

CITY OF PORT PHILLIP REPORT

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL
28 NOVEMBER 2011

4	EMERALD HILL LIBRARY & HERITAGE CENTRE PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS
ADDRESS / LOCATION:	EMERALD HILL LIBRARY, 195 BANK STREET, EMERALD HILL
GENERAL MANAGER:	VANDA IACONESE, CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
PREPARED BY:	CATHY HENDERSON, MANAGER CULTURE & LEISURE DAMIAN TYQUIN, LIBRARY SERVICES COORDINATOR
FILE NO.:	77/01/22
ATTACHMENTS:	1. FEEDBACK & SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED 2. DRAWINGS FROM KIDS STORYTIME SESSION 3. INFORMATION SHEET + PLANS PRESENTED DURING CONSULTATION PROCESS

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report presents Council with the public submissions received in relation to the Emerald Hill Library and Heritage Centre project.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 2.1 Receives and considers submissions on the proposed Emerald Hill Library and Heritage Centre project;
- 2.2 Thanks all those who made submissions and provided feedback during the consultation process, both adults and children;
- 2.3 Considers a report at the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 12 December 2011 which proposes amendments to the project in response to feedback.

3. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

- 3.1 The current Emerald Hill Library is located at the corner of Bank Street and Perrins Street in South Melbourne.

- 3.2 The project is proposed to expand and refurbish the Emerald Hill Library to become the Emerald Hill Library and Heritage Centre. The project will provide:
- Additional space for library services;
 - More books, DVDs and CDs;
 - A new focus for local history and cultural heritage services;
 - Improved disability access; and
 - Improved access for community groups.
- 3.3 Plans, artist's impressions, an information sheet and FAQ have been available at Emerald Hill Library since 11 November and at Town Halls, other library branches and online since 14 November. This information is available as Attachment 2.
- 3.4 Note that Attachment 2 includes the plans and documents which were distributed as part of the consultation process. These plans have not yet been amended as a result of community feedback.

4 CONSULTATION AND STAKEHOLDERS

- 4.1 A broad community consultation process has been undertaken to invite feedback about the Emerald Hill Library & Heritage Centre project.
- 4.2 Feedback received as of 22 November 2011 is included as Attachment 1. An updated version will also be available at the 28 November Council meeting.
- 4.3 Attachment 1 includes individual submissions as well as notes from meetings with groups of people. The comments recorded were in many cases from individuals present and do not always represent an agreed view of all people present at the meeting.
- 4.4 The consultation program during November 2011 has included a mixture of public information sessions on the project, alongside opportunities for input from key stakeholder groups, including:
- Displays and feedback forms available at Emerald Hill Library 11-28 November, with plans and information also available at all Town Halls, ASSIST counters and online from 14 November;
 - Community Information sessions held at the Emerald Hill Library branch on Monday 14 November and Tuesday 22 November;
 - Meeting with the Friends of Emerald Hill Library group on Saturday 12 November;

- Meeting with the City of Port Phillip Cultural Heritage Reference Committee on Wednesday 16 November;
 - Meeting with representatives from arts organisations based at Emerald Hill organisations on Thursday 17 November;
 - Consultation with preschool kids at Storytime at Emerald Hill Library on Friday 18 November;
 - Discussion with the regular 'Homies' group that meets on Monday evenings at Emerald Hill Library on Monday 21 November;
 - Meeting with a number of invited local residents on Tuesday 22 November.
- 4.5 The opportunity to address Council on 28 November 2011 has also been publicly advertised.
- 4.6 The Middle Park History Group, Port Melbourne Historical Society and St Kilda Historical Society all have nominees on the Cultural Heritage Reference Group. Special meetings were offered to each of these groups in case additional information was required, but none of the groups took up the offer.
- 4.7 This building project will also be subject to a statutory planning application and a heritage application, to be lodged by the early months of 2012. Members of the public will be able to make formal submissions as part of these processes.

5. DISCUSSION

5.1 OPTIONS

- 5.1.1 It is recommended that Council hear submissions on 28 November, and decide on any changes needed to the project on 12 December. This is to allow time to consider submissions received.

5.2 ALIGNMENT TO COUNCIL PLAN

- 5.2.1 The Emerald Hill Library & Heritage Centre project aligns with the Council plan in the following ways:
- Build an active and creative community (Strategy 3.2.1)
 - Encourage and support a variety of recreational and participative learning opportunities (Strategy 3.2.2) – Continue to maintain and innovate Council's library services to optimise their use, including as cultural opportunities
 - Create and support integrated arts and learning hubs within the city (Strategy 3.2.3)

- Preserve our heritage, valuing the past and planning for the future (Strategy 4.1.7)

5.3 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.3.1 The project aligns with the Arts & Culture Policy.

5.4 FINANCE / RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.4.1 The project as currently proposed is expected to cost approximately \$3.46 million, although this cost may change depending on changes made to the proposed plans.

5.5 LEGAL & RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 5.5.1 Considering public submissions on the project does not itself present any particular risks.
- 5.5.2 The project itself has many legal requirements including statutory planning, building compliance and heritage requirements.

6. IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

6.1 TIMELINE

- 6.1.1 Council will consider feedback received and public submissions on the project at its Ordinary Council Meeting on 28 November 2011.
- 6.1.2 It is proposed that a decision be made regarding the proposed plans at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 12 December 2011.
- 6.1.3 A statutory planning application for the project is expected to be lodged by the early months of 2012.
- 6.1.4 Construction could commence as early as September/October 2012, but this depends on the outcomes of community consultation, statutory planning and other permit processes.

6.2 COMMUNICATION

- 6.2.1 Details of the consultation process and of this Council meeting were publicly advertised commencing 26 October 2011.
- 6.2.2 Contact was made with key stakeholder groups to ensure they were aware of the consultation, and to set up specific meetings as needed.
- 6.2.3 Information has been available at Emerald Hill Library, in other library branches, at Town Halls and on the Port Phillip website.

6.2.4 Posters were distributed to surrounding businesses.

7. OFFICER DIRECT OR INDIRECT INTEREST

7.1 No officers involved in the preparation of this report have any direct or indirect interest in the matter.

EMERALD HILL LIBRARY & HERITAGE CENTRE PROJECT

Feedback received (as of 22 November 2011)

<i>Item</i>	<i>Submission / feedback from</i>	<i>Feedback</i>
1.	Friends of Emerald Hill Library (Meeting 12 November)	<p>What do you like?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library being main focus • Relationship between spaces • Courtyard – public and private • Caters for children • Flexible spaces • Ramp location OK • Bench style seating and exterior are good • Respectful without dominant roofline • Good to have children's area as destination <p>What would you change?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • West plaza – not too blocking or high/ more flexible. Orient seating towards Town Hall to maximise green space. Have some benching looking out across to Town Hall. • Use ramps for signs? • Landscaping materials – prefer non-concrete seating, concrete will be hard and uncomfortable. • Manual index and microfiche should be digitised and available online, to save space. • Exhibition capacity for community groups etc in little room? Or elsewhere? • Comfy but inviting – furnishing/seats etc. • Floor level and useability/accessibility of courtyard and exterior /interior relationship – idea good. Grading? How dense / permeable is screen treatment? • Posters/heritage photos throughout building. Not <i>too</i> museum style. There's lots of wall space. "Heritage style" material. • Book returns – location? • What happens to current after hours chute room space? • Pram lock up area outside? (but mothers need access also) • Floor material in kids area – child friendly, can sit on it, acoustics / sound baffling. • Rotating exhibition space a la Degraes subway – community groups and activities. • Shade trees. • Use ramps for signs? • Author/book talks somewhere? • Posters – here and Albert Road <p>Any other comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prefer this plan to last • Opening hours, spread between two services? Suggested opening hours could be 10-6 everyday, both areas. • Shelving and collection size? 25% increase in stock 220-270 linear

