Urban Blazers: Fostering Children’s Innate Curiosity and Sense of Adventure

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WHAT IS URBAN BLAZERS?

“Urban Blazers is a nonprofit that builds character in students from under resourced Philadelphia neighborhoods through experience and adventure.”
(urbanblazers.org)

COLLABORATIONS

▪ Mander Recreation Center
▪ The Salvation Army
▪ Smith Memorial Playground & Playhouse
▪ Tree House Books
▪ Pennsylvania School for the Deaf

GOALS

▪ Challenging children to step out of their comfort zone to explore nature
▪ Teaching team building, leadership, and independence
▪ Encouraging physical activity and getting outside to play
▪ Teaching children the importance of nature and all it has to offer
▪ Promoting utilization of parks and trails within the local communities

HOW WE ENGAGE

Team Building

Hiking

Teaching about Plants & Animals

SUMMER PROJECT

▪ The goal was to promote the use of the Boxers’ Trail, an underutilized trail in East Fairmount Park in the Strawberry Mansion neighborhood.
▪ First, a survey was created to determine what the barriers were to utilizing the Boxers’ Trail.
▪ Based on results, a website was generated with an interactive map. In addition, the website contained information on safety concerns, hiking difficulty, activities on the trail, and general questions.
▪ A pamphlet was also created to guide hikers while on trail.

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