

The children revolved around the door at the Bank One building and later made their own, shown on the left.

The Bank One Building Project

A Children's Investigation of Block Construction and the Tallest Building in Indianapolis

During the 2007-2008 school year, Mrs. Bucher's MWF AM Preschool Class began an investigation surrounding the concept of building. Observations of the children building day after day, showed Mrs. Bucher that this might be a topic worth exploring.

After many discussions and building activities, a field study trip to the Bank One building (where a parent worked) in downtown Indianapolis took place. The children's excitement was an inspiration to the adults around them, and the children created fantastic observational drawings demonstrating their interest and focus during the trip.

Throughout the year, the Bank One building continued to pop up in everything the children did; for example, they made their own Bank One building, they made a Bank One building quilt using fabrics from their homes, and they made representations of the building using a variety of other materials.

Looking back on the year, the children experienced, through this project, many opportunities to explore their interest in building. They were able to use higher level thinking and problem solving skills to work out problems surrounding what materials to use for their structures, how to create a revolving door, and how to keep gum drop structures in place without roofs collapsing. They were also able to master many of the Indiana Foundations for Young Children as a result of their sustained interest in building.



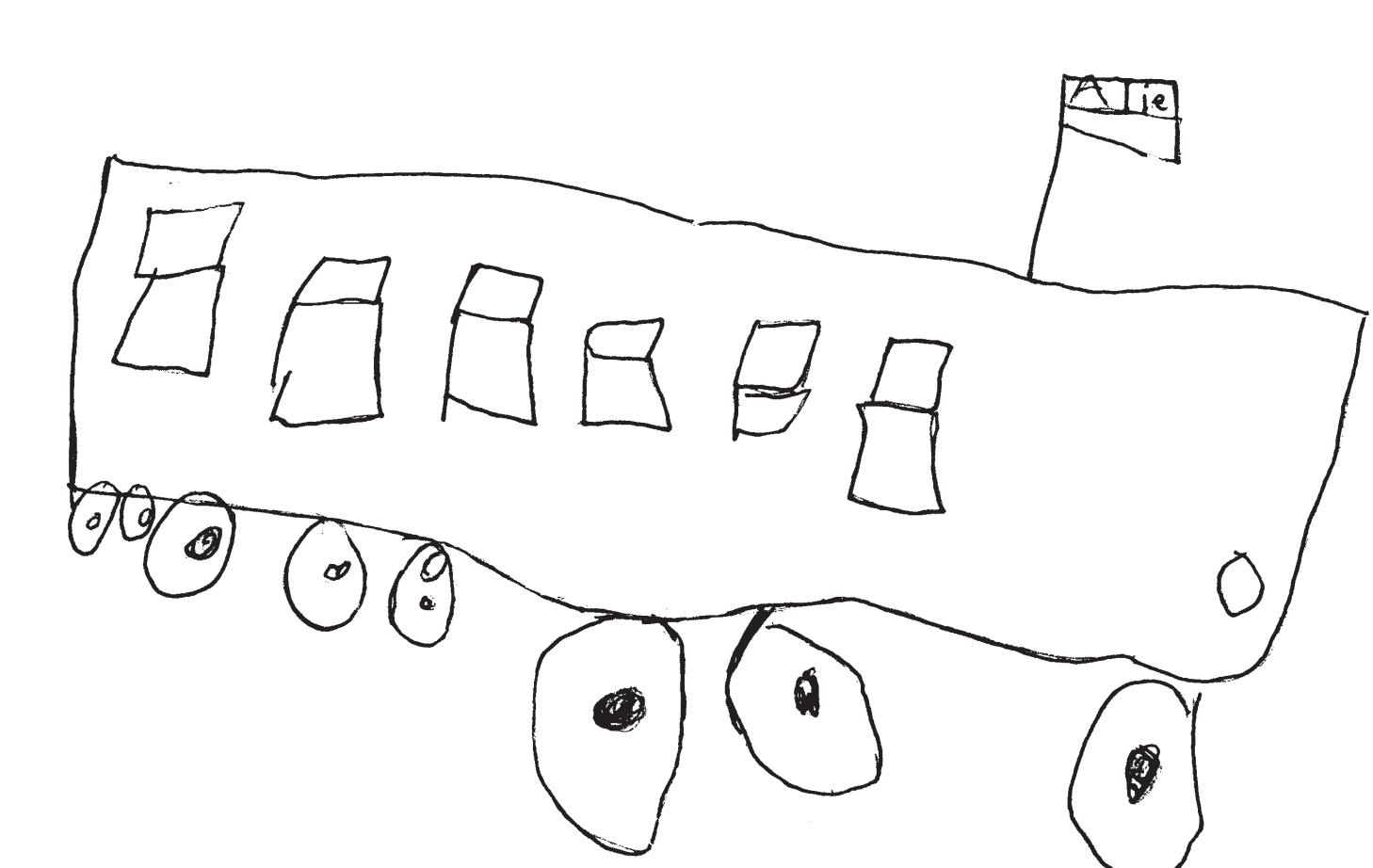
Jadan Clark wanted to build his tower taller!