Item	Submission / feedback from	Feedback
		<p>metres.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find good examples of lasercut screening. • Inside/outside spaces great (courtyards). • Annual report on library figures . • Temporary library at South Melbourne Town Hall during construction.
2.	<p>Friends of Emerald Hill Library (Formal submission received following the meeting)</p>	<p>1. Retention and improvement of Emerald Hill Library. As the Friends of Emerald Hill Library, our primary concern is the retention and improvement of the Library and its facilities. The plans as they currently stand offer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More books and CDs. - More library space. - A dedicated children's library space. - Use of the front portico. <p>We strongly endorse these improvements.</p> <p>2. Redevelopment of the building. The Emerald Hill precinct is an area of architectural charm and historic interest: any redevelopment of the Library must be respectful of the heritage of the both the building itself and the precinct as a whole. The proposed treatment of the building retains the original façade – restoring the symmetry of the Bank St frontage – whilst adding life to the area with a new courtyard and the newly-enclosed portico. We believe that the proposed plans offer a balance between retaining the heritage features of the building while making the building more attractive and user-friendly.</p> <p>3. Redevelopment of open areas. One of the strengths of the planned redevelopment is that it takes into account the immediate environs of the library as well as the building itself. Currently, the areas adjacent to the library appear run-down and neglected; these plans offer the opportunity to give an attractive, refreshed appearance to the precinct whilst encouraging increased utilisation of the area. We highly approve of the proposed courtyard on the northern-eastern side: the combination of enclosed library space and open public areas allow usage by library patrons and also by the general public, widening the appeal of the facility. We have some concerns as to the square on the north-western corner: firstly, we think that the proposed layout, with seats adjacent to the ramp facing outward, will create a feeling of awkwardness that may deter people from sitting there; secondly, the proposed 'amphitheatre' seating will be somewhat larger than is required, and creates a visual obstacle to the library.</p> <p>4. Introduction of local history. We recognise the increasing need for a centre to co-ordinate and preserve the heritage of the City of Port Phillip, especially the South Melbourne area. The proposed Heritage Centre will allow for the preservation of important local history, whilst enabling access to and utilisation of the collections by the public and community organisations. We feel that the distribution of space as proposed in the plans represents a fair balance between the requirements of the local history collection, and the local community's need for a library.</p>

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		<p>5. Increased community utilisation. Emerald Hill Library is not just a library, but a community asset. Any redevelopment should make the library more inviting and appealing, and encourage community engagement. Apart from the improved library and local history facilities, the current plans offer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - improved access for the disabled (compliant with regulations). - a community meeting room. - internal flexibility, allowing for community events (such as author's nights). - an exterior courtyard, making the facility more attractive to both library patrons and passers-by. <p>We believe that these will improve the amenity of the library, increasing its potential and widening its appeal to the local community.</p> <p>6. Other considerations. We thank the Council for taking time to consult with us, and for considering our feedback. While this submission is primarily about the physical structure of the proposed library and heritage centre, we would ask that we be consulted in regard to any alterations to the current plans, the fit-out of the library, and also on the operation of the library (opening hours, collections, etc.).</p> <p>Conclusion: For the above reasons, we wish to commend the plans for redevelopment of Emerald Hill Library and Local History Centre, and <u>respectfully submit that these plans be adopted as they currently stand.</u></p>
3.	Cultural Heritage Reference Committee (Meeting 16 November)	<p>Comments about Annexe area / Heritage Centre</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wall height of meeting room/office/ service area – is it full height? If so, does it need to be? • Staff workstation allocations. The service counter could house another workstation. • Consider placement of computer monitors in relation to natural light • Diagonal traffic stream into room from Perrins St entrance may be disturbing to people working. (Clarification: this entrance would only be used after hours) • Furniture locations are inefficient use of space in main part of room • Space needs to be flexible • Noted that the plan is schematic, not exact placement of furniture. Could include one large central work table instead of smaller, individual tables • Display cases and their intention? • Are partitions needed around meeting room? Could be a long table only rather than enclosed space. Shame to close off large space. • Suggests reinstating the annexe as a single volume space, same as the library <p>Comments about West Plaza</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ramp should be set out from building so the architectural features of the building are more visible. Suggests ramp should sit on axis with the new window (current glass door). Suggests native planting / landscaping between building and ramp

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggests use of landscaping to create connections between the histories of the area – clever use of symbols and signs to convey a time trail - that the land is shared between Indigenous and non-Indigenous community. This was mooted for the last proposal in consultation with Aunty Carolyn Briggs. • Current landscaping is well proportioned. West plaza area is working fine as is and doesn't necessarily need changes for the sake of it. • Landscaping should use maximum space available while still leaving enough room for footpath • Would be nice to have a little fence around, similar to a churchyard, with gate open all the time. Trees for shade and seats – demarcation of a precious space. Not open plaza feel. <p>Comments about portico</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closing in the portico is awful. It modifies the design from the original purpose. • Noted that traditionally porticos of buildings such as post offices were convivial meeting places. If the portico is enclosed, it breaks the relationship with the outside. Suggest don't glass portico in, to maintain conviviality and enlivening outside. • Noted conflicts between 21st century access requirements and heritage design in this kind of project • Suggested a railing rather than glass similar to the windows on the west side of the annexe • Could there still be furnishings there even if no glassing in? • The glazed portico affects the most distinctive feature of the building. If the glazing has to happen, it should occur behind the columns. • If main entry is at side but front portico is open / not glassed in, people will get confused and come up the stairs to the portico looking for an entrance. • Some support for glassing in of portico and creation of reading area. <p>Comments about Eastern courtyard & Childrens Area</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Desirable to reinstate laneway through to rear of Library. • However, reinstating laneway would impact on internal space and reduce floor plan. To increase space is a high priority in the brief so reinstating the lane would conflict with this. • Suggested sympathetic elevation to reveal eastern side of building – expose the north eastern elevation. Suggested glazing for ceiling and walls to create an oblique view of elevation and mouldings. • Desirable that the architects reveal the building form without compromising space and other constraints. Reveal the three-dimensionality of heritage architecture. • Some discussion about the green wall and how this would provide thermal mass benefits for the adjoining (non-Council) property. <p>Comments about Library generally</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homework group could work out of the program space. With high numbers of the community in public housing its good to have a place to meet and work.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback for internal design in the State Library indicates that bigger tables are better to allow for groups of people to work either individually or together. More communal seating is desirable rather than individual workstations • Location of local history books in the purple area - some distance from the Heritage Centre. • If computer terminals were consolidated would there be more space? • Need to consider these issues of space and furniture now before final decisions made • Need to wire the building with greatest flexibility • Flexibility is critical to accommodate future changes in library use and technology e.g. advent of iPads • Can local history books be more accessible? Distinction between research collection (accessible) and rare collection (restricted access). <p>General comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This brief doesn't have the same inclusion of display/exhibition space; creating a place to show off collection • Multipurpose spaces can be used for display such as ramps/ glass walls. Supports community exhibition space • Permanent displays preferable rather than short temporary ones. • Query about whether local history services will remain in St Kilda. • Thinks design has long way to go though generally good. Large tables and chairs better for communal and laptop use • Need thick, soft carpet to absorb sound. Important not to be seduced by modern taste in hard surfaces • Need to be attentive to the detail in the building, with good quality fittings • Need flexibility outside and inside • Lack of aesthetic in this design – expediency rather than beauty. Doesn't add any 'gem' to the building or precinct. Need more sense of the dignity of the building retained e.g. internal ramp – one end is a work station, the other is a bookcase. Not enough formality. • Not enough respect for heritage aspects of the building. • Discussion of whether meeting room needs walls? Interest in this idea • Better to have flexible use of space – open plan • Although there has been lots of talk of tweaking, overall happy with the plan.
4.	Emerald Hill Arts Organisations (Meeting 17 November)	<p>General comments</p> <p>All comments were very favourable about the west plaza design. The possibilities of an informal performance area is of particular interest to the Butterfly Club (eg for Glee Club choir activity) and the APO Academy for performances.</p> <p>The plans raised possibilities for use of the library. For instance, it may be possible for APO Academy students to occasionally do group research (eg history of ballet).</p> <p>Specific 'likes'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting rooms

