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### Title

Oakland Explorers: A Cultural Network of Places and People for Kids

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**OAKLAND EXPLORERS:**

**A CULTURAL NETWORK OF PLACES AND PEOPLE FOR KIDS**

# **DISCOVERY CENTERS**

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## I. SUMMARY

The Oakland Explorers Project was initiated in 1987 to help make Oakland more responsive to the needs of its youth. The project has worked toward the creation of a cultural network of people and places to help kids learn about and use the city. Project goals were to:

1. Create a living museum of Oakland--its places and people--which would involve children and teenagers in making and running the program.
2. Create a network of city learning centers.
3. Create an access system for kids to learn about and use the city.
4. Develop a network of institutions, businesses, industries, and individuals who would make the city more responsive to kids' needs.

The project was based at the Junior Center of Art and Science, located in Mosswood park. Many other institutions participated in the planning process including the Oakland Museum, Oakland Zoo, East Oakland Youth Development Center, AC Transit, the Oakland City Manager's Office, and others.

The project developed an overall plan for promoting access to and awareness of existing youth resources in the city. In addition, schematic designs and programs were developed for several new Oakland Explorers Discovery Centers: Water and Ice Palace (water and the city), Grandma's House (history and culture), Machine Age (machines and industry), and Silicon City (high technology). These are discussed in this report.

A major product of the program has been the **Oakland Explorers Kids Guide**, a guide designed especially for Oakland youth in grades 5 through 8, the age when children and adolescents are beginning to use the city on their own. To make such a guide we needed to know what kinds of places and activities kids now value in the city, as well as something of their their urban travel experience. Thus, a survey and several workshops were conducted with kids.

The **Oakland Explorers Kids Survey** of 463 Oakland youth was conducted in schools throughout the city to obtain a better understanding of the kinds of things kids like to do and places they like to go in Oakland. It also provided information on their city travel experience and their ideas for how Oakland might be improved for kids. Survey results were analyzed to discover whether age, sex or neighborhood caused differences in their responses. The sample included youth in grades 5 through 9, ages 9 to 16, with a median age of 12; 57% of the respondents were female and 43% were male. [See Amelita L. Pascual, "Oakland's Kids: What They Think, What They Do and Where They Go" (Berkeley: University of California, Department of City and Regional Planning, Professional Report, 1989)]

It is clear from this survey that Oakland kids value the city highly and enjoy a wide variety of places and activities. Their 16 favorite places (in rank order) were: malls, movies or theatres, parks, lakes, zoos, Malibu Grand Prix, friends' houses, stores, museums, game arcades, the Oakland Coliseum, libraries, schools, ice skating rinks, amusement parks, and restaurants. The list of their favorite activities in Oakland is long with over 80 different activity types. The top 10 activities were: swimming, shopping, bike riding, basketball, softball or baseball, going to movies or theatres, going to parks, roller skating, going to the

zoo, and going to sports events. Some of these findings were quite surprising to us and were important in developing the **Oakland Explorers Kids' Guide**. For example, we had not expected that shopping centers would be so important to kids. In fact, 25% of those surveyed listed malls as their favorite places in Oakland, making it by far the most preferred place type--cinemas and theatres followed with only 14% of the kids listing them. We also learned about their enthusiasm for places like Malibu Grand Prix (a kids' racetrack/bumpercar amusement center) and Gametown USA (a game arcade). Large natural areas such as the regional parks and Lake Merritt were frequently mentioned as favorite places, while neighborhood parks and playgrounds were seldom mentioned, except for basketball courts and baseball fields that were highly valued by some boys.

Despite the threats posed by drugs and crime, Oakland youth are eager to explore and discover new places and things to do. They are extremely aware of the drug problem and over half of the survey sample listed it as the worst thing about Oakland; they revealed the extent of their awareness in their use of words like "speed freaks" and "crack creatures."

They are experienced in the use of public transit: 70% of those surveyed said they used the bus and 49% used the subway. About half used bicycles and some (17%) claimed to use skateboards as a means of transportation. Twenty percent used BART alone but 37% took buses alone; nearly half preferred to take public transit in the company of friends and family.

A second set of project activities was a series of 6 one-week workshops. These were conceived to help children learn about and enjoy their city, as well as

for us to learn about their needs and interests in the city and ways that Oakland might be made more responsive to children and adolescents. Workshops were designed to be fun and educational with an emphasis on doing things. Each workshop consisted of projects, demonstrations, visits with resource people, and field trips. A workshop manual was developed with detailed day-to-day activities for use by teachers and play leaders in schools and arts, recreation, and education organizations.

Each workshop focused on a different theme of city exploration:

1. **Signs of the Times--A Treasure Hunt in History:** an exploration of Oakland's history and people.
2. **Let's Go Behind the Scenes:** activities focussed on transportation, manufacturing, and municipal services.
3. **Building A City--A Kids' Place:** projects on making city places for kids.
4. **Dreams Come True:** activities in the arts and media.
5. **Urban Wilderness:** explorations of water, animals, geology, and plants in the city.
6. **Building A City II:** activities on planning and design of cities.

Finally, other city resources for kids were uncovered through extensive field surveys and community meetings with representatives from many city institutions.

Drawing on these information sources--the survey, the workshops, and the field surveys and community meetings--a composite map was made of Oakland kids' places that might be included in the Oakland Explorers Kids Network.

Places were selected that were frequently mentioned by kids as being important to them, that were open to the public and that supported or at least tolerated the presence of kids. In addition, several landmarks useful in orientation were included. Examples of sites include:

- Stores, malls, and markets such as Eastmont Mall, M/B Mall, Chinatown, City Center, and the downtown food markets.

- Parks and outdoor recreation areas such as Brookfield Park, DeFremery Park, Dimond Park and Recreation Center, East Bay Regional Parks, FDR Pier, Lakeside Park and Lake Merritt, Lake Temescal, and the Montclair Recreation Center.

- Museums and cultural centers such as the Alice Arts Center, East Oakland Youth Development Center, Ebony Museum of Art, Fruitvale Playhouse, Jewish Community Center, Jubilee West, and the Oakland Museum.

- Historic sites and landmarks such as the Camron-Stanford House, City Hall, Dunsmuir House, Jack London's Cabin, Old Oakland, Paramount Theatre, and the Tribune Tower.

- Educational organizations and libraries such as the Asian Library, Cambodian New Generation, Chabot Science Center, East Bay Vietnamese Association, Interface Institute, Kaiser Permanente Health Education Center, Latin American Library, Northern California Center for Afro-American History, and the Oakland Zoo.

Public transit lines (bus and subway) were then overlayed on this base to study access possibilities for each site. Priority was placed on those places that could be easily reached by public transit. Places that were found to be relatively inaccessible by public transit, such as the East Bay Vivarium and some of the regional parks, were not included in the guide. Bus lines were then selected that

provide the most efficient access to the greatest number of kids' places. These bus lines became the framework for the network.

The next problem was to find the most effective way to represent the places and routes in a guide so that they would be understandable and appealing to kids. The existing AC Transit system map was far too complex and had few kids' places identified on it; even adults have trouble using it. A guide was needed that not only focused on kids' places, but that responded to their preference for pictures and graphics rather than words and to their unfamiliarity with sophisticated mapping techniques. The "strip map" approach was chosen for representing the key bus lines that provide access to kids' places. [see Michael Southworth, "City Learning: Children, Maps, and Transit" (Berkeley: University of California, Center for Environmental Design Research Working Paper, 1989) and *Children's Environments Quarterly*, Spring 1990] This system allows each bus line to be presented separately without having to deal with the complexity of the whole network; each site can be located clearly and in the proper sequence on the line. The strip maps were enhanced by pictographs that express the essential character of each place. Thus, the map is usable by kids as well as by adults with limited knowledge of English. A directory of sites lists each place on the map, what kids can do there, and address and scheduling information.

The Guide has been printed by AC Transit in a first edition of 40,000 and is available at AC Transit information centers, the Oakland Convention and Visitors Bureau, and at several institutions and programs that serve youth. Copies were given to Oakland school children in grades 5 through 9. Large guide panels were also produced for display inside buses. The guide has been

well-received with requests to expand the guide to other routes and other communities such as Richmond and Berkeley; unfortunately, lack of funds has prevented this so far. Such guides are one step toward making the urban environment a more open, accessible, and rewarding place for children to grow up in.

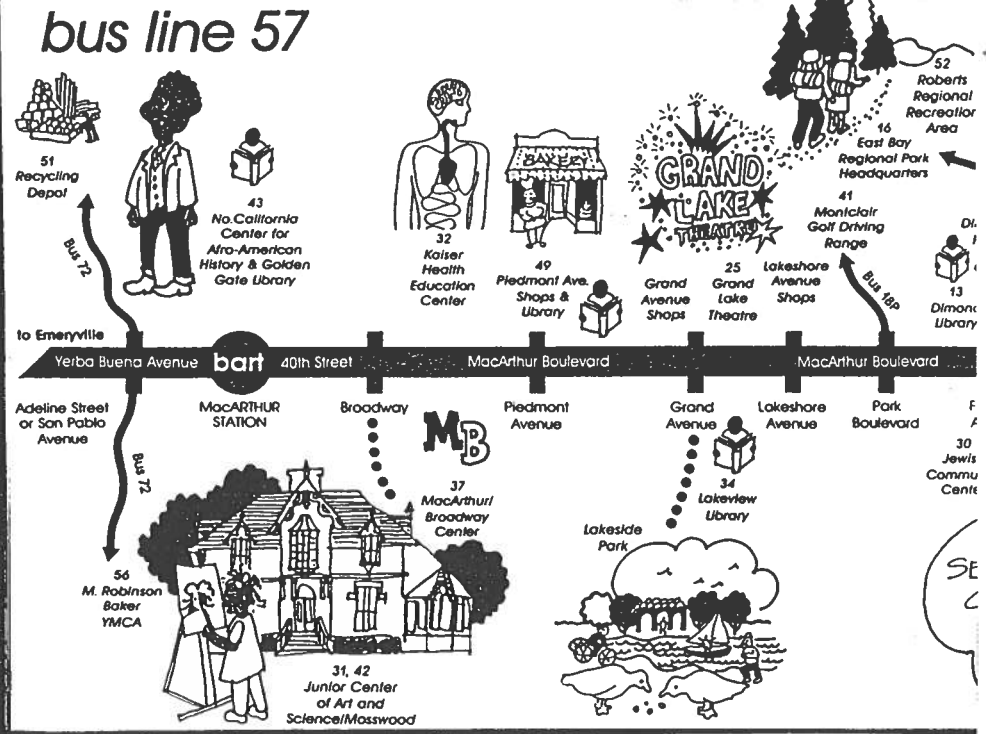
**Acknowledgements:** Project research, design, and graphics were done by Michael and Susan Southworth. Nancy Walton directed the program for the Junior Center of Art and Science. Project assistance was provided by graduate students in the College of Environmental Design: Todd Bressi, Mira Efrati, Carolyn Francis, Connie Goldade, Nestor Gonzales, Amelita Pascual, Richard Sinkoff, Alex Sun, and Su Sin Tang. The project was supported in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, as well as the Oakland Redevelopment Agency, The Clorox Foundation, the Skaggs Foundation, and the University-Oakland Metropolitan Forum.