Emma Hines, Rachel Barrera, and Delaney O'Brien worked intently on their observational drawings.



Drew Rogers peered through the window when the children first arrived at the Bank One building where his mom works (Notice the palm prints to the left of his hand). Although he had visited his mom's office many times, during this visit he was looking with new eyes. It was as if he was seeing downtown for the first time.

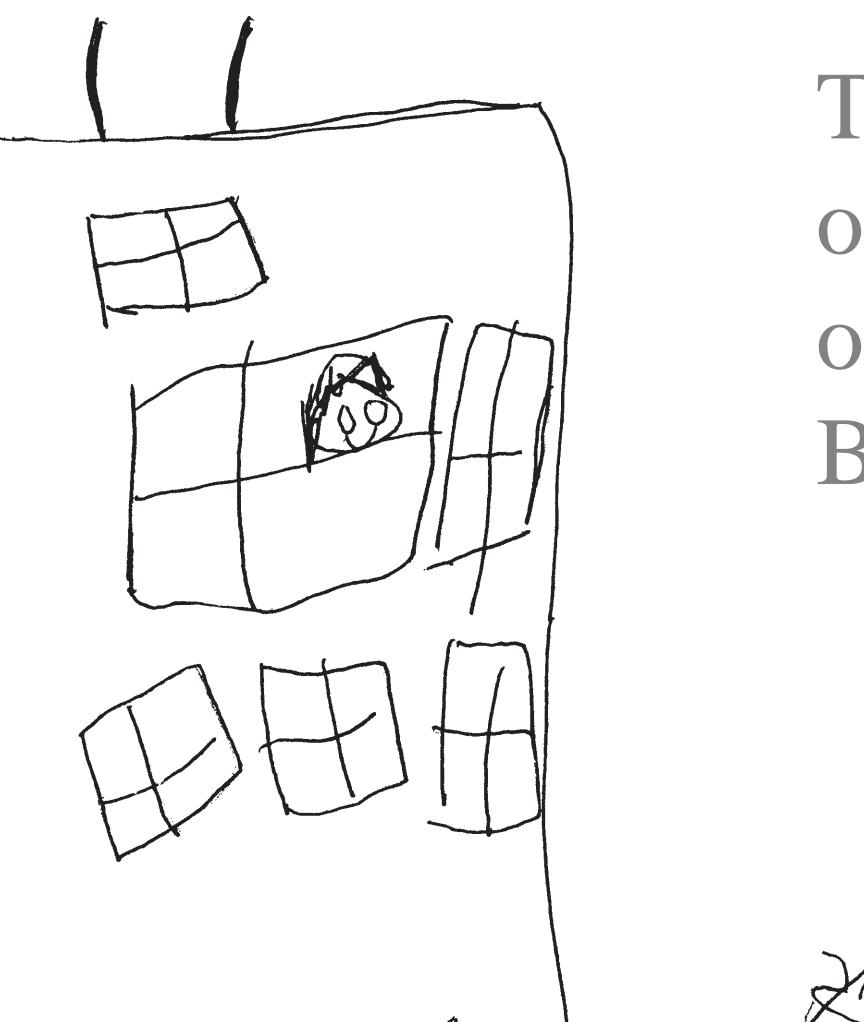




Garrett Nolan focused on his observational drawing while at the Bank One building.



Emily Guy built a tall tower.



The children created observational drawings of the view from the Bank One building.