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amphitheatre space • Shelves on castors for flexibility • Like the way the space has come together – well-thought out. Not just one big space. • Like the heritage aspect (space) due to the significance of the area. It would be good to have everything in one spot. <p>Other comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signage is important • What are the library hours? Like the idea of some after business-hours like 8pm finish that will be trialled.
5.	Preschool Kids Session (18 November)	<p><i>Description of what happened at the session:</i></p> <p>Storytime on 18 November had two very special events – Max's birthday (one of the kids) and City of Port Phillip staff were there to talk to kids about what they want at the new library.</p> <p>It was a busy crowd. Max's dad and grandparents were there for his birthday and some relatives of another child, Luca, were visiting from Chile. Clarendon St Kindergarten also came along.</p> <p>Monica Dullard (Mon) was dressed as Bob the Builder – in theme for the consultation about building a new library and heritage centre. Sean was there on guitar. Mon introduced the project and said we'd love your input.</p> <p>What do you want in the new library?</p> <p>Kids:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Big tower • Dog – a real one • Pirate ship • Fire station • Unicorn • Horsie • Pony <p>What colours would you like to see in the new library? What's your favourite colour?</p> <p>Kids:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pink – lots of voices shout this out in unison • The they start adding more colours to the mix such as green and red. Black and blue came out strong. <p>What else would you like to see?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aeroplane • Rocket ship

Item	Submission / feedback from	Feedback
		<p>Mon and Sean perform 'I'm a little teapot'.</p> <p>Mon puts 'Bob the Builder' on the iPod and everyone sings along – they really get into it.</p> <p>Mon asks the parents what they want – shout out to the group:</p> <p>Parents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baby change table • Baby change table in the men's room! • Tables • Toddler toilets • Russian children's books • Outdoor play area – with shade • Cubby house • Café • Coloured rugs <p>A child interrupts the parents' turn with: "I want apple juice at the new library".</p> <p>Mon and Sean perform 'Wheels on the Bus'. Mon does a spin on the song with new age technology - the grannies on the bus go 'text text text' and the daddies on the bus get their iPhones and go 'swipe swipe swipe'. Mon and Sean then perform Wiggles.</p> <p>Mon starts reading '<i>Maisie Goes to the Library</i>' to the group, integrating some words about our new library and how the new library might have this or that. In the new library we'll be able to do what Maisie and her friends are doing (for example, go outside).</p> <p>A boy calls out that he is currently building a new tree house at his house.</p> <p>On the page that shows Maisie and her friends reading on different chairs and cushions, Mon asks the kids:</p> <p>What chairs they would like at the new library?</p> <p>Kids:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green • Black • Blue • Big chairs • Small chairs • Shiny chairs • Shiny and pink <p>Mon comments on the ostrich in the book but a child corrects her that it is a peacock. And one time he saw a peacock at the zoo.</p> <p>Kids discuss some more ideas for the new outside area. They want footy</p>

Item	Submission / feedback from	Feedback
		<p>balls and a footy ground.</p> <p>Mon and Sean perform 'Old MacDonald had a Farm'</p> <p>When we got to the bits where you fill in the gaps of what to have on the farm (on the farm he had a ...), Mon changed it so the group would answer things that we wanted at the library:</p> <p>Kids:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer • Balloons • Gorilla • Peacock • Rubbish truck • Crocodile • Playstation (this may have been a parent) <p>Staff and parents commented that Storytime is very noisy – maybe we need a soundproof area in the new building.</p> <p>Storytime was nearing an end. The kinder kids were taken away to complete a drawing exercise, while Mon and Amanda kept the other kids for more singing and a less structured drawing session.</p> <p>The kinder kids were all enthusiastic about drawing and they were open to chatting to Council staff and their teacher about what they had drawn, so that we could capture notes on their artwork. (See Attachment 2 for pictures.)</p> <p>Strong themes in conversations included unicorns, the colour pink, water (e.g. swimming pool) and rocket ships.</p> <p>The drawings will eventually be returned to the kindergarten with some info on what Council has done with their contribution and what the next steps.</p> <p>Other things raised by kids during the session:</p> <p>What the kids want:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Python • Tower • Pirate ship • Pony • Aeroplane • Fire station • Fire engine • Ladder • Unicorn • Horsey • A racing track • Grass and the sky • Footy things, footy ground and footy

Item	Submission / feedback from	Feedback
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Slide and a swing • Water slide • Shark hanging from the walls • Television • Plants in the outdoor area • Hanging displays • Lego • Books about footy, Star Wars, bullet trains, aeroplanes, aircraft carriers, jet fighters, rocket ships, transformers, gorillas, dolphins, princesses and birthdays
6.	<p>“Homies” discussion with primary school kids from Monday evening homework group (21 November)</p>	<p>What do you want in the new library?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More PCs • More DVDs • No videos • Couches & comfy furniture • Chairs • Massage chair • Tables / bigger table • Games room with different types of video games • More artwork/pictures on the walls • Fantastic Mr Fox and other Roald Dahl books • Snack bar • Air conditioning • Swimming pool, paintball arena <p>Would you use the new program / meeting space?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, we want more table space. • Will keep using the whole library space too <p>What do you like about the library now that you want to keep?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Printer • Front desk • Games, e.g. chess <p>Comments from St Luke’s/organisers of Homies Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keen to ensure Homies Group can still meet during construction period – should work OK using the temporary library service in South Melbourne Town Hall Theatrette (combined with kitchen breakout space if needed)
7.	<p>Local Residents (Meeting 22 November)</p>	<p>General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The plan feels good – like what we wanted originally. • Support courtyard and glassed in portico. • Likes reinstatement of heritage features. • Compliments to the architect – very sensitive design. • Would like capacity for exhibition space throughout. • Like the position of the entry into Library & Heritage Centre – together but defined. • Plans draw building together very well.

Item	Submission / feedback from	Feedback
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Query whether need so many toilets – disabled toilet can be for able-bodied people too. • Acoustics and noise attenuation are important, for instance so that kids can still be loud without affecting other library users. Need soft furnishings rather than hard. • Any windows at rear of building need to be sensitive to neighbours. • Ensure capacity for underfloor storage. • May want to bring the 'Library & Heritage Extension' closer to the annexe / heritage area, eg by moving Program Space within the purple area on the plan. • Suggest commemorating Harold Alexander in the project, eg name the building the Emerald Hill Library & Harold Alexander Heritage Centre. <p>Cultural heritage & local history services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City of Port Phillip has best local history collection outside the Latrobe Library. It will be good to have more of it displayed. • Consider digitising microfilms. • Would be good to open up the annexe / heritage centre – but needs to be balanced with need for some privacy for staff activities. • May not need walls for meeting room? But would still need a large table to spread things out. <p>West plaza</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seats should be appropriate for older people and people with disabilities – e.g. backs and arms. • Be careful not to block views from/to forecourt and Town Hall. Needs to be oriented around Town Hall. • Could have indigenous vegetation moving through the ages, perhaps with a small installation/sculpture, to represent indigenous history, white occupation, and contemporary society. Could be a kind of ceremony of reconciliation, then and now – could be a golden opportunity. • Moving the main entrance ramp further away from the building would look OK. • West plaza should be landscaped as part of the Emerald Hill Precinct project.
8.	<p>Submission Formal submission from President, Volunteer committee, Middle Park Toy Library</p>	<p>A Toy Library [should be] part of Emerald Hill Library & Heritage Centre Project</p> <p>A toy library is integral to our community and is strongly supported by Port Phillip Council.</p> <p>It provides access to a wide range of quality, educational toys. Borrowing toys is cost-effective and environmentally responsible. Participation promotes community involvement. It would draw disadvantaged families into the library environment.</p> <p>Port Phillip Council area had a toy library in Emerald Hill until it was moved some years ago to Middle Park.</p> <p>There are many ways of integrating a toy library into the current project, I am certain others will be able to evaluate these effectively:</p>

Item	Submission / feedback from	Feedback
		<p>A toy library could use: Purpose built Floor-to-Ceiling shelving which opens out into an open space. (Shelving of 2m x 10m leading into an open space of 20 sq. m)</p> <p>Toys available in a toy library:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - jigsaw puzzles for cognition, - construction toys for fine motor manipulation - imagination and creative toys essential for development.
9.	Feedback form (hard copy)	<p>What do you like?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Courtyard • Green spaces <p>Any other comments?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hoping that library services won't be disrupted too much during construction • Would like baby change facilities in new toilets. • If possible, more PCs!
10.	Feedback form (hard copy)	<p>What do you like?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural light • Outdoor area • Shade and plants • Outdoor seating / reading <p>What would you change?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lighting • Add colour to walls • Add floor access to scan books in and out • More books for babies • Nicer chairs • Bigger rhyme area • Change table • Longer parking <p>Any other comments?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can't wait for the well needed improvements.
11.	Feedback form (hard copy)	<p>What do you like?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expansion and broader purpose. <p>What would you change?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needs meeting space for public events with audio visual if it is to improve heritage • Needs video and audio recording facilities to capture oral history – a heritage centre that can't record heritage within 21st Century facilities is inadequate <p>Any other comments?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If there are expanded volunteers are there facilities for them? • Is this [Local History & Cultural Heritage Services] the same limited