# The Oakland Explorers Kids' Guide

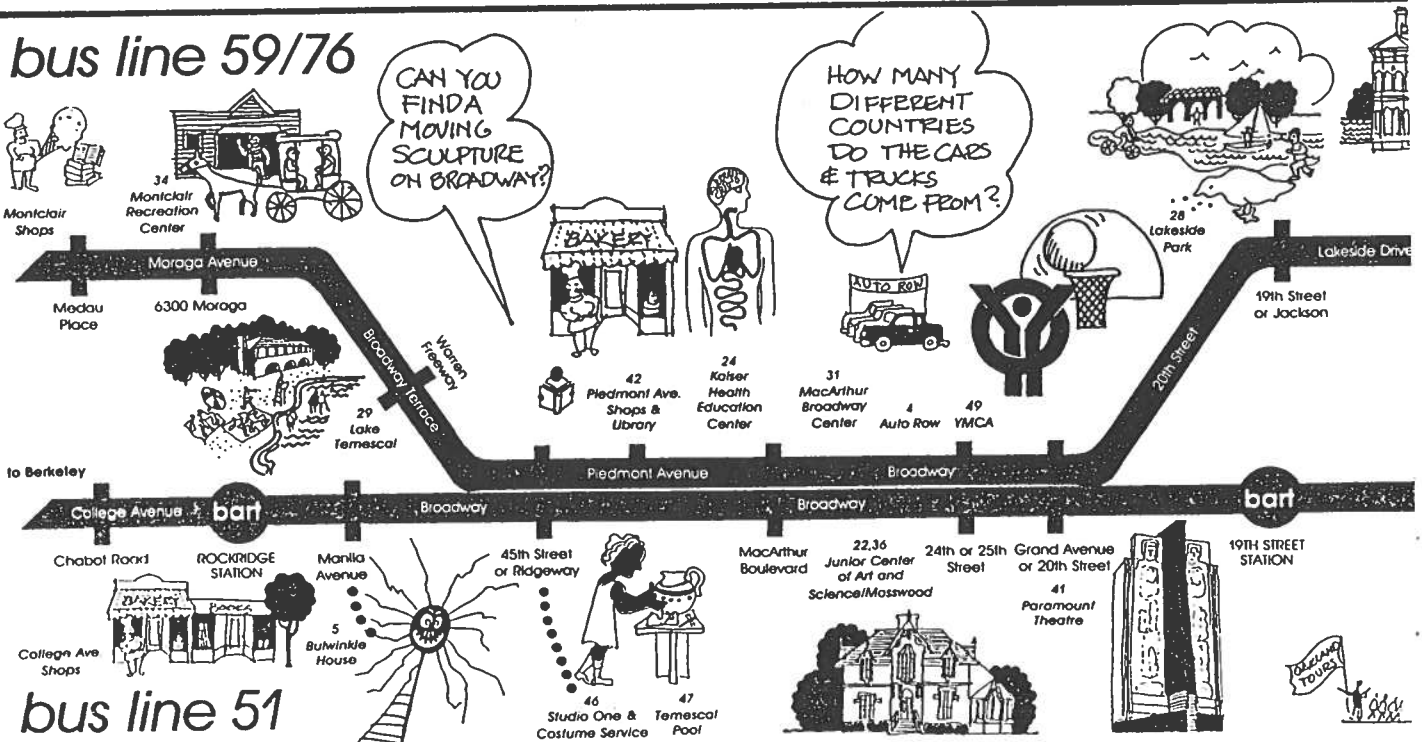
ac transit

**oakland explorers kids' guide**

© junior center of art and science 1989



## bus line 59/76



## bus line 51

## II. OVERALL PLAN

The basic concept behind the **Oakland Explorers Cultural Network** has been to use the resources of the entire city as the content for the program. Resources include educational and cultural institutions, historic sites, parks and recreation centers, as well as selected commercial and industrial sites. This approach has several values:

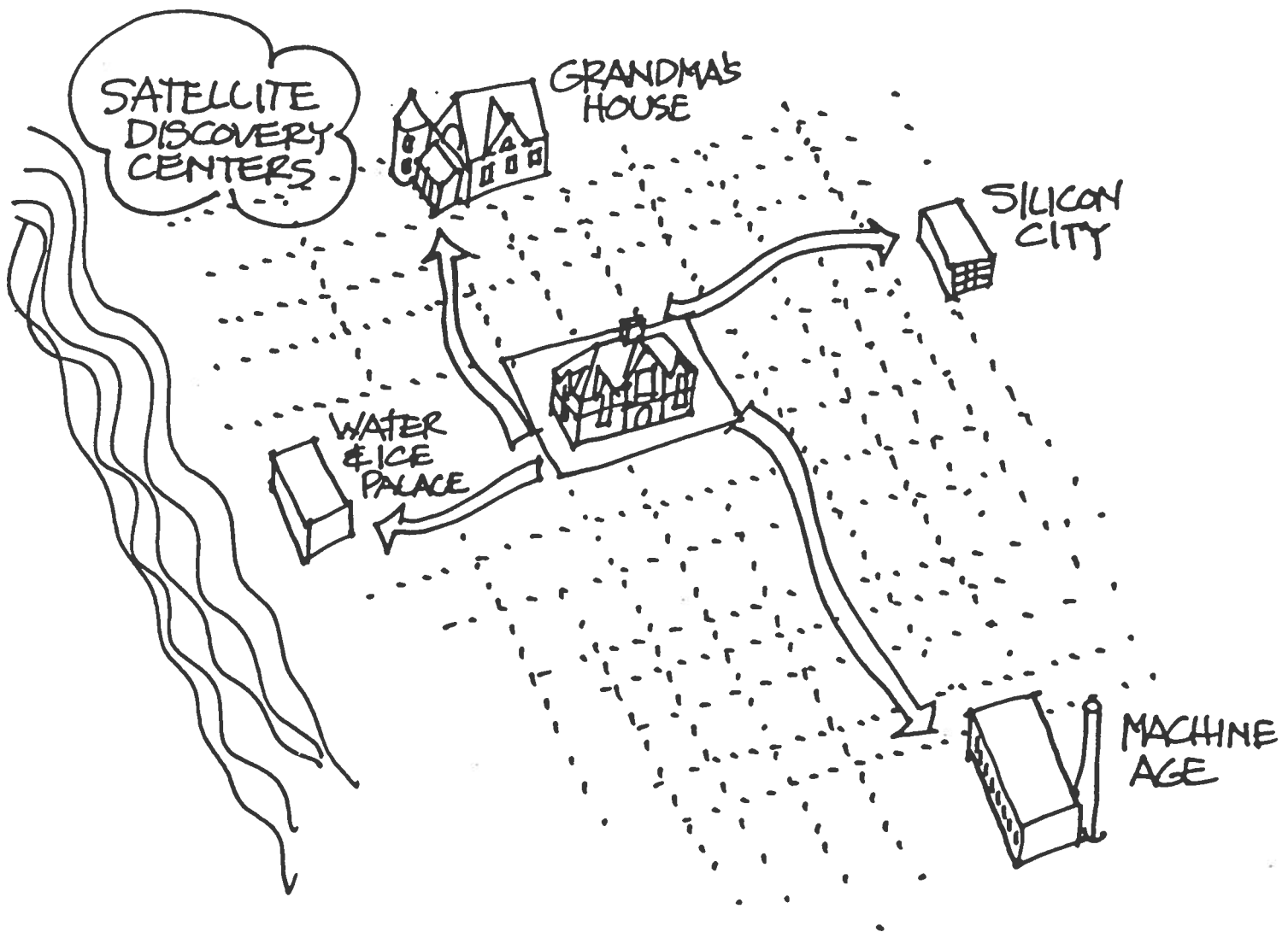
1. It avoids the large capital investment required to build a major centralized children's museum.
2. Since it is a network that includes the entire city, every district in the city has good access to some parts of it.
3. By using many existing resources it is better connected to the cultural roots of the city.
4. It offers the opportunity to coordinate and significantly improve existing resources.

The proposed plan has 4 components:

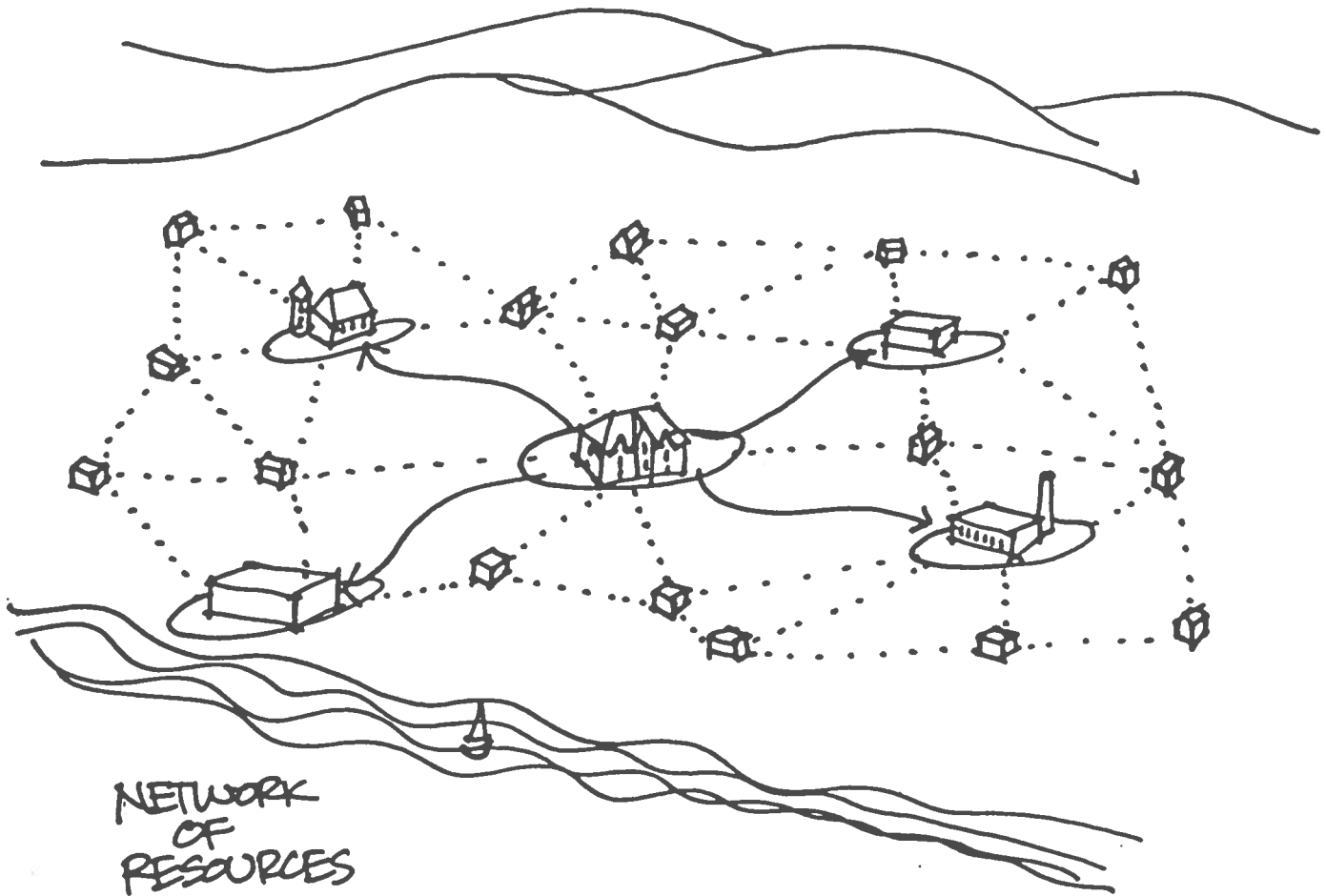
1. **A small existing center for administration, exhibits, and workshops in the early phases.** This should be a place where both participating adults and kids will identify with the project and feel comfortable to stop in with ideas or comments. The Junior Center of Art and Science has been serving this function to date.



2. Four new satellite Discovery Centers developed around specific themes and located in different parts of the city. Suggested themes are: i. Water, ii. History and Culture, iii. Machines and Industry, and iv. High Technology. The Centers are expected to develop over time and in response to community interests. They may be done in partnership with other organizations or with corporate sponsors.

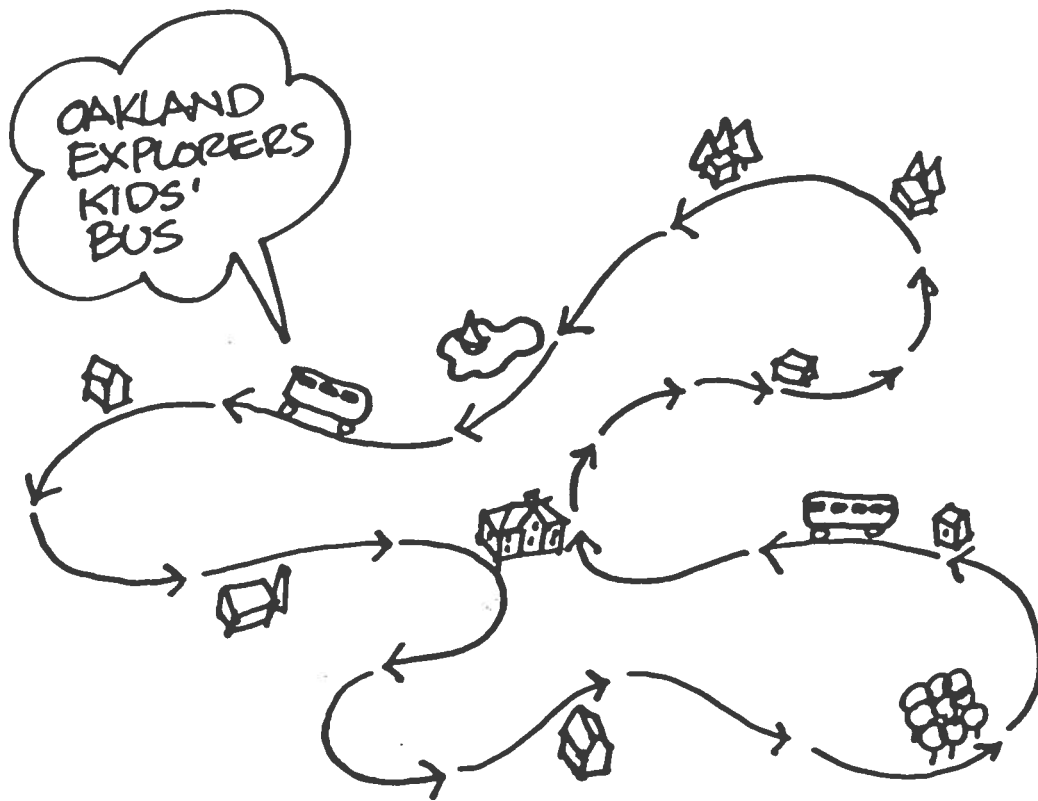


3. A network of existing resources throughout the city. Cooperating resources would be designated Oakland Explorers Partners and would work together to support the goals of the program. [See Appendix B]



4. Access systems to connect youth with resources in the network. This includes both disseminating information to children and their parents about Oakland's resources as well as providing transportation. A computer network would link kids in all parts of Oakland so they can tell each other about resources in their neighborhoods and special events as well as planning activities together. The Oakland Explorers Kids' Guide is the first step toward providing information and access and focuses on several existing AC Transit bus lines. In

the future the access system should be expanded to include a special Oakland Explorers Kids' Bus [See Part III] as well as an East Bay Kids' Guide that includes BART [See Part IV].



