Today’s Presenters

Mary Haggerty
Director of Media Engagement

Nicki Sirianni
Outreach and Marketing Manager
WOMBATS TRIVIA!

1. What do you call a group of wombats?
2. How fast can a wombat run?
3. Wombats are native to which country?
4. Wombat poop is a particular shape. What is that shape and what purpose does the shape serve?
GBH enriches people's lives through programs and services that educate, inspire, and entertain, fostering citizenship and culture, the joy of learning, and the power of diverse perspectives.

Public media leader for 70+ years

Largest contributor to PBS
Libraries and Public Media: An Ideal Partnership

Images provided by GBH
Supporting early computational thinking across rural home and library settings
WORK IT OUT WOMBATS!

OVERVIEW

- Groundbreaking PBS KIDS multimedia initiative
- Targeting children ages 3–6 with foundational CT skills
- Show about community, family, and solving problems together
- Components:
  - Television episodes
  - Website with games
  - Podcast series
  - Resources for educators and caregivers
  - R&D initiatives
What Is Computational Thinking?

Work It Out Wombats!™
“WORK IT OUT @ YOUR LIBRARY”

- Funded by a grant from the National Science Foundation.
- Create a motivating pathway through CT resources in a way that makes it easy and fun for rural families to explore CT.
- Create a new library model that leverages librarian’s enthusiasm to support family learning.
- Generate and share research to inform the field.

Images provided by GBH
THE LIBRARY WORKING GROUP

- OCLC’s WebJunction, Public Library Association (PLA), Libraries Ready to Code, Association of Rural and Small Libraries (ARSL), practicing librarians and library workers, Mississippi Public Broadcasting (MPB).

- Met throughout the pandemic to iteratively develop this family outreach model for libraries.

- Ideal for all libraries that serve families with young children.
For Librarians:

What Is Work It Out @ Your Library?

https://mass.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/waisl24-prek-overview/for-librarians-what-is-work-it-out-your-library/
PRELIMINARY EVIDENCE OF IMPACT

- Caregivers’ ratings of their child’s use of CT skills and mindsets while solving a problem increased significantly.

- The majority of caregivers demonstrated an increased understanding of CT as being related to problem solving.

- Two-thirds of caregivers were able to provide a CT-related example when asked how their child used what they learned from Wombats! in everyday life.
Free collection of resources available on PBS LearningMedia
Includes library facilitator guides, presentation decks, student handouts, take-home family guides, tons of videos, and more!

pbslearningmedia.org/collection/work-it-out-your-library/
PROGRAM OVERVIEW

For Librarians: What Is Work It Out @ Your Library?

Watch this video for an overview of the Work It Out @ Your Library program.

For Librarians: What Is Work It Out @ Your Library?

Week 1: Introductory Session (1 hour)
Families learn about the Wombats’ series and characters, get acquainted with CT, and practice using the Work It Out Wombats! Family App, which contains animated stories and songs, hands-on activities, and an interactive music video feature.

More Activities!
Families continue to work with the Work It Out Wombats! Family App and the Work It Out @ Home Family Guide. Families watch Wombats’ stories and songs and do more activities at home. They mark the activities they did on the Wombats’ Activity Tracker.

Week 2: Story Time Session (30–45 mins.)
Families listen to two storybooks related to the CT skill they’ve been working on. They’ll take a break between stories to dance with Wombats’ puppets and sing a song. They’ll visit the CT Corner (which features Wombats’ resources and take-home handouts) and check in with the librarian leading the program.

More Activities!
Families continue to watch Wombats’ animated stories and songs and do more activities, preparing to share what they did at the final Share and Celebrate library session.

Week 3: Share and Celebrate Session (1 hour)
Families return to share what they did at home and talk about their CT experiences. Then they’ll do another CT activity together, receive a certificate, and finish with a celebration!
CREATE, TEST, IMPROVE!
Step it out!