Item	Submission / feedback from	Feedback
		facilities or access to staff provided by two other local history rooms in CoPP? Or is this expanded access to space and expanded resources?
12.	Feedback form (hard copy)	<p>What do you like?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food van / Department of the Evenings – change to Hampton – church/rainy days bus <p>What would you change?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coles – would move • Safeway – hampers <p>Any other comments?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority work for accommodation – church, Chapel Street • Block and kids running and talking too much
13.	Online submission	<p>Building Design & Layout :</p> <p>What do you like?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The fact that we're finally getting something going. • The Library building (former Post office). <p>What would you change?</p> <p>The layout simply has not been thought out. I cannot accept this plan as a serious attempt to solve the problem, as positioning of the elements is not sensible. Obviously the pressure from the library lobby group has paid off well, for It seems the library has been greatly expanded and meeting space given emphasis at the expense of research. Why is it necessary to involve a large meeting room in this limited area when there are others across the road at the Town Hall? And why should that meeting room be placed in between separated parts of the heritage area anyway?</p> <p>I leave it to the librarians to take up the issue of the children's area being out of sight of library staff. But I would like to say the concept of a glassed in portico on this lovely heritage building is quite off-putting.</p> <p>Any other comments?</p> <p>Does it have to be said yet again that we need more time and space for research, remembering that inadequate facilities with limited hours with which we now cope at Port and St Kilda are to be closed down under the new plan, leaving only this one facility for the whole of Port Phillip -- and at this time when public interest in local history and family history in particular continues to grow? Up to now we have been seriously under-served, with three former cities served by a single local history librarian in confined space minimally equipped. Speaking for our end of town (Port Melbourne), it is quite difficult to book time on our antiquated equipment -- one microfiche, one microfilm reader -- difficult enough as to discourage thorough research altogether.</p> <p>Port Phillip councillors and officers from day one have been most supportive and protective of the heritage of our three cities, so this lack of research support surprises. To those of us who badly need such facilities the lack is all too distressing but I can understand why Councillors and officers who do not involve in historical research might be unable to accord</p>

Item	Submission / feedback from	Feedback
		<p>it any importance.</p> <p>As one of a fine team of museum professionals, teachers, architects, archivists, librarians and historians who previously spent many years researching and developing this centre, I am very disappointed that we seem to be reinventing the wheel, and with this result.</p> <p>Do you have any comments about the Local History & Cultural Heritage Services in the new Emerald Hill Library & Heritage Centre? I believe I have covered that. However: I have to mention that on the part of our members there was immediate and general disapproval of the title, which suggests that this is the Emerald Hill Research Centre when it serves all of Port Phillip. However I know from experience that this can of worms is better left unopened. It is after all located on Emerald Hill.</p> <p>I see no reason why if we DO have meeting rooms that these should be open outside of library hours. It is not permitted to be in the library after hours, and this should definitely apply as well to heritage areas.</p> <p>I like the concept of the overseeing position of the heritage officer/local history librarian</p> <p>Do you have any comments about the Library Service in the new Emerald Hill Library & Heritage Centre? It will be good to see expanded hours for the library, which is under-utilised. And of course the longer those hours, the more time we have to access the research facilities.</p> <p>It's probably just due to the simplicity of the drawing (just as what looks like a reduction in microfiche etc in the heritage centre is misleading), but the expanded library is looking very open, more like a huge lounge room than a library.</p> <p>Is there anything else you would like to tell Council about the Emerald Hill Library & Heritage Centre project? Thanks for an anticipated completion! For me personally this location is most inconvenient, yet I look forward to it</p>
14.	Online submission	<p>Building Design & Layout What do you like? 1, The building is to be retained and restored in a historically-appropriate way.</p> <p>2. The outside courtyard on the north-east corner. This will attract patrons to the library, and can also be used by passers-by.</p> <p>What would you change? The 'amphitheatre' on the north-west corner (Perrins and Bank Sts). It obstructs the view of the building, and is larger than is necessary. A flat area with seats around some trees might be better</p> <p>Any other comments?</p>

Item	Submission / feedback from	Feedback
		<p>The building and landscape design is generally good.</p> <p>Do you have any comments about the Local History & Cultural Heritage Services in the new Emerald Hill Library & Heritage Centre? Good idea. There is much interest in local history, and South Melbourne (in particular) has been somewhat neglected. This will put the local history collection in one place and make it accessible to the public.</p> <p>Do you have any comments about the Library Service in the new Emerald Hill Library & Heritage Centre? It is good that the library is to be retained and extended. My greatest concern is that the library operating hours should be maintained - with night opening (to 8pm) at least one night per week, to allow people who work outside the area to access the library.</p> <p>Is there anything else you would like to tell Council about the Emerald Hill Library & Heritage Centre project? 1. The council should consider renaming the library as 'South Melbourne Library' to make it slightly more apparent where it is (people new to the locality often don't know where Emerald Hill is). 2. The proposed redevelopment is good, so long as the library services do not suffer (i.e., hours are maintained and book numbers do not fall). 3. The local history centre will also be a community asset.</p>
15.	Online submission	<p>Building Design & Layout What do you like? The restoration of the old post office.</p> <p>Do you have any comments about the Local History & Cultural Heritage Services in the new Emerald Hill Library & Heritage Centre? Where is the City of Port Phillip Heritage Collection stored? How can staff work away from their collection and offer a comprehensive service? A better model is that developed by the City of Stonnington and their new History Centre at Northbrook, rear Malvern Library.</p> <p>Do you have any comments about the Library Service in the new Emerald Hill Library & Heritage Centre? It is great to see a larger space for the library and a connection between the indoor and outdoor spaces.</p>
16.	Online submission	<p>Building Design & Layout What do you like? It all appears OK for the function the PPCC proposes but I oppose it</p> <p>What would you change? Too many Libraries (5) in PPCC. I would close Emerald Hill (only a 1 km away for to other libraries)and Middle Park (too small and little used).</p> <p>Any other comments? PPCC area is the 2nd most affluent municipality in Victoria and most of us have a home computer for information gathering. Books are used less as a</p>

Item	Submission / feedback from	Feedback
		<p>result. I do not think our libraries should stock any fiction except for the classics. If you want to read fiction then support the writers and book industry by buying fiction book.</p> <p>Do you have any comments about the Local History & Cultural Heritage Services in the new Emerald Hill Library & Heritage Centre? I use ancestry.com.au for information on my family and the history of our area is on Google.</p> <p>Do you have any comments about the Library Service in the new Emerald Hill Library & Heritage Centre? The staff are OK but see my earlier comments.</p> <p>Is there anything else you would like to tell Council about the Emerald Hill Library & Heritage Centre project? No.</p>
17.	Online submission	<p>Building Design & Layout What do you like?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respects the building - though depends on final design of screen and ramp. • Uses all the footprint available. • Dedicated children's area. • Using the portico while keeping it intact. <p>What would you change? The hard surfaces on the north west corner, would block views out to SMTH, too much hard surface to the treatment.</p> <p>Any other comments? Would like the South Melbourne residents and the Emerald Hill Library users, and Friends of Emerald Hill Library to be involved in every step of the process from now on.</p> <p>Do you have any comments about the Local History & Cultural Heritage Services in the new Emerald Hill Library & Heritage Centre? Would like to know hours and services. Suggest digitising the rate rolls so they can be searched on line (even as pdfs) rather than microfilm. Would like photo displays of the city as it was and a program to record what is changing now (eg. teaching people how to photograph and where to store records of buildings, people's histories).</p> <p>Do you have any comments about the Library Service in the new Emerald Hill Library & Heritage Centre? Would like to know what increase in will be made in hours and services.</p> <p>Would like to see stock held increased considerably - the visitors numbers for such a small branch are high, but borrowings could be increased considerably by providing much more browsing opportunities.</p> <p>Childrens services also could be increased to reflect the increase in absolute numbers of young families in the area. Need to cater to the growing population that SM Central serves.</p>

<i>Item</i>	<i>Submission / feedback from</i>	<i>Feedback</i>
		<p>Is there anything else you would like to tell Council about the Emerald Hill Library & Heritage Centre project?</p> <p>What are the next steps and the timings? How much change is expected from the plans shown to the final plans for planning permission?</p> <p>Keep the design respectful to the Emerald Hill Estate - remembering it was on the Register of the National Estate and it is a beautiful part of the city.</p>

What do you want to see in the new Emerald Hill
Library & Heritage Centre kids room?