### III. OAKLAND EXPLORERS DISCOVERY CENTERS

Children are a major Oakland resource that deserves the best educational, cultural, and environmental resources the city can provide. The Oakland Explorers Project was designed to bring significant community focus to the needs and potentials of our children. Research has demonstrated that positive self-image and future goals significantly reduce childhood problems such as substance abuse and early pregnancy. Every Oakland child will find opportunities to develop her/his individual interests and talents in the Oakland Explorers Discovery Centers which cover the range of interests and potentials identified in the Oakland Explorers Kids' Survey. With hands-on "touch me, try me" exhibits, the Centers would communicate instantly to youth of every academic and cultural background. Emphasis would be on non-verbal communications that focus on objects, actions, and pictorial or graphic presentation to make everything available to non-English speaking and illiterate children and adults.

Although the Oakland Explorers Project has uncovered many educational, cultural, and recreational resources for youth, Oakland lacks dynamic educative sites for children and their parents. For example, there is no children's museum or aquarium in Oakland or the entire East Bay. Through action-oriented exhibits, the Oakland Explorers Centers would be places where children, families, and adults could experience natural phenomena, local ethnic culture and new science and technology. Locations for the Centers would be dispersed to include all major districts of Oakland. Individual Centers would relate directly to the area of Oakland in which they are located, making connections in the exhibits to actual city resources and potential. Four centers are proposed:

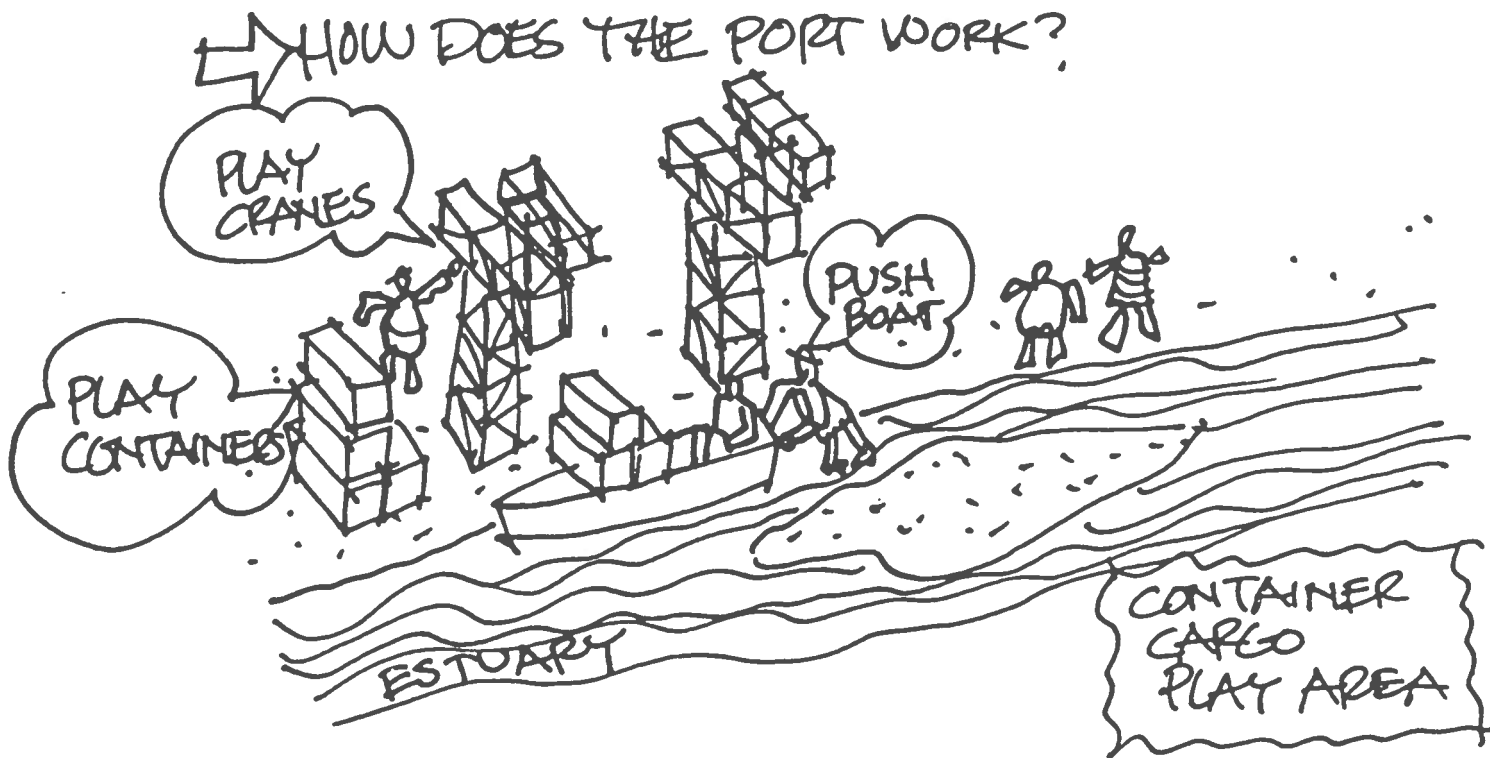
1. **Water and Ice Palace**
2. **Grandma's House: Exploring Oakland's Cultural History**
3. **Machine Age**
4. **Silicon City**

The Oakland Explorers Centers would attract people from the entire region and would add life to districts in which they are located. The decentralized plan would bring one of the new major children's resources close to children from all parts of Oakland. The centers would be located so that they are visible and accessible from major public transit routes. The centers would not only be important educational resources for the Oakland schools but would be attractions for visitors.

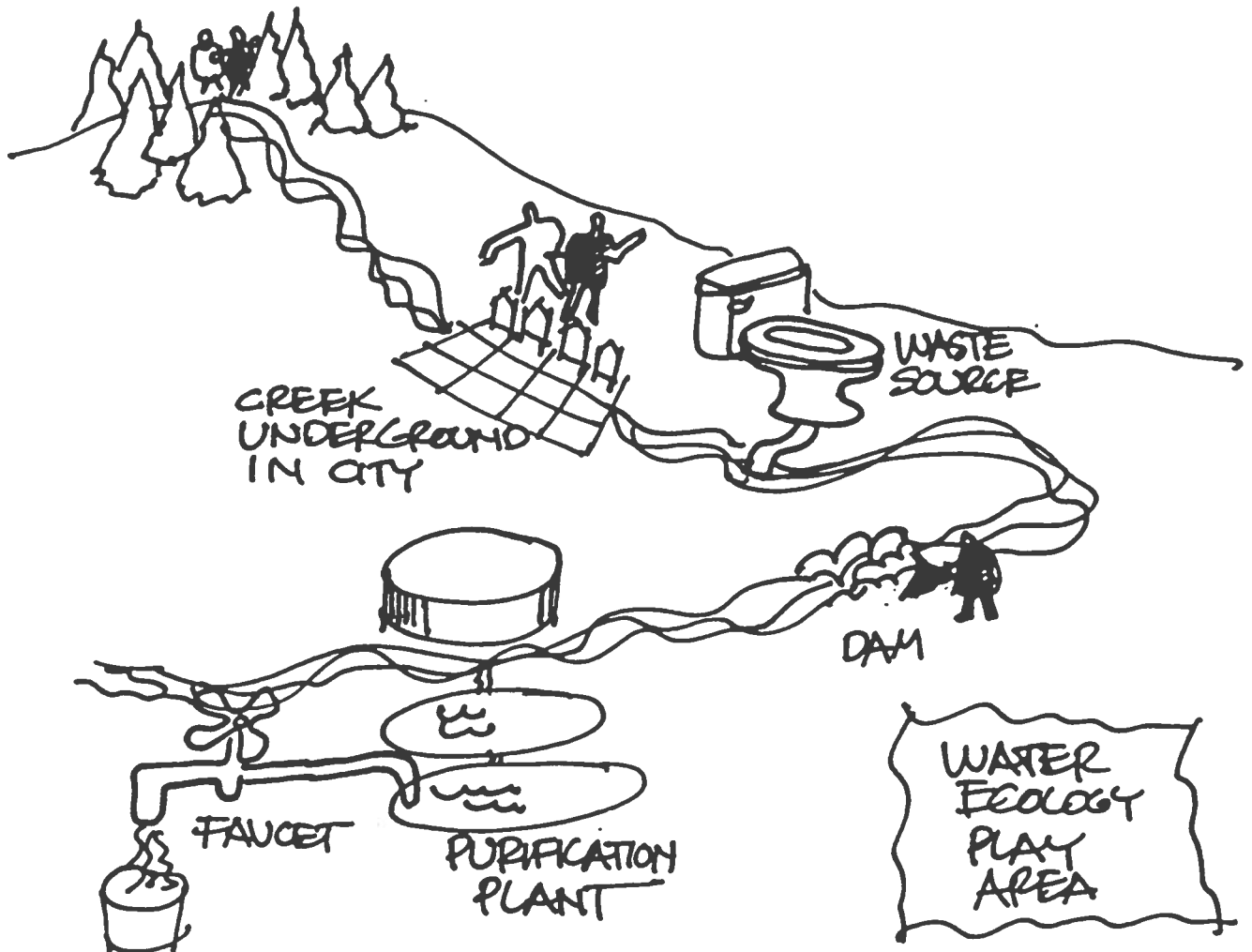
## WATER AND ICE PALACE

The Water Discovery Center would be a place where children, families, and adults could experience and learn about water--water in the Port, the Bay, the City, the Region--in vivid hands-on exhibits. It would be both fun and educational. Action-oriented exhibits might include:

- Water and industry: how the Port of Oakland works including working models of the cranes that unload ships.

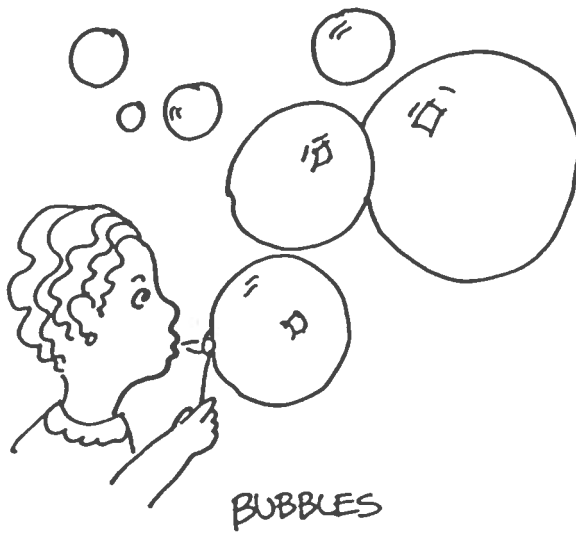


- The regional water eco-system from the hills to the Bay.
- The effects of urbanization on the creeks and aquifers.