Unit 2: Step It Out! | Work It Out @ Your Library

Introduce preschoolers and their families to the computational thinking (CT) skill of sequencing, or as the Wombats say, Step It Out! This resource includes a Library Guide and activities for leading the three library sessions, a Work It Out @ Home Family Guide for families, a Recommended Booklist of stories related to CT, links to Wombat videos, and more! If you haven’t already, read the Work It Out @ Your Library Introduction first.

Support Materials for Teachers

Using this Resource:
- Introductory Slideshow | Unit 2
- Share and Celebrate Slideshow | Unit 2
- Work It Out @ Home Family Guide | Unit 2
- Recommended Booklist | Unit 2
Find WHAT MATTERS!
BREAK IT DOWN!

Unit 4: Break It Down! | Work It Out @ Your Library

Resource 1 of 7

Unit 4 Library Guide: Break It Down!
This three-week unit focuses on problem decomposition, or as the Wombats say, Break It Down! The Guide includes instructions for leading each of three sessions. (If you haven’t already, read the Work It Out @ Your Library introduction first.)

About Standards
Introduce preschoolers and their families to the computational thinking (CT) skill of problem decomposition, or as the Wombats say, Break It Down! This resource includes a library guide and slideshow for leading the three library sessions, a Work It Out @ Home Family Guide for families, a recommended booklist of stories related to CT, links to Wombats videos, and more! (If you haven’t already, read the Work It Out @ Your Library Introduction first.)

Support Materials for Teachers
USING THIS RESOURCE
Introductory Slideshow | Unit 4
Share and Celebrate Slideshow | Unit 4
Work It Out @ Home Family Guide | Unit 4
Recommended Booklist | Unit 4

Download

Stick Puppets
Dance with Math, Xaxis, Zaxis, and Wombi!
- Fusible, print on cardboard
- Cut along contours
- Attach a craft stick or pen to be made of popsicle sticks with tape

Certificate of Achievement
Congratulations to
You worked it out just like the Wombats!
You break it down!
OVerview for Families

For Families: What Is Work It Out @ Your Library?

Overview for Families

For Families: What Is Work It Out @ Your Library?

Have fun exploring computational thinking (CT) with your children as a part of the Work It Out @ Your Library program. Watch animated videos, do hands-on activities, listen to story times, and play with the Work It Out Wombats! Family App.

Resource 1 of 4

For Families: What Is Work It Out @ Your Library?

What Is Computational Thinking?

How Do You Support Your Children’s Computational Thinking?

Work It Out Wombats! Family App

Transcript

PreSchool Computational Thinking (Ct)

This computational thinking, or CT, foundation helps small devices learn to function in familiar tasks.

All Work @ Work Library

The Wombats, Prof. Blu, and the others have been trained to think through problems.

They’re in a library, and they can help you stay organized.

Young children can always use CT skills to learn. Knowledge, the key is understanding the world and how to process it.

Work: Wombats! Family App

Ct thinking helps them navigate the young age, and can be critical in a children’s development. By exploring the right way to think, young children can be prepared for the future.

Learning can also occur from playing games which target specific areas.

Ct is a foundation for many later in life. The library and this book are teaching information early through fun, interactive learning.
For Families:
What Is Work It Out @ Your Library?

https://mass.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/waisl34-prek-families/for-families-what-is-work-it-out-your-library/
CT Corner Toolkit

- Treeborhood Standee
- Tabletop Signs
- Activity & Coloring Sheets
Questions?

Feel free to email us with questions!
Mary Haggerty: mary_haggerty@wgbh.org
Nicki Sirianni: nicki_sirianni@wgbh.org
To access to the entire Work It Out @ Your Library collection, visit: http://pbslearningmedia.org/collection/work-it-out-your-library/

To access the digital CT Corner Kit, visit: bit.ly/CTCorner

To access digital games, videos, and activities for kids, visit: https://pbskids.org/wombats

To access the Wombats podcast series, visit: https://pbskids.org/wombats/podcasts