My name is...

My age is...

This drawing shows...

Books - about
footy, star wars

In my library there would be. footy things,
+ books.

What do you want to see in the new Emerald Hill
Library & Heritage Centre kids room?

My name is... Felix

My age is... 5

This drawing shows...

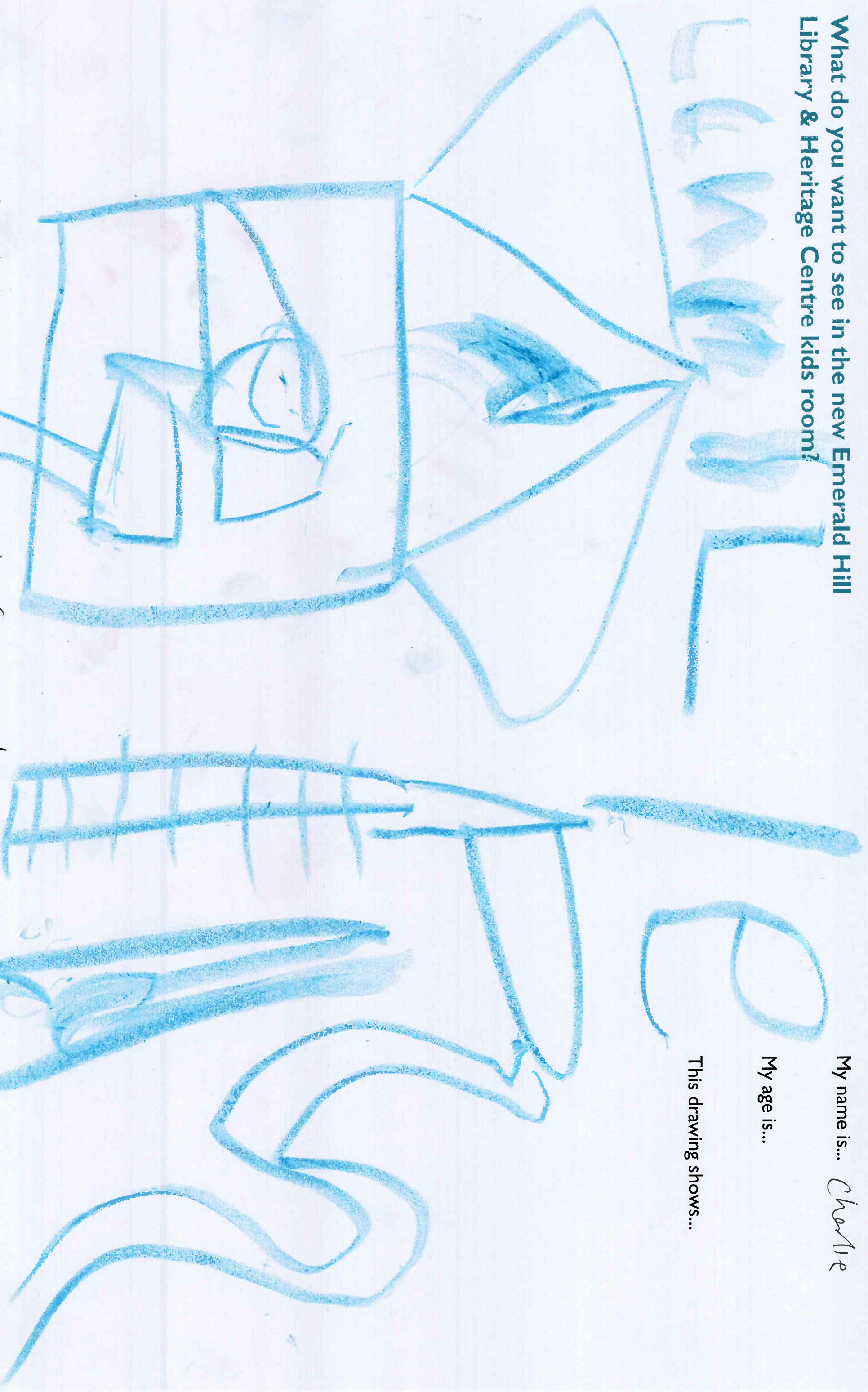
In my library there would be
a racing track. Some boys like
racing track. There would be
books about bullet trains.
and aeroplanes, air craft carrier.

What do you want to see in the new Emerald Hill
Library & Heritage Centre kids room?

My name is... Charlie

My age is...

This drawing shows...



In library, there could be a slide +
a swing + there's a shark hanging from the wall.
there'd be books about gorillas, jet fighters + star wars 31

What do you want to see in the new Emerald Hill
Library & Heritage Centre kids room?

My name is...

Sarah

My age is...

4

This drawing shows...



Her son
My favourite
colour is pink

What do you want to see in the new Emerald Hill
Library & Heritage Centre kids room?

My name is...

Ruby

My age is...

5

This drawing shows...

Pink library
Things hanging from
the ceiling
Beautiful ponies,
unicorns



What do you want to see in the new Emerald Hill
Library & Heritage Centre kids room?

My name is...

My age is...

This drawing shows...

Design - Books about princesses

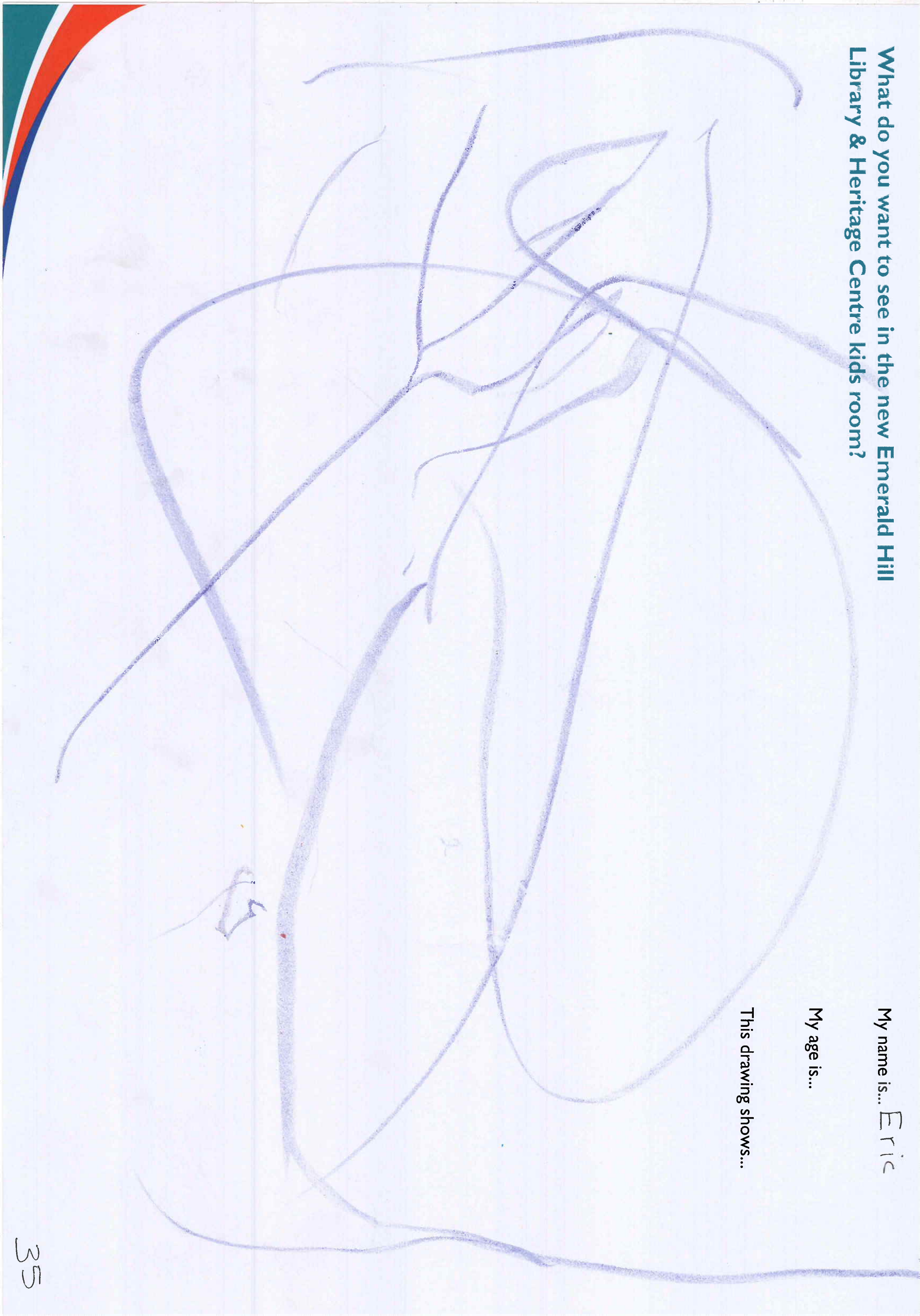


What do you want to see in the new Emerald Hill
Library & Heritage Centre kids room?