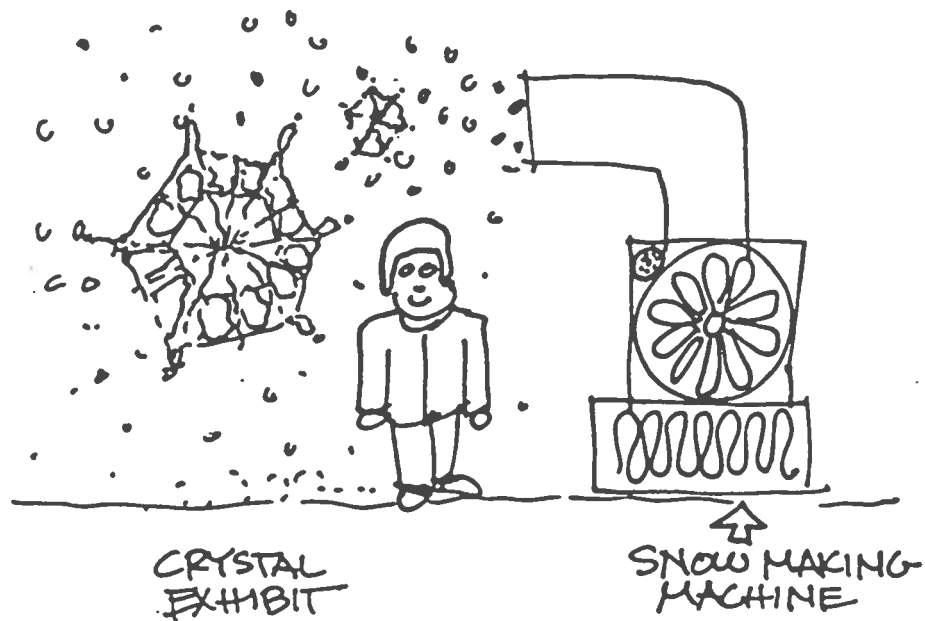


- Water to drink: Where does it come from? How is it processed? A "Water Bar" might allow kids to taste water from different communities and to evaluate them: water from San Francisco, the Delta, Oakland, Berkeley, etc. Water experiments could change sea water to drinking water.
- Water as an art form: fountains, sculpture, painting, light, music.

- A bubble exhibit: What holds a bubble together? How can you make the biggest and best bubbles.

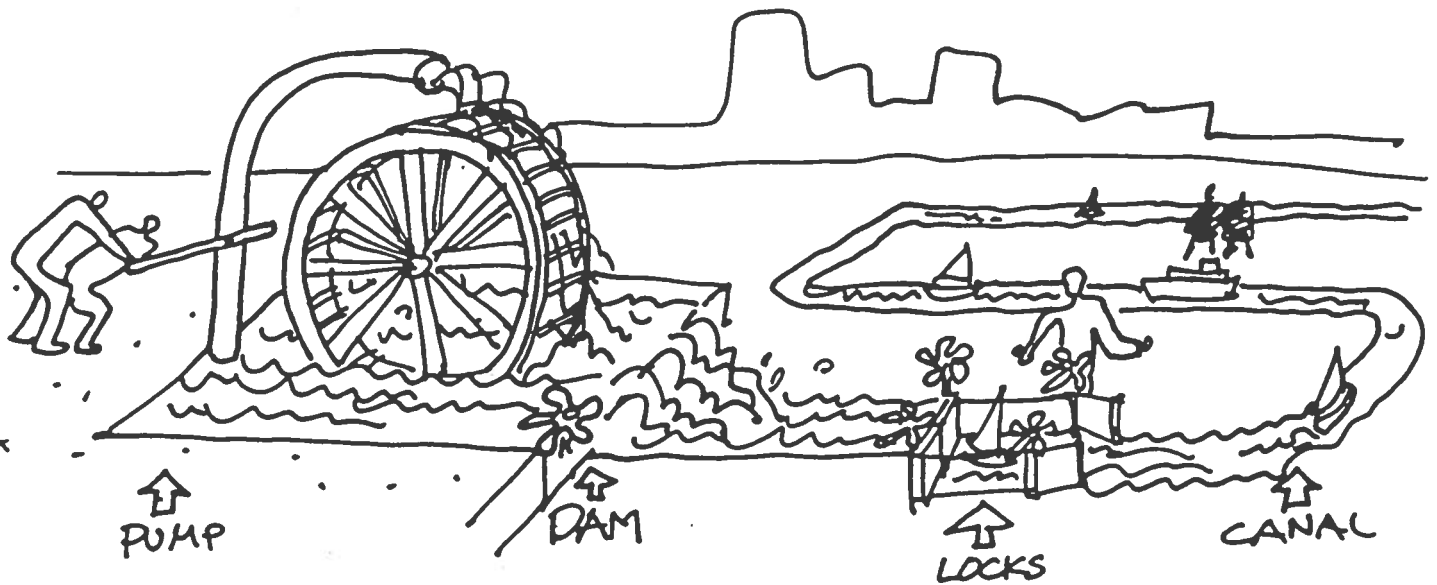


- An ice and snow exhibit might include a snow machine as well as an ice maker. What is the structure of a snow flake? Why are icicles shaped the way they are? Ice sculpting might be another part of the ice and snow exhibit.



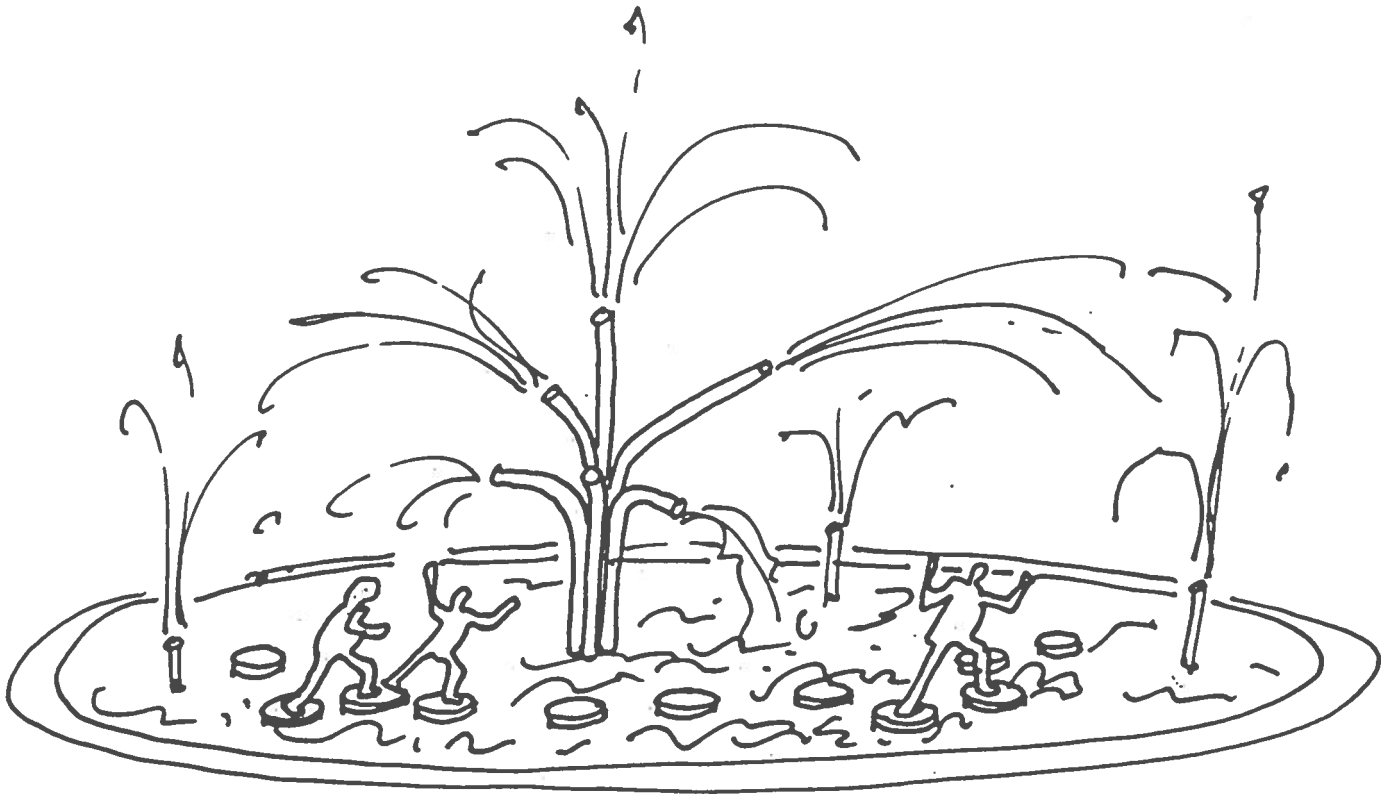
- Why does water boil? Steam might be explored in a steam fountain.
- Historic uses of the Oakland waterfront.

- The future of the waterfront.
- Water engineering: hydraulics, dams, canals, pumps.



- Life in Oakland creeks and the Bay.
- Water conservation.

- Water play and recreation. A water play park of interactive water sculptures could allow children (and adults) to play with and in water.



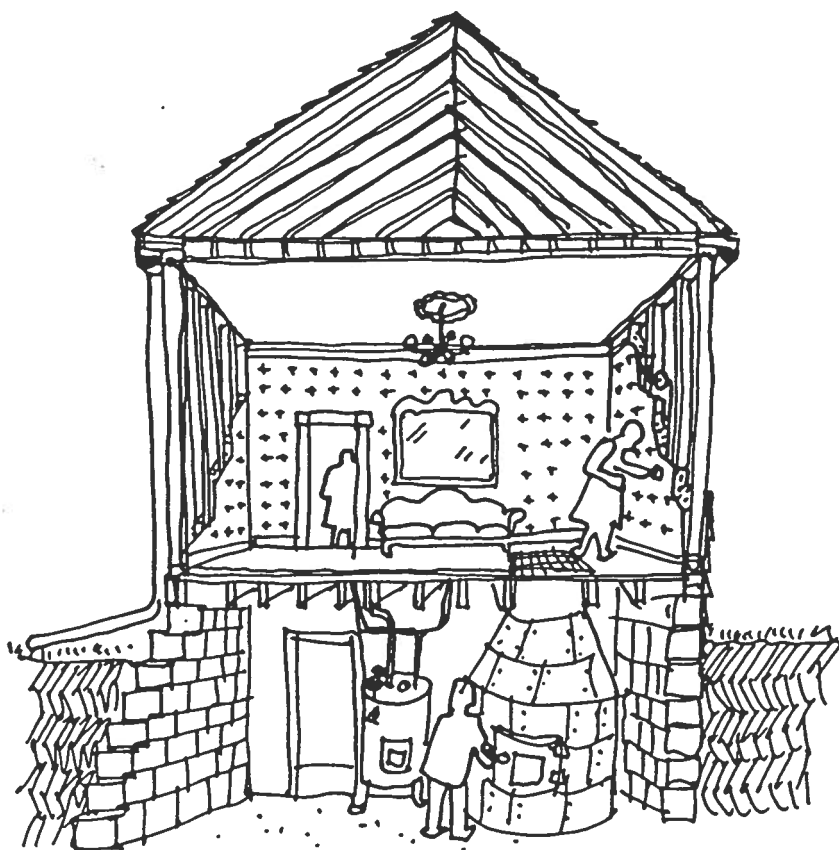
### WATERPLAY FOUNTAIN

The Oakland Waterfront is an ideal location for such a center, and the closer the connection between the center and the water, the more effective the center will be. A pier, box cars parked on a side track, shipping containers, boat, or barge might be part of the center and would enhance the waterfront theme.

The center should be located so that it is visible and accessible from major public routes. Visibility of the center from the Oakland Bay Bridge would significantly improve the waterfront image. The center would attract people from the entire region and would add life to the waterfront. Not only would the center be open to waterfront visitors, it would also serve as an educational resource for the East Bay.

## GRANDMA'S HOUSE: EXPLORING OAKLAND'S CULTURAL HISTORY

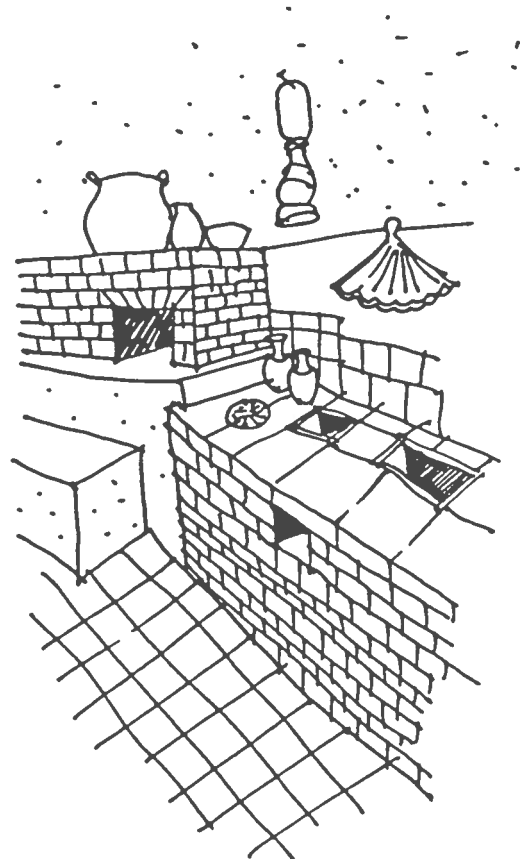
The rich ethnic diversity of Oakland is a major resource for Oakland youth. By presenting culture and history in a **Grandma's House** setting children are more likely to become engaged. All children are curious about where their grandparents lived and what it was like then. **Grandma's House** immerses children in the environments, objects and even the clothing of Oakland grandparents from every ethnic background, including those grandparents who lived in Oakland. Ideally, this center would be located in an intriguing old Oakland home such as a house in Preservation Park. The exhibit would seem as much as possible like a real house, except parts of it would be opened up to



HOW IS GRANDMA'S HOUSE MADE?  
HOW DOES IT WORK?

