



### Introduction

In 2017, thanks to a generous grant from the Provincial Library and Literacy Office, Chinook Regional Library was able to pursue a new program, creating Mobile Makerspace Kits, which would act as a resource for In-Library use in our branch libraries.

### Descriptions of Mobile Maker Kit Resources

**Music:** Is composed of a Moog Theremini and A Korg Cliphit drum-kit. Both are electronic musical instruments, and are super easy to use and play. Both instruments can be configured for a variety of different sounds; the Cliphit also has the added capacity to turn whatever the clips are attached to into a playable music surface.

**K'Nex-** We have three separate K'Nex kits at present. Two of them are basic Maker-themed kits (one large, one small, which come with a variety of different plans for different models kids can build. The third Kit is the K'nex Rollercoaster set, which is exactly what it sounds like. As the Roller Coaster Set is something of a longer building project, and the pieces for it are smaller, each kit is sent separately, to avoid mixing of pieces.

**Meccano Maker Kit-** The Meccano Maker kit is for somewhat older children. This kit is another Building Kit, which uses nuts and bolts rather than bricks and connectible plastics. The neat part about this one is that, unlike the K'Nex, there is a buildable motor in the kit, so kids can create simple motorized machines. It comes with a booklet with plans for 25 different designs.

**Snap Circuits: Lights-** Snap Circuits uses a series of snap together toggles to create simple circuits and machines. It teaches kids about electricity and how to build a stable circuit that doesn't ground out.

**Electron Inks-** Similar in purpose to the Snap Circuits, this one is neat because it uses a metallic ink; this allows kids to draw their own circuit designs free-hand, and then place the circuit pieces onto a piece of paper and see them work. A little complicated for younger kids, but great for older ones.

**Stik-Bot Studio-** A small Green-Screen Studio; this one uses a free app to create stop-motion animated movies using stick-men. These movie creations can then be posted on Youtube for the world to see. This one is neat because the kids could create their own accessories, props and stories to add to what is already there. Currently, we have three separate Stik-Bot kits available for use.

**Lego Mindstorm-** A Lego building kit; this one isn't so focused on bricks. The central brick is a small programmable computer, which can connect to motors. These allow kids to create a robot which can move, and be programmed (Using another free app) to interact with the world around it. Kids can

download new designs off the Lego Mindstorm Website to build different forms of robot, and they can upload their own unique creations to be used by kids all over the world.

**Little Bits Educator Kit-** Little Bits are a variety of different connectable circuits; they can be used to create different machines and small gadgets. The other nice part is that each part has a different function, and they all interact with each other differently (a buzzer will not sound until the button circuit is depressed, for example).