My name is... Eric

My age is...

This drawing shows...



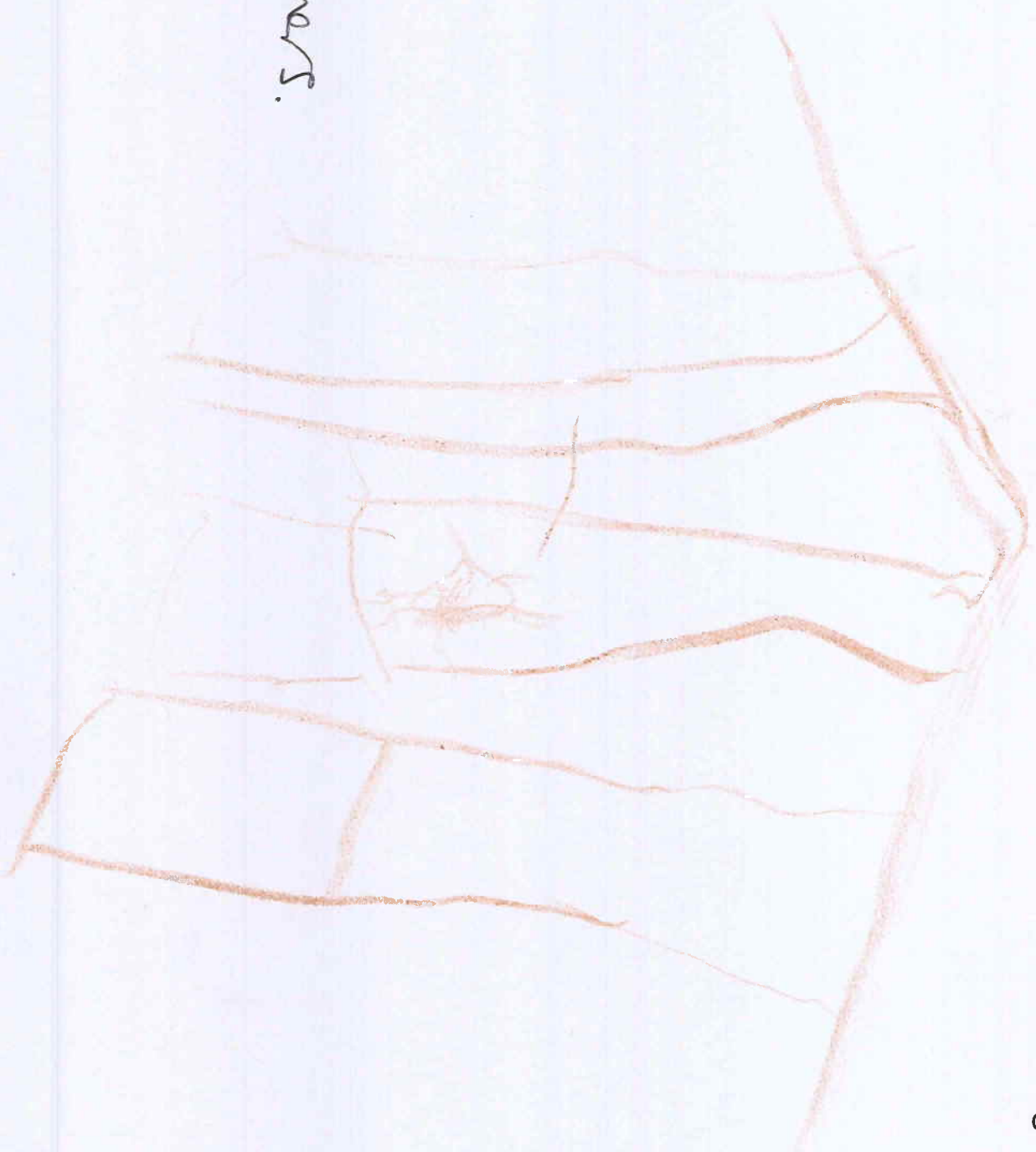
What do you want to see in the new Emerald Hill
Library & Heritage Centre kids room?

My name is... Luca

My age is...

This drawing shows...

In my library I would
be sitting watching
books about transformers.



What do you want to see in the new Emerald Hill
Library & Heritage Centre kids room?

My name is... Mitchell

My age is...

This drawing shows...

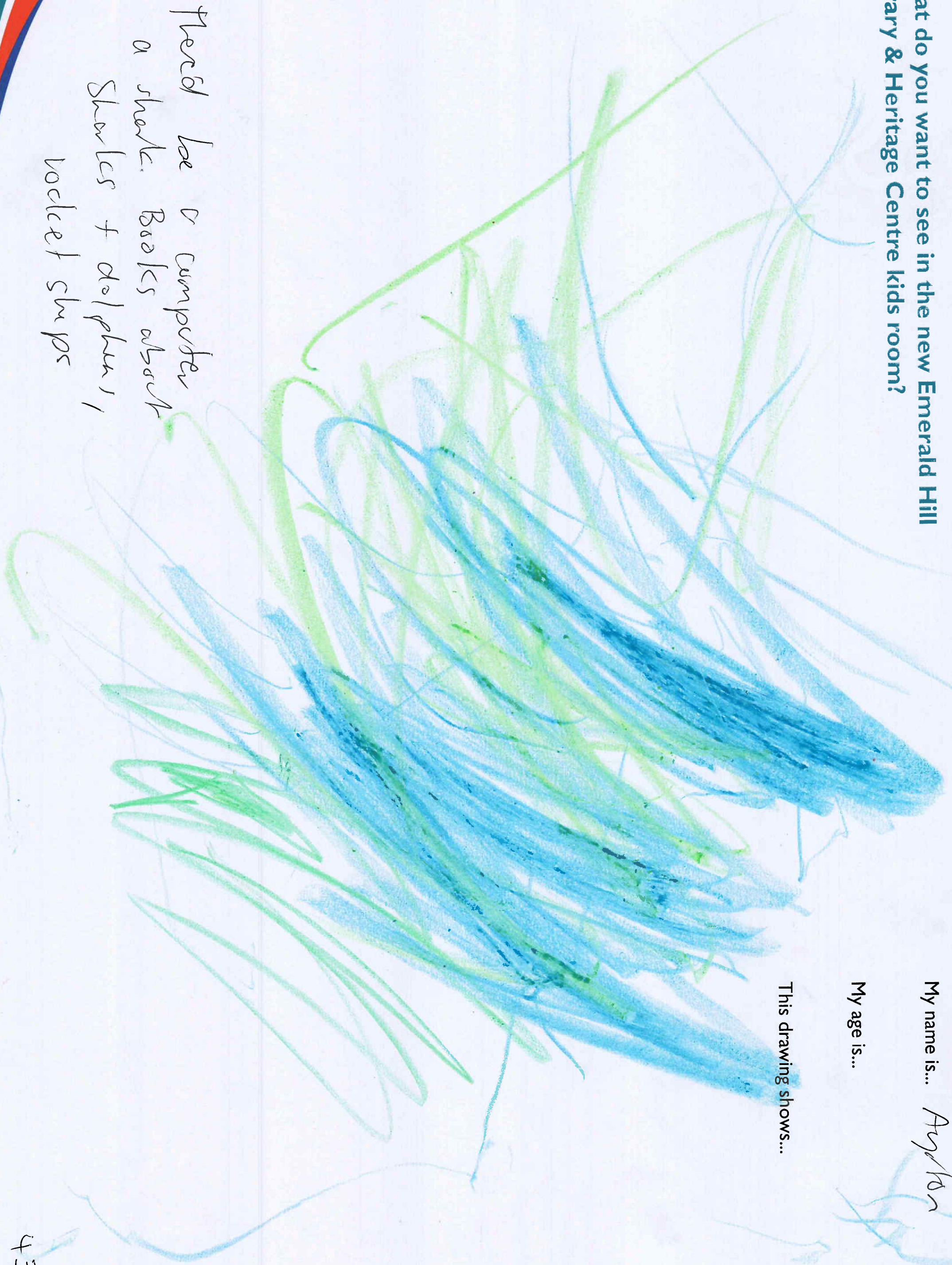


What do you want to see in the new Emerald Hill
Library & Heritage Centre kids room?