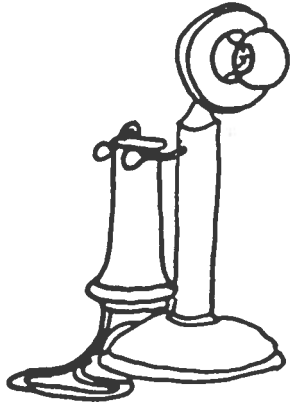
view, such as cut-away walls to show old wiring, newspaper insulation, or gas jets. The rooms would be furnished with artifacts of the culture and period and would be as accessible to touching and action as possible. Multi-Cultural Exhibits would include:

- Old furniture to sit on
- Old cars, carriages, wagons and carts to climb on
- Old photographs of children 60 years ago here and in other cultures
- Old clothes of varied cultures represented in Oakland to try on and take photos in
- Nineteenth century food that might have been eaten in Grandma's kitchen or dining room; food sources, costs, types of preparation

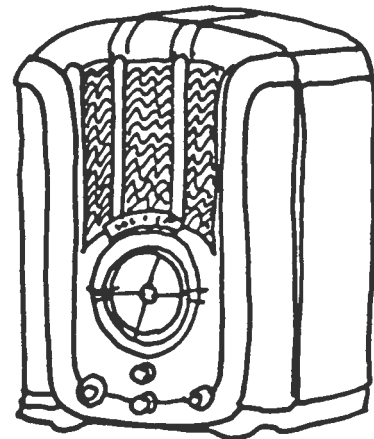
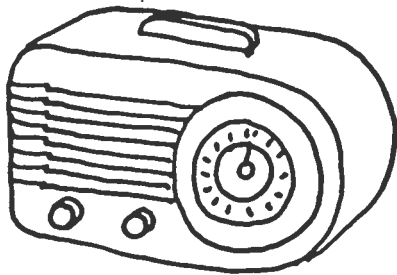


- Grandma's garden
- Technology of Grandma's house: hand crank washing

machines, furnace, wiring, plumbing, stove, ice box,  
kitchen utensils, working hand pump for water,  
telephones and old cooking equipment from around the  
world



- Radio shows, old radios and televisions

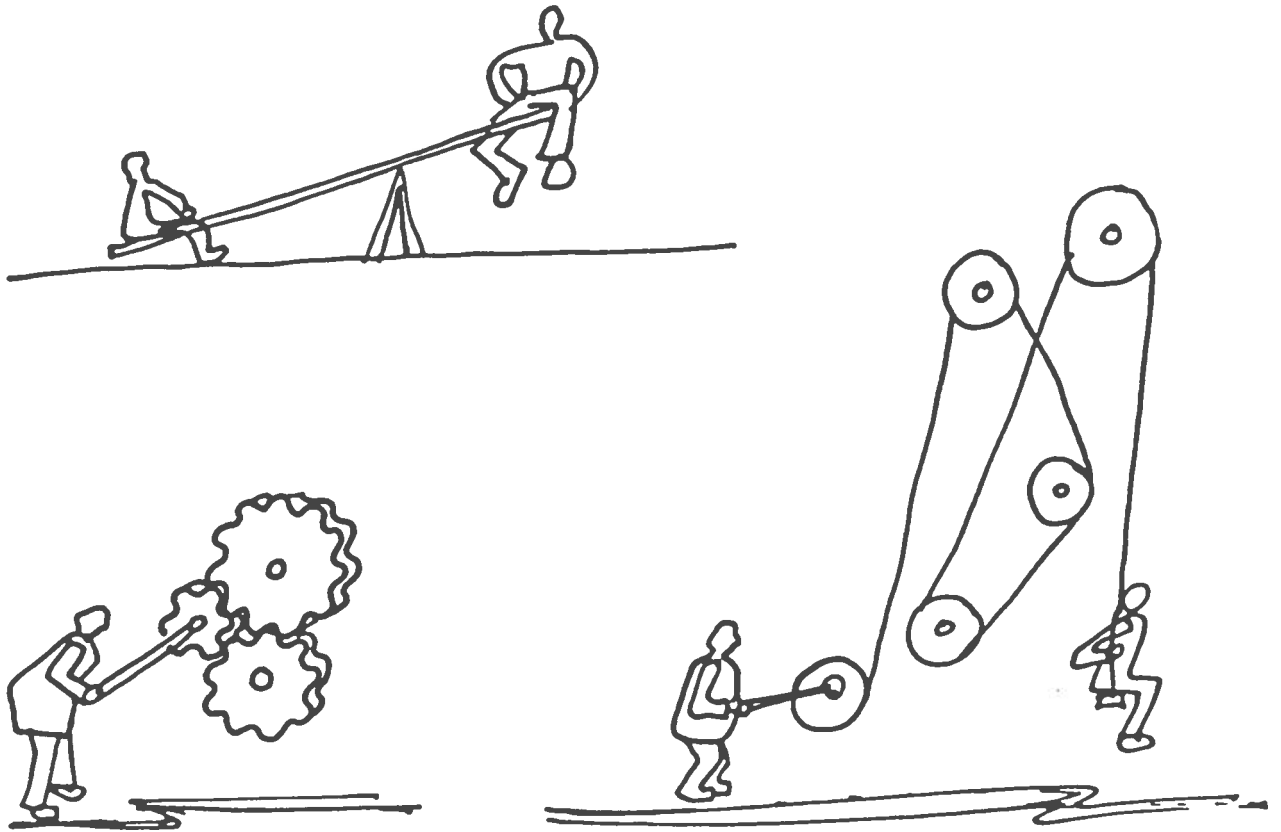


- Games Grandma played, stories, celebrations, weekly story tellers
- Decorations and crafts from different cultures. Demonstrations by crafts people
- Living history enactments by children trained by one of the local theater groups

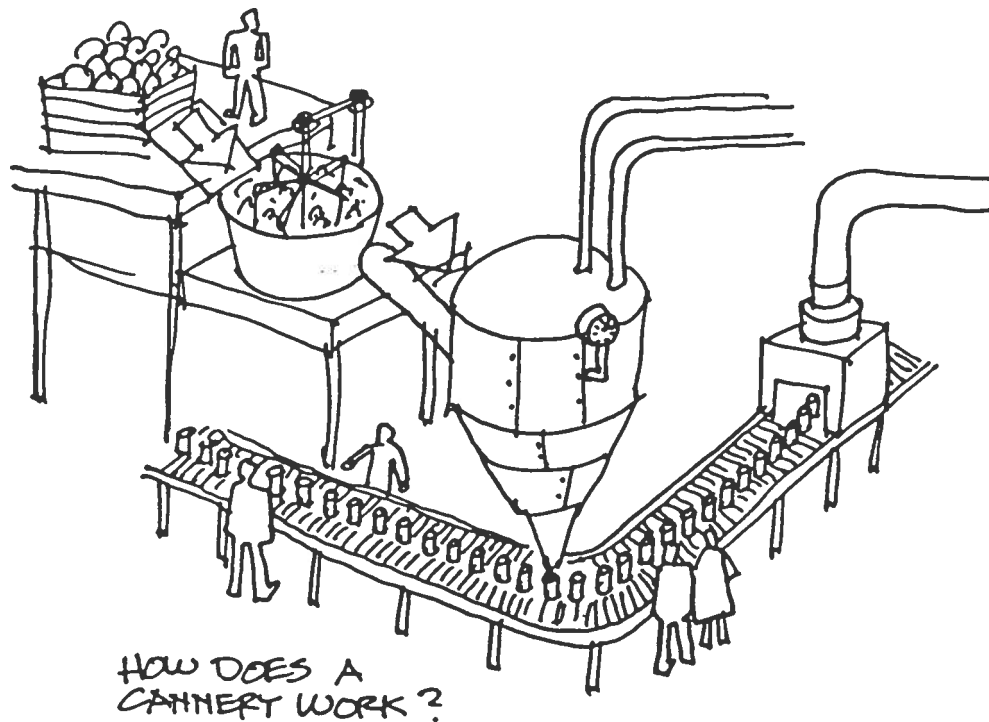
## MACHINE AGE

Everyone is fascinated with how things work and how things are made. Yet recent students have demonstrated no knowledge or interest in careers in manufacturing, an important factor in our declining international competitiveness. The Machine Age Discovery Center would focus on Oakland and East Bay industries with interactive exhibits on machinery and manufacturing. Kids would have hands-on activities with all kinds of old and new machines. A natural location for the Center would be in a factory building along the waterfront or on one of Oakland's major industrial streets. Exhibits might be contributed or sponsored by Bay Area industries. Possible components of exhibits are:

- Hands-on, crawl-on, climb-on exhibits with all kinds of old and new machines, levers, gears, and pulleys

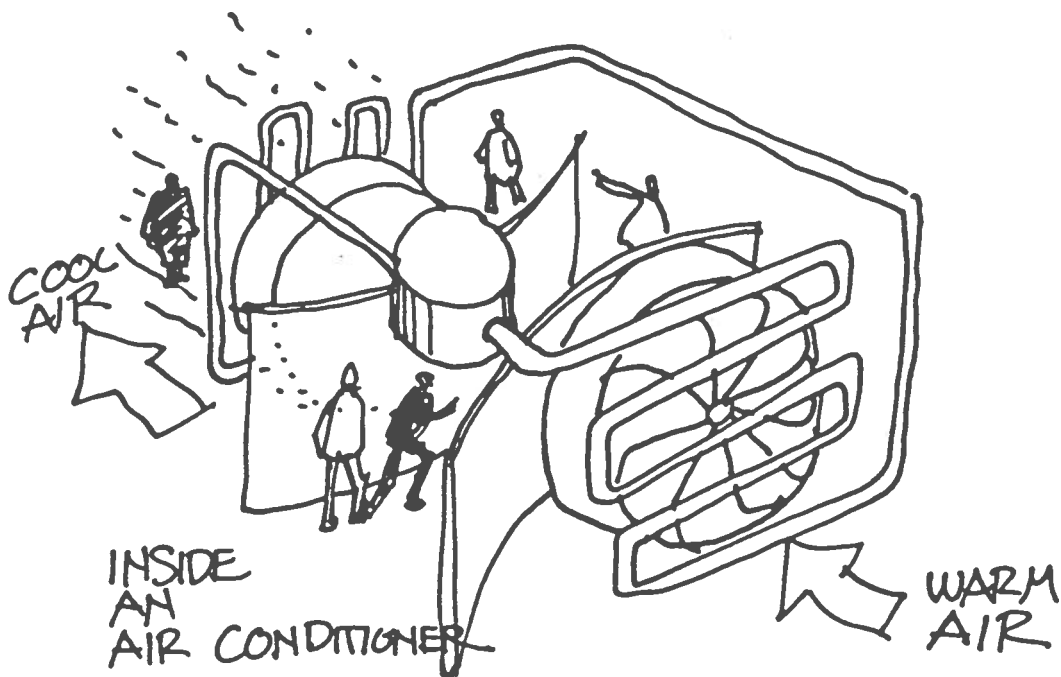


- Car repair and car detailing fascinate Oakland teenagers and Oakland has many shops focusing on the automobile. Exhibits would explain how cars and buses work.
- Cannery exhibits might focus on Oakland's history in food packing, showing equipment, how it worked, and what the products were. Other exhibits could include old California cotton processing machines.

