!

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Children's Institute | Affiliated with the University of Rochester | 205 St. Paul Street | Rochester, NY 14604 US

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