My name is... *Angela*

My age is...

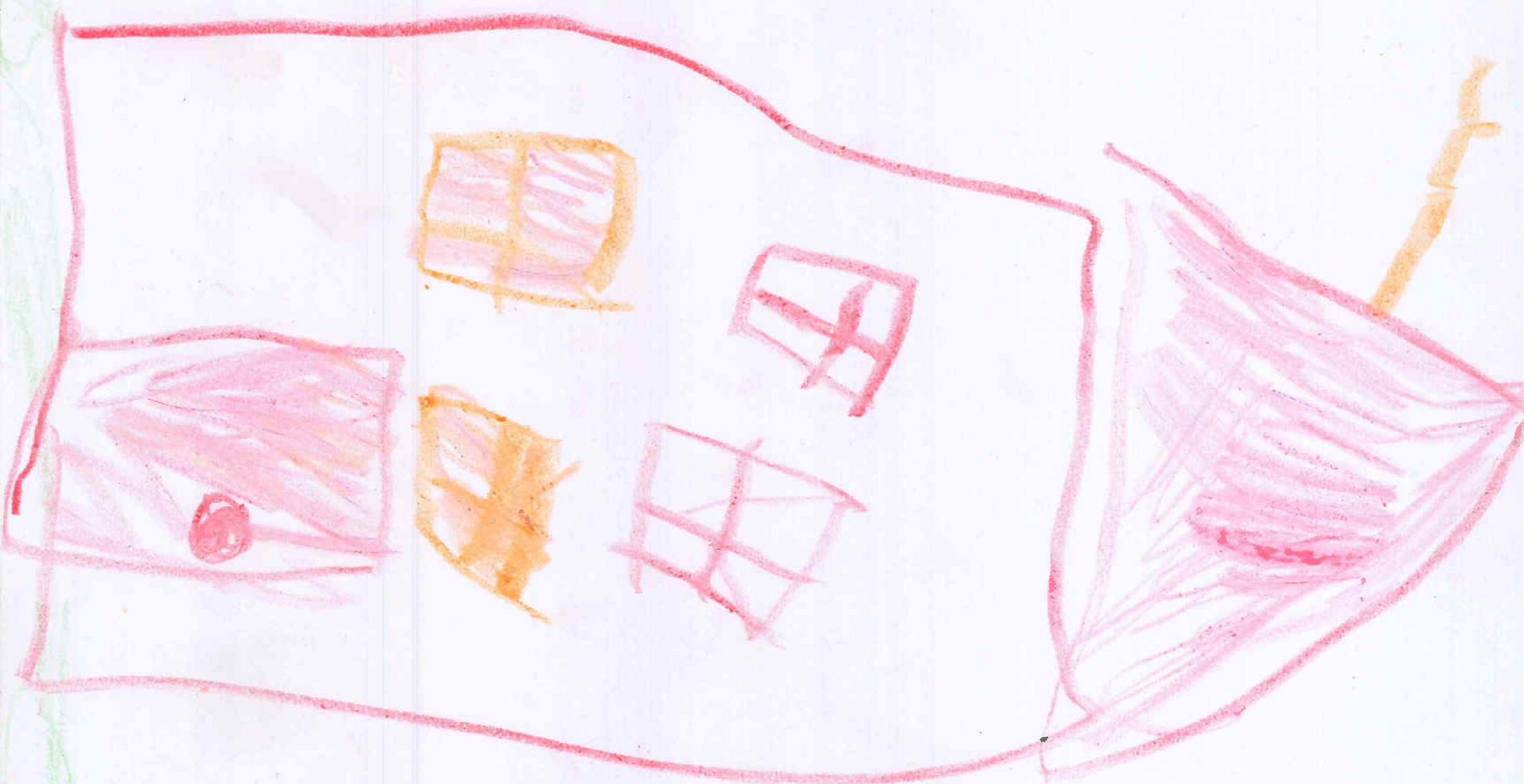
This drawing shows...



There'd be a computer
a shark. Books about
Sharks + dolphins,
rocket ships

Daisy 4 yrs

I want pink and gold
unicorns in the library &
a pony & a peacock.



I want grass & the sky

What do you want to see in the new Emerald Hill
Library & Heritage Centre kids room?

My name is...

My age is...

This drawing shows...

What do you want to see in the new Emerald Hill
Library & Heritage Centre kids room?

My name is...

Anise

My age is...

4

This drawing shows...



There'd be a water slide
Books about holidays.

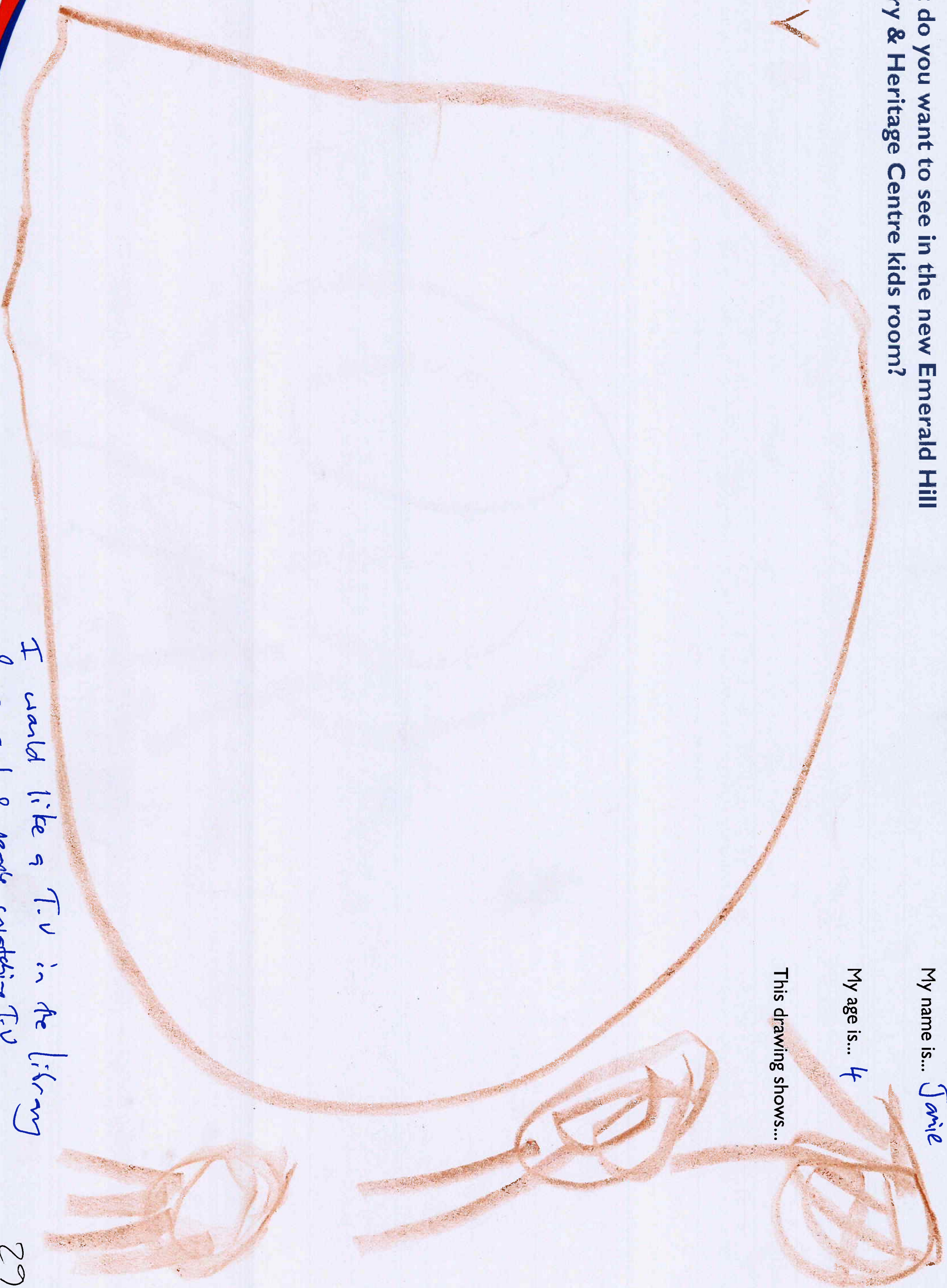
What do you want to see in the new Emerald Hill
Library & Heritage Centre kids room?