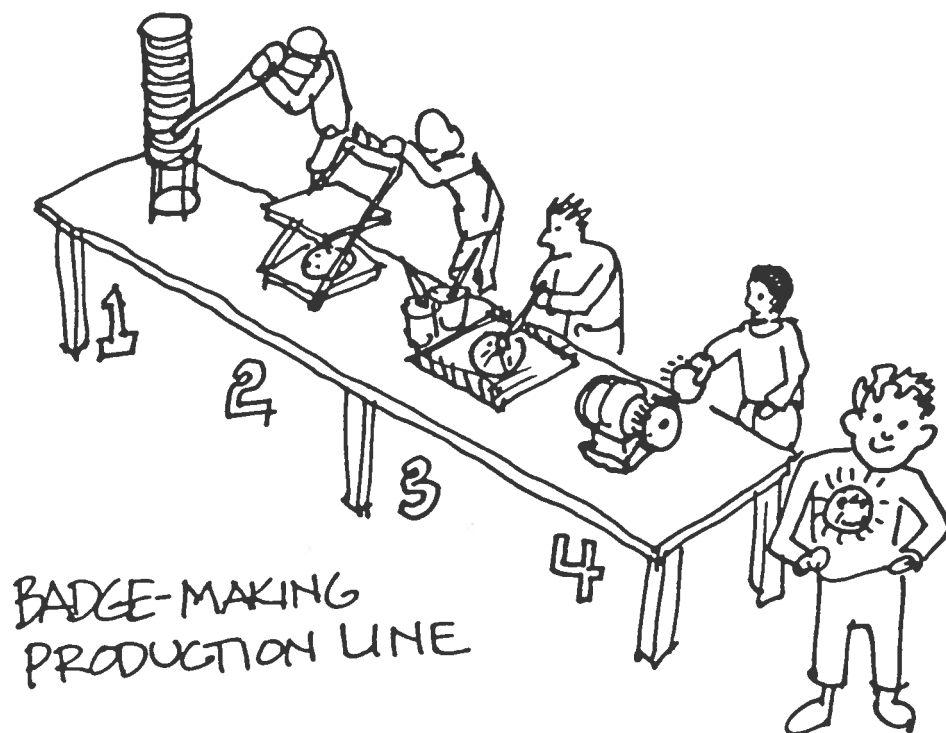


- Child labor history might be explored using Oakland as a case study.
- A petroleum company might sponsor an exhibit on how petroleum is refined and how gas powers cars and buses.

- A BART exhibit might demonstrate a working model of the system. Full size cut-away sections of the BART cars and AMTRAK trains could show how they are made and how they work.
- A working steam engine
- An automobile assembly line might be explained using models and videos.
- The workings of common household equipment could be demonstrated in giant climb-on, crawl-in models--toasters, can openers, refrigerators, washing machines.



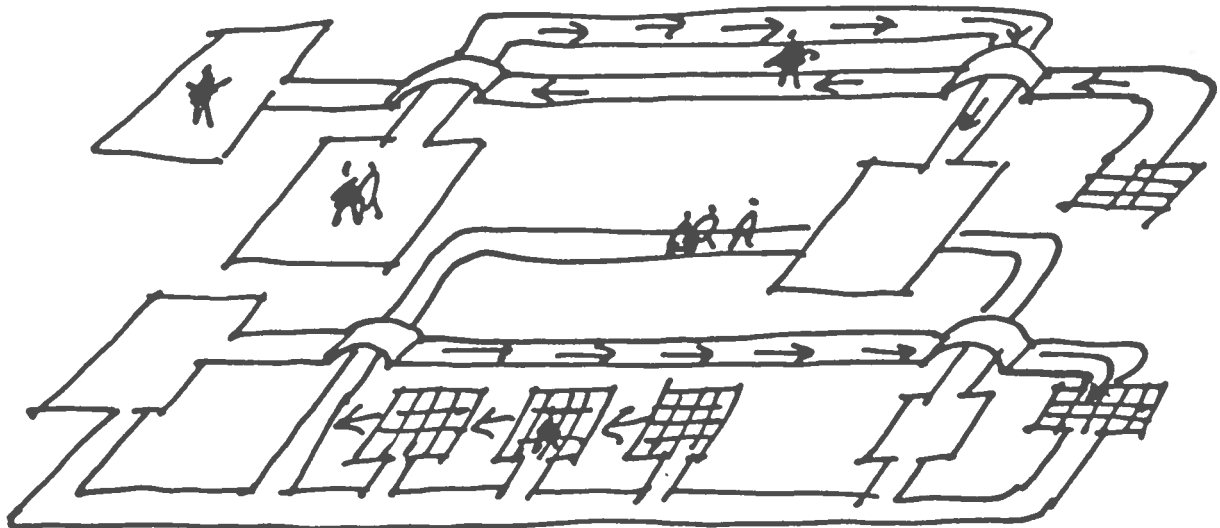
- Exhibits could include production line machinery from some of the plants along San Leandro Street. Children could make a product like a badge on an assembly line.



## SILICON CITY

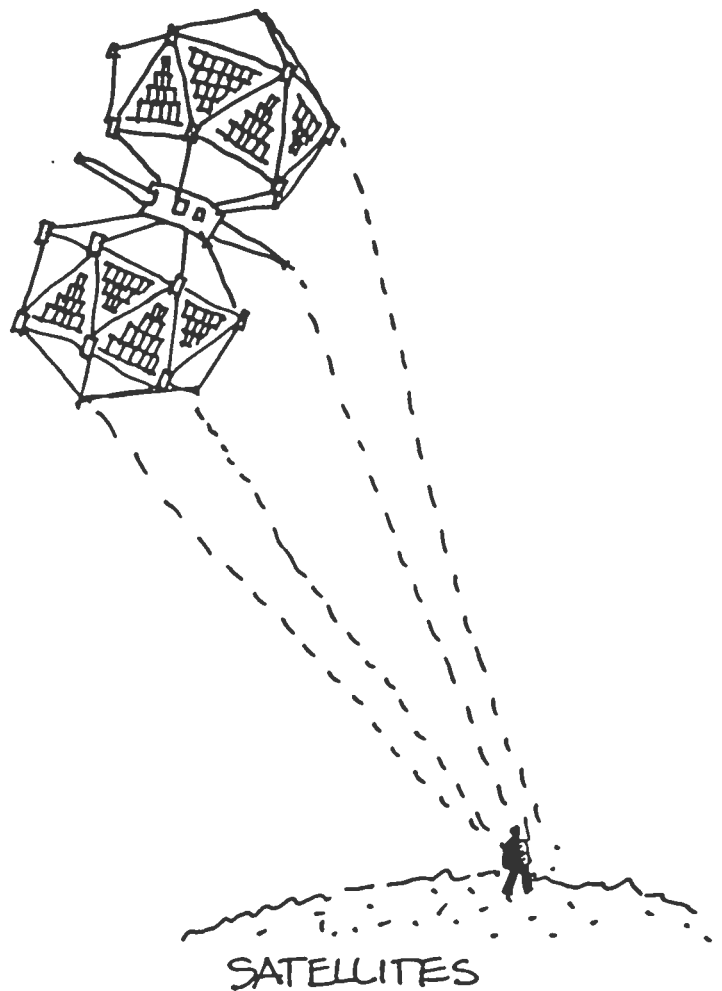
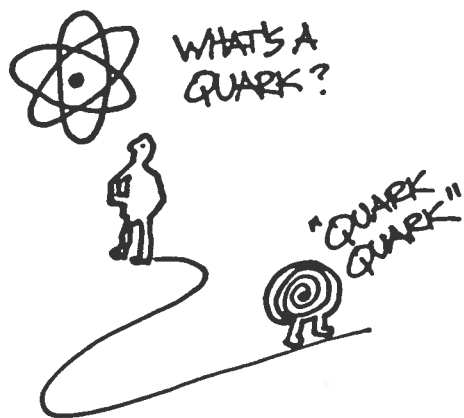
High technology, abstract mathematics, communications engineering, and high energy physics are underrepresented areas in Oakland children's education. This center brings sophisticated concepts to children by drawing on their fascination with video games and science fiction. Educational, developmental activities which are high tech, colorful, action-oriented and fun might include:

- How computers work

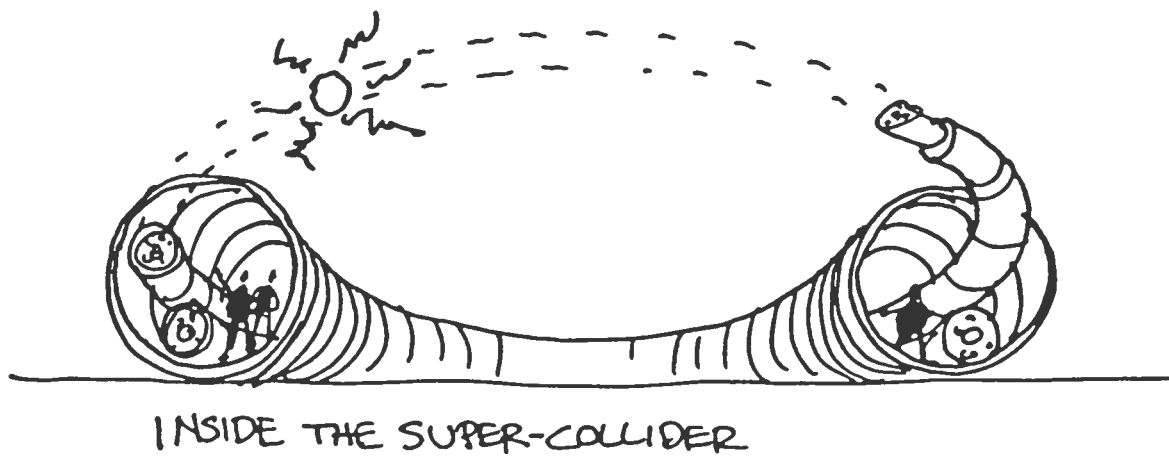


INSIDE A COMPUTER

- Holography
- Television
- Satellites



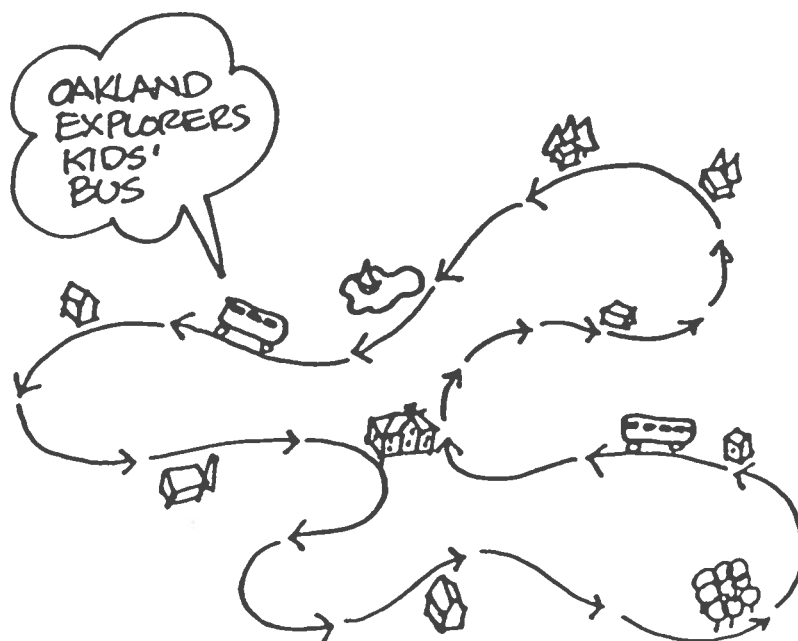
- High energy physics
- Super conductivity
- Interactive video simulation of a low level flight over Oakland
- Big bang, Super String, and other conceptions of the universe



## OAKLAND EXPLORERS KIDS' BUS

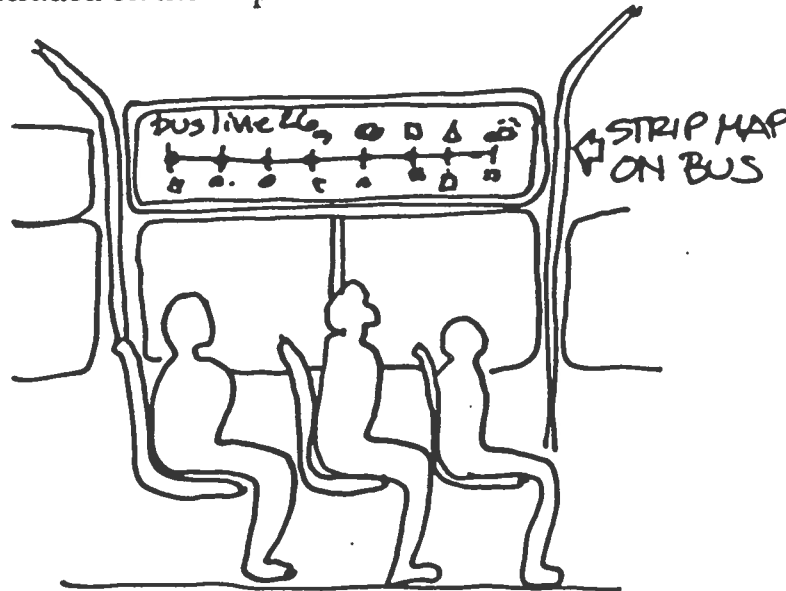
In addition to the Centers, an **Oakland Explorers Kids Bus** is proposed that would have its own visual identity, schedule, and route. This would link children in every neighborhood with places and events that interest them by means of information, communications, and transportation. The bus might operate on Saturdays only. Each Saturday the bus might focus on a different neighborhood and set of places. The Kids' Bus would also serve the **Outdoor Adventure and Nature Network** and the **Arts Network**.

