



To: Library Board

Fr: Abby Bussen, Children’s Library Supervisor

May 20, 2026

Re: Wauwatosa Public Library Foundation Support Request: Sensory space equipment

Purpose/Need

To establish a dedicated sensory space in the Children’s Library.

Background

Since spring of 2018, Wauwatosa Public Library has been hosting Sensory Story Time, a storyhour welcoming families of children with neurodiversity to experience library programming at their own pace while building community. This program has been instrumental in making those children and caregivers know that when we say “Libraries are for everyone,” we truly mean it. In establishing a sensory space in the bump-out nook at the west end of the Children’s Library, we are building on this foundation. We are creating a zone in the Children’s Library that is intentionally peaceful, includes activities that inspire mindfulness and decompression, and allow dysregulated, overstimulated children to invite calm back into their bodies. Our goal in outfitting this space was to identify materials that would: 1) not block the emergency exits; 2) not be too “play” focused, as we want to clearly identify this area as separate from our early learning play space; and 3) be able to integrate easily into a sensory space in a renovated WPL.

Project Costs

	Individual cost	Items Needed	Cost
Sensory Mood Discovery Light Table	\$668.95	1	\$668.95
Confetti Floor Seating	\$627.70	2	\$1,255.40



Joy Carpets Feeling Fun Rug

\$388.22

1

\$338.22



Specialized lighting additions

\$25.96

1

\$25.96

\$19.99

2

\$39.98

\$109.99

1

\$109.99



Cubbies & Shelves Storage Unit

\$1,099.00

1

\$1,099.00



Ted Kangaroo Calming Compression Chair

\$89.99

1

\$89.99



Noise Cancelling Headphones

\$16.33

10

\$163.30



Assorted sensory & therapeutical toys

16

\$1,097.90



Project total:

\$4,938.69

Recommendation

A motion for the Library Board to approve submitting the proposal to the Wauwatosa Public Library Foundation Board for consideration.