TV

My name is... *Janie*

My age is... *4*

This drawing shows...



I would like a T.V in the library
& a cat & people watching T.V.



What do you want to see in the new Emerald Hill
Library & Heritage Centre kids room?

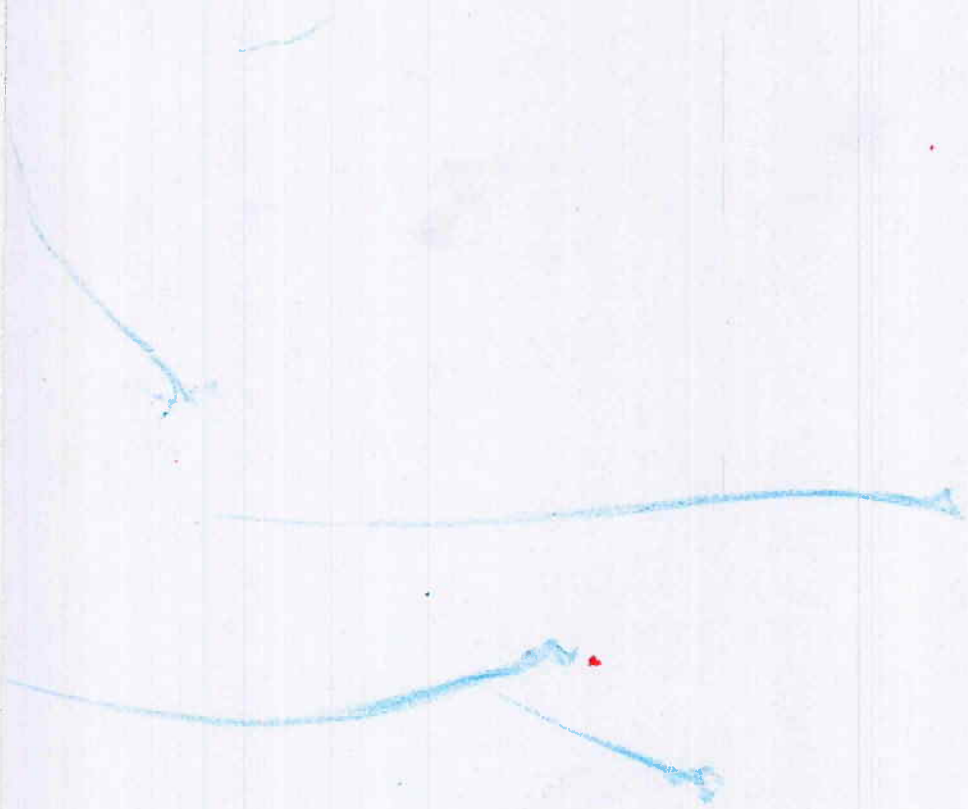
I would like a fire engine in the library &
a ladder

My name is... Leo

My age is... 4

This drawing shows...





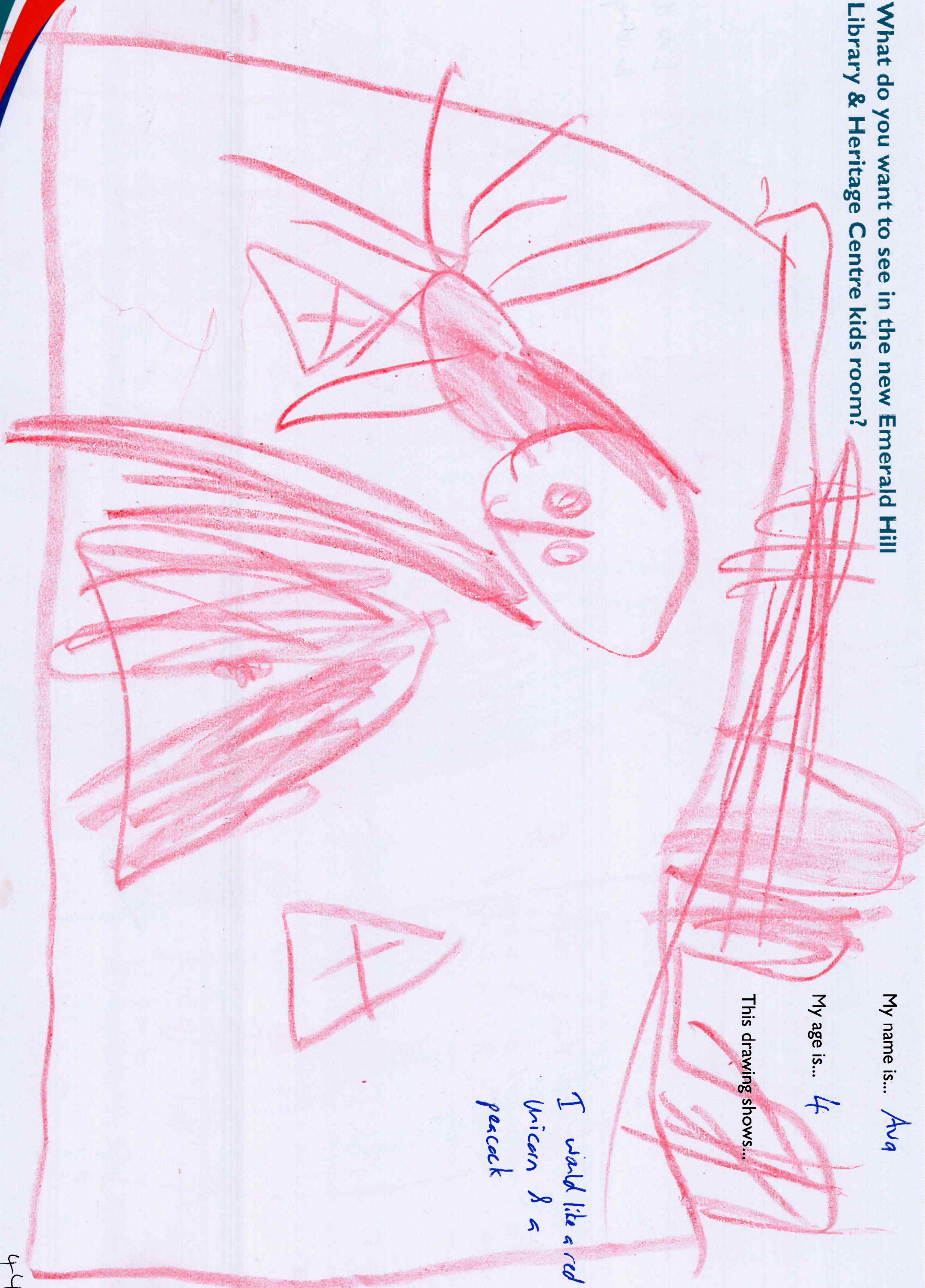
What do you want to see in the new Emerald Hill
Library & Heritage Centre kids room?

My name is... Ava

My age is... 4

This drawing shows...

I would like a red
unicorn & a
peacock



Lot 4
Building

44B



Emerald Hill Library & Heritage Centre Upgrade

Information sheet

Background

Council plans to expand and refurbish the current Emerald Hill Library to become the Emerald Hill Library & Heritage Centre. This project will provide:

- more space for library services
- more books, DVDs and CDs
- a new focus for local history and cultural heritage services
- better access for community groups
- improved disability access.

Council is inviting community feedback on the proposal.

Building heritage

The 1912 and 1918 buildings on the Emerald Hill Library site are an important part of the Emerald Hill precinct. Council intends to safeguard and celebrate the heritage of the buildings. This project has been designed to meet Heritage Victoria requirements. The 1912 building was formerly a post office