The Outdoor Adventure and Nature Network would connect children with major regional green spaces such as Arrowhead Park, Rotary Science Center, Channel Park, and the East Bay Regional Parks, several of which are difficult to reach by existing public transit. Emphasis would be on hiking and camping skills, water environments, and ecology and nature study. Similarly, the Arts Network would connect children with the many arts and cultural resources in Oakland such as the Oakland Museum, De Fremery Park, East Oakland Youth Development Center, or E.G.Y.P.T., and the Junior Center of Art and Science. (See list Appendix B)



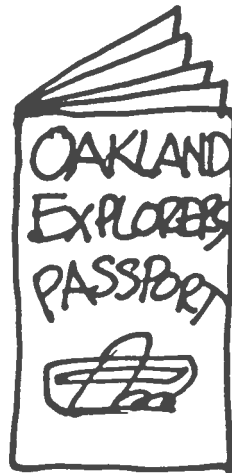
#### IV. OAKLAND EXPLORERS ACTION PLAN

1. Adapt the Oakland Explorers Kids' Guide strip maps for display in all buses on lines included on the map.



2. Develop an Oakland Explorers Kids' Guide Orientation Session to take into the schools to introduce kids to the Guide and how to use it.
3. Educate public workers, especially bus drivers and police, about the Oakland Explorers program and the special needs and interests of kids. Conduct workshops to develop awareness and inform drivers about kids destinations on their bus routes. Give awards and publicity to public personnel who have demonstrated special youth awareness.
4. Develop a logo or insignia system and partners program for the Oakland Explorers Kids' Network. Organizations that provide programs and activities for kids would receive an Oakland Explorers site marker to display on their window.
5. Develop an Oakland Explorers Passport program. Children would receive passports that they can have stamped at participating destinations.

Awards could be given for levels of exploration. Passports could be linked to discounts at participating destinations.



6. Create an Oakland Explorers Kids' Bus to connect kids with resources that are inaccessible to them.

7. Design and install a network of kiosks to provide orientation and information about kids' activities and places.

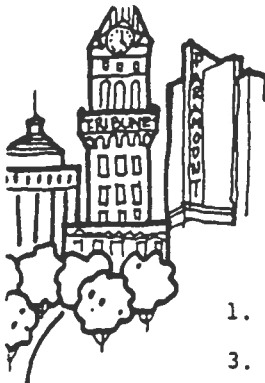


8. Conduct **Oakland Explorers Workshops** on a regular basis in schools and other youth oriented institutions, using the modules developed in the Workshop Workbook.

9. Develop the **Oakland Explorers Discovery Centers**. Identify sponsors and sites, develop detailed plans, and implement them.

10. Develop an **East Bay Explorers Kids Guide** based on the Oakland model.

## **APPENDIX A: OAKLAND EXPLORERS KIDS' SURVEY**



# oakland explorers kids' survey

1. Your Age \_\_\_\_\_ 2. ☐ Boy ☐ Girl

3. What neighborhood do you live in?

4. How do you usually get around Oakland?

|            |                              |                             |
|------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Walk       | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Bicycle    | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Bus        | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| BART/train | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Car        | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> No |

5. Do you use AC Transit buses alone? ☐ Yes ☐ No  
With friends? ☐ Yes ☐ No  
With family? ☐ Yes ☐ No

6. Do you use BART trains alone? ☐ Yes ☐ No  
With friends? ☐ Yes ☐ No  
With family? ☐ Yes ☐ No

7. What are your favorite ACTIVITIES in Oakland?

8. What are your favorite PLACES TO GO in Oakland?

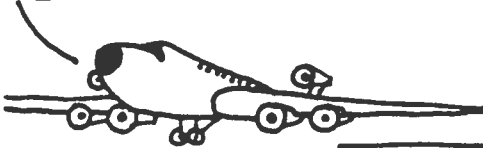
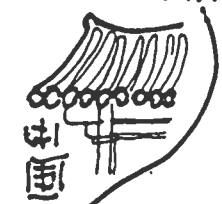
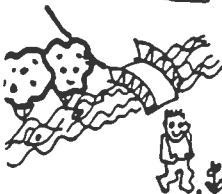
9. If you could add new ACTIVITIES in Oakland, what would they be?

10. If you could add new PLACES in Oakland, what would they be?

11. What are the BEST things about Oakland for you?

12. What are the WORST things about Oakland for you?

13. If you were the mayor, what would you do to make Oakland a better city for kids?



MY FAVORITE ACTIVITIES IN OAKLAND

(✓ check as many as you like)

- |                                                                         |                                                                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> see historic places                            | <input type="checkbox"/> city treasure hunt                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> hang out                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> go to a food factory                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> meet other kids                                | <input type="checkbox"/> see different colleges                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> go on tours of the city                        | <input type="checkbox"/> attend city council meeting             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> go to mayor's office                           | <input type="checkbox"/> science activities                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> tour a big ship                                | <input type="checkbox"/> visit factories/see how things are made |
| <input type="checkbox"/> learn about cars                               | <input type="checkbox"/> go fishing                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> go to parks                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> see/play with animals                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> go to the zoo                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> explore new places                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> work at a job                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> video games                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> eat in restaurants                             | <input type="checkbox"/> go to an amusement park                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> go to libraries                                | <input type="checkbox"/> go to museums                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> be in plays                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> dancing                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> music classes                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> singing                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> play in an orchestra or band                   | <input type="checkbox"/> join a club                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> see movies                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> see plays                               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> learn foreign languages like French or Italian | <input type="checkbox"/> learn about architecture                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> gardening                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> build things                            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> art/paint, draw, make sculpture                | <input type="checkbox"/> crafts: pottery, weaving                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> fashions/sewing                                | <input type="checkbox"/> work on a kids' newspaper               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> work on a kids' radio or tv show               | <input type="checkbox"/> make forts                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> gymnastics                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> tennis                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> baseball                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> basketball                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> football                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> golf                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> hockey                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> volleyball                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> soccer                                         | <input type="checkbox"/> swimming                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> walking/go on hikes                            | <input type="checkbox"/> bike riding                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> boat rides                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> horseback riding                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> exercise/jogging                               | <input type="checkbox"/> roller skating                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ice skating                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> rock climbing                           |

other \_\_\_\_\_

other \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## **APPENDIX B: CITY RESOURCES FOR KIDS**

## places to go on bus lines 57 & 82

1. **Alameda County Courthouse.** See a real "Peoples' Court" in the small claims courtroom, Dept. 1, 4th floor. 829-4200.
2. **Alice Arts Center.** See the Oakland Ensemble Theatre, a Black theater company, as well as other theater and dance groups. 1428 Alice St. 839-5510.
3. **Asian Library.** Books and tapes in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Pilipino, Vietnamese and English for all ages. 449 9th St. 273-3400.
4. **Brookfield Park.** 2535 High St.
5. **Brookfield Village Library.** 9600 Edes. 562-8282.
6. **Cambodian New Generation.** Counseling, tutoring, recreation activities for youth. 1909 East 14th. St. 532-0804.
7. **Chabot Science Center.** Largest telescope available for public use west of the Mississippi! Telescope making classes. Observatory and planetarium programs Friday and Saturday at 7:30. 4917 Mountain Boulevard. 531-4560.
8. **Chinatown.** The area just east of Broadway between 6th and 12th streets is a treasure map of Asian shops and parks. Play on the ship in the Lincoln Neighborhood Center (10th St. and Harrison) and see the pagodas and historic trains (7th St. and Harrison). Don't miss the live turtles and fish in the market windows.
9. **City Center.** Shopping, food, a glass tower and a large fountain that flows down steps. Live concerts at noon in the summer.
10. **City Center Book Stop.** A public library. 1425 San Pablo. 273-3065.
11. **City Hall.** This Oakland landmark was the tallest building west of Chicago when it was built in 1914. You can see the City Council in action Tuesday nights at 7:30. One City Hall Plaza.
12. **Della's China Cup Cafe.** A cafe with 3000 different cups to pick from. 73rd Ave. at MacArthur Boulevard.

- 13.Dimond Branch Library.** Computer classes. 3565 Fruitvale. 530-3881.
- 14.Dimond Park and Recreation Center.** Swimming, dance, puppets, martial art, fitness, sports. Find the "insider passage" to the hills--walk through Dimond Park on an inner city greenbelt trail to Joaquin Miller Park and from there by connecting trail to Redwood Regional Park. 3860 Hanly Road. 531-7055.
- 15.Dunsmuir House.** See the grandeur of Oakland in Victorian times in a 37 room mansion set in a 40 acre estate. Picnic sites and special holiday events. 2960 Peralta Oaks Court. 562-0328.
- 16.East Bay Regional Parks.** If you're up for a long hike, the East Bay National Skyline Trail will take you through Sibley, Huckleberry, Redwood, Roberts and Chabot Parks. Roberts Park has a wonderful swimming pool, picnic areas, and ball fields. Take bus 15A to Park Headquarters at 11500 Skyline Drive. 531-9300.
- 17.East Bay Vietnamese Association.** Tutoring and martial arts classes. 1909 East 14th St. 533-4219 or 533-4224.
- 18.Eastmont Library.** 175 Eastmont Mall. 568-0503.
- 19.Eastmont Mall.** 100 stores and 4 movie theaters! Many special events. 73rd Ave. and Bancroft St. 623-1137.
- 20.East Oakland Youth Development Center.** Visual and performing arts classes, steel drums, sports, career education. 8200 East 14th St. 569-8088.
- 21.E.G.Y.P.T.** Experimental Group Young People's Theatre. Classes, workshops and performances. 5306 Foothill Boulevard. 436-4877.
- 22.Elmhurst Library.** 1427 88th Ave. 632-1500.
- 23.Francis Marion Smith Recreation Center.** A park with an Old West mining town. F.M. Smith, who made his fortune in Borax mining, lived near here. 1969 Park Boulevard at Newton Ave. 451-4639.

- 24.Fruitvale Playhouse.** Year-round plays, puppet shows and movies. Free in summer! After school workshops for elementary and high school students. 3205 Farnum. 534-1913.
- 25.Grand Lake Theatre.** Movies, organ concerts and 50 cent Saturday matinees for kids! 3200 Grand Ave. 452-3556.
- 26.Greenman Field.** Home of Babe Ruth Baseball. 66th and E. 14th St.
- 27.Holmes Book Company.** Books, books, books--new and used. 274 14th St. 893-6860.
- 28.Interface Institute.** Tutoring in math and science. Allen Temple Baptist Church, 8500 A St. 635-1755.
- 29.Intertribal Friendship House.** Buy Native American crafts here. 523 E. 14th St. 452-1235.
- 30.Jewish Community Center.** After school chugim (activities). 3245 Sheffield Ave. 533-9222.
- 31.Junior Center of Art and Science.** Classes in visual and performing arts, computer graphics, video, carpentry, science and writing. Children's Gallery. 3612 Webster St. 655-3226.
- 32.Kaiser Permanente Health Education Center.** Learn about your body through video and audio cassettes, books, pamphlets, and exhibits. Mon. - Fri. 9am - 5 pm. 3772 Howe St. 596-6204.
- 33.Lake Merritt Channel Park.** Begin at Peralta Park next to Henry J. Kaiser Auditorium and walk south across 10th Street to see and touch the large sculptures in the sculpture garden. Follow the clues on the guide posts along Muckleroy trail to unlock the secrets of estuary life. At the end of the trail watch the firemen train on the fire tower across the road.
- 34.Lakeview Library.** Open Sundays 1-5 pm. 550 El Embarcadero. 451-1610.

**35.Latin American Library.** Books and tapes in English and Spanish. 1900 Fruitvale Ave. 532-7882.

**36.Leona Heights Park and McCrea Casting Ponds.** Practice your casting skills year-round and catch trout when the ponds are stocked during the summer months. Walk past the trout ponds to Leona Heights park and on up the creek to parks with many hidden attractions.

**37.MacArthur Broadway Center.** Shops and a food fair including El Bummalito. 235 W. MacArthur Boulevard. 658-0338

**38.Main Library.** Books, records, newspapers, college catalogs, Oakland History Room, Youth Room. 125 14th St. 273-3134.

**39.Malibu Fun Center and Grand Prix.** Miniature golf, video games, car racing, bumper boats, baseball, and food. Expensive. 8000 Coliseum Way. 635-8419.

**40.Martin Luther King Jr. Library.** 6883 E. 14th St. 632-4861.

**41.Montclair Golf Driving Range.** Driving range and peewee golf course. 2477 Monterey Boulevard. 482-0422.

**42.Mosswood Park and Recreation Center.** African dance, tennis, sports field, and the Victorian Gothic Moss Home. Is it haunted? Webster at MacArthur. 655-4736.

**43.Northern California Center for Afro-American History.** Books, photographs, letters, and artifacts that tell the history of Blacks in California and the West. Programs and tours are offered. Golden Gate Library, 5606 San Pablo Avenue. Tues. 12:30 - 7pm, Wed., Thu., Fri., 12:30 - 5:30. 658-3158.

**44.Oakland Coliseum Complex.** Home of the Oakland A's and Golden State Warriors! Sporting events, concerts, the circus and annual Ice Capades. 695 Hegenberger Road.

**45.Oakland Museum.** Exhibits, programs and classes about natural science, history, and art of California. Don't miss the roof garden! 1000 Oak St. 273-3818.

**46.Oakland Tours.** Take a guided tour of Chinatown, Old Oakland, the Paramount Theatre and other sites. 1417 Clay St. For special kids' tours call 273-3234.

**47.Oakland Zoo.** See Archie the ape, Smokey the African elephant, American bison, and many other exotic animals. Knowland Park, 9777 Golf Links Rd. 632-9523.

**48.Old Oakland.** A block of restored Victorian commercial buildings. 8th St. to 10th St. between Broadway and Clay St.

**49.Piedmont Avenue Library.** 160 41st St. 658-3160.

**50.Police Activities League.** After school sports and tutoring at Madison Middle School. 400 Capistrano. 273-3255.

**51.Recycling Depot.** Get free recycled materials for arts and crafts projects 12-4 pm on Saturdays. 60th St. and Idaho.

**52.Roberts Regional Recreation Area.** Swimming, picnicking, hiking, baseball, volleyball. See East Bay Regional Parks. 531-9300.

**53.San Leandro Bay Regional Shoreline and Trail.** One of the longest Bayside biking and hiking trails in the Bay Area. Walk along San Leandro Creek to discover all the wild creatures that make their homes in Arrowhead Marsh, a natural salt marsh, and Garretson Point, a bird refuge.

**54.Western Aerospace Museum.** See historic aircraft and exhibits relating to Northern California aviation in an old hangar with planes landing and taking off across the road. Saturday and Sunday, 10-4. Building 621 across from Hangar 6, 8260 Boeing St. 638-7100.

**55.Woodminster Memorial Amphitheater.** Walk the trails in Joaquin Miller Park and watch summer plays in an outdoor theater. 3300 Joaquin Miller Road. 531-9597.

**56.YMCA [M. Robinson Baker].** Swimming, after school arts and sports, drill team. 3265 Market St. 653-7818.

**57.YWCA.** Swim in this building designed by Julia Morgan. 1515 Webster St. 451-7900.

**58.YMCA [Eastlake].** Sports. 1612 45th Ave.

## places to go on bus lines 12, 51, & 59/76

1. **Alameda County Courthouse.** See a real "Peoples' Court" in the small claims courtroom, Dept. 1, 4th floor. 829-4200.
2. **Alice Arts Center.** See the Oakland Ensemble Theatre, a Black theater company, as well as other theater and dance groups. 1428 Alice St. 839-5510.
3. **Asian Library.** Books and tapes in Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Pilipino, Vietnamese and English for all ages. 449 9th St. 273-3400.
4. **Auto Row.** See cars, new and used, dozens of makes and models. Broadway from 23rd to 42nd St.
5. **Bulwinkle House.** A private fantasy garden forged from scrap metal. Look from the street—don't go in. Manila St. between Clifton St. and Hudson St.
6. **Camron-Stanford House.** See what life was like in early Oakland in this historic 14 room house. 1418 Lakeside Drive. Tours Wed. 11-4, Sun. 1-5. 836-1976.
7. **Chinatown.** The area just east of Broadway between 6th and 12th streets is a treasure map of Asian shops and parks. Play on the ship in the Lincoln Neighborhood Center (10th St. and Harrison) and see the pagodas and historic trains (7th St. and Harrison). Don't miss the live turtles and fish in the market windows.
8. **City Center.** Shopping, food, a glass tower and a large fountain that flows down steps. Live concerts at noon in the summer.
9. **City Center Book Stop.** A public library. 1425 San Pablo. 273-3065.
10. **City Hall.** This Oakland landmark was the tallest building west of Chicago when it was built in 1914. You can see the City Council in action Tuesday nights at 7:30. One City Hall Plaza.

- 11.DeFremery Park.** Swimming, dancing, visual arts, sports, and a beautiful Victorian house on the 9 acre estate of early Oakland settler, John DeFremery. 1651 Adeline St. 832-0360.
- 12.DeLauer Super Newsstand.** A mega-newsstand with lots of comic books. 1310 Broadway.
- 13.Ebony Museum of Art.** African and African-American art including jewelry and sculpture made from soul food bones. 1034 14th St. 763-0141.
- 14.Estuary Park.** Watch boats, walk along the water. Embarcadero at 3rd Ave.
- 15.FDR Pier.** Watch boats, fish, climb tower, or take a tour of the harbor. Clay St. near Embarcadero.
- 16.Food Markets.** Explore many food markets from 8th to 12th St. between Harrison and Clay. Asian markets are east of Broadway and Mexican and Italian markets are west. Guess your fortune and buy a cookie from the Fortune Cookie Factory (261 12th St.) Smell the cheeses and see how many kinds of pastas you can find for Italian dinners at Ratto's (821 Washington St.). Watch tortillas being made at Mi Rancho (464 7th St.)
- 17.Grand Lake Theatre.** Movies, organ concerts and 50 cent Saturday matinees for kids! 3200 Grand Ave. 452-3556.
- 18.Holmes Book Company.** Books, books, books--new and used. 274 14th St. 893-6860.
- 19.Jack London's Cabin.** Look inside Jack London's Yukon log cabin. Don't miss the sod roof. Jack London Square.
- 20.Jack London Village.** Shops. Look through a telescope at Alameda, explore the ramps, stairs, and overlooks. 30 Jack London Square.
- 21.Jubilee West.** After school art classes and tutoring. 1448 10th Street. 834-8396.

**22.Junior Center of Art and Science.** Classes in visual and performing arts, computer graphics, video, carpentry, science and writing. Children's Gallery. 3612 Webster St. 655-3226.

**23.Kaiser Convention Center.** Rock concerts, sports events, annual children's Christmas pageant. 550 10th St. 839-7500.

**24.Kaiser Permanente Health Education Center.** Learn about your body through video and audio cassettes, books, pamphlets, and exhibits. Mon. - Fri. 9am - 5 pm. 3772 Howe St. 596-6204.

**25.KDOL TV Station.** Watch TV programs being made by Oakland high school Juniors and Seniors. Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm. 314 E. 10th St. 836-8320.

**26.Koncepts Cultural Gallery.** Concerts and exhibits in an old train station. No alcohol served. 480 3rd St. 763-5231.

**27.Lake Merritt Channel Park.** Begin at Peralta Park next to Henry J. Kaiser Auditorium and walk south across 10th Street to see and touch the large sculptures in the sculpture garden. Follow the clues on the guide posts along Muckleroy trail to unlock the secrets of estuary life. At the end of the trail watch the firemen train on the fire tower across the road.

**28.Lakeside Park and Lake Merritt.** Spend a day to see all the sights around Lake Merritt! Take little sister or brother to Children's Fairyland, rent a boat or learn to sail at the Boat House. Feed the ducks and see the beehive and native animals at the Rotary Science Center, the oldest wildlife sanctuary in America. Rotary Natural Science Center. 273-3739.

**29.Lake Temescal.** Swimming, boating, hiking, fishing, and picnicking in a scenic park. 652-1155.

**30.Lakeview Library.** Open Sundays 1-5 pm. 550 El Embarcadero. 451-1610.

**31.MacArthur Broadway Center.** Shops and a food fair including El Bummalito. 235 W. MacArthur Boulevard. 658-0338

- 32.Main Library.** Books, records, newspapers, college catalogs, Oakland History Room, Youth Room. 125 14th St. 273-3134.
- 33.Martin Luther King Jr. Library.** 6883 E. 14th St. 632-4861.
- 34.Montclair Recreation Center.** Carpentry, tennis, dance, arts, duck pond, western village, picnic area. 6300 Moraga Ave. 339-8919.
- 35.Morcom Amphitheater of Roses.** Over 400 varieties of roses in bloom between April and December in a beautiful garden setting. 700 Jean St. 273-3090.
- 36.Mosswood Park and Recreation Center.** African dance, tennis, sports field, and the Victorian Gothic Moss Home. Is it haunted? Webster at MacArthur. 655-4736.
- 37.Oak Center Cultural Center.** Movies and special events. 1324 Adeline.
- 38.Oakland Museum.** Exhibits, programs and classes about natural science, history, and art of California. Don't miss the roof garden! 1000 Oak St. 273-3818.
- 39.Oakland Tours.** Take a guided tour of Chinatown, Old Oakland, the Paramount Theatre and other sites. 1417 Clay St. For special kids' tours call 273-3234.
- 40.Old Oakland.** A block of restored Victorian commercial buildings. 8th St. to 10th St. between Broadway and Clay St.
- 41.Paramount Theatre.** Year-round performances and classic movies. Annual Black Film Makers Hall of Fame. 2025 Broadway. 465-6400.
- 42. Piedmont Avenue Library.** 160 41st St. 658-3160.
- 43.Port of Oakland Boat Tours.** You can tour the harbor free but be sure to reserve in advance. May through August. 77 Jack London Square. 839-7488.
- 44.Preservation Park.** Several historic houses have been moved here from other parts of Oakland. Between 12th and 14th at Martin Luther King Way.

**45.Pro Arts Gallery.** Art exhibits and tours of artists' studios. 1920 Union St. 763-7880.

**46.Studio One North Oakland Cultural Arts Center and Costume Service.** Visual and performing arts classes. Costume room where you can borrow costumes. 365 45th St. 653-5711.

**47.Temescal Pool.** 371 45th St. 547-9269.

**48.West Oakland Library.** 1801 Adeline. 832-3519.

**49.Youth News.** A kids' radio station. Drop off your news release! 1419 Broadway. 834-9050.

**50.YMCA.** Swimming, aerobics, basketball, volleyball, and other sports. 2350 Broadway. 451-YMCA.

### **Travel Tips**

We hope you will learn to ride the bus. When you are on the bus, remember these rules:

- 1. Be smart.** Know where you are going. Know how to get there and back.
- 2. Be careful.** Watch your step when getting on and off. Wait your turn, be thoughtful to others. Stay in your seat. Keep your hands and arms inside the bus.
- 3. Be neat.** Never be a litterbug. The bus belongs to you and your parents, to all of us. Take care of your bus so you can be proud of it.

The **OAKLAND EXPLORERS GUIDE** is a kids' guide to places and things to do in Oakland that are on AC Transit or BART lines. Students in schools from all parts of Oakland helped make this guide by telling us about the places they like to go in Oakland. The guide includes recreational, cultural, and educational places, as well as areas for eating and shopping.

**HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE.** This guide includes several bus lines in Oakland that provide access to kids' places. Each route is shown as a straight line with pictures of the kids' places lined up in the correct order. A directory tells more about the places. Find the place you want to go and get off the bus at the cross street named on the map. **Ask the bus driver for help if you are unsure.** The overall map of Oakland on the other side shows how the bus lines fit together.

The **OAKLAND EXPLORERS PROJECT** is making Oakland a better place for kids to grow up in by promoting ways to get to its many resources. The project is creating a kids' cultural network of places and people in all parts of the city that is transit-accessible. For more information about the **OAKLAND EXPLORERS** call the Junior Center of Art and Science:

655-3226.

#### **TELEPHONE NUMBERS FOR HELP**

**AC Transit Information:** call 839-2882

Reduced price bus passes are available at schools and Safeway stores?

**BART Information:** call 465-BART

**Police:** call 911

Try to travel with a friend--it's more fun and safer.

The **OAKLAND EXPLORERS PROJECT** has been supported in part by a Design Arts grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, a grant from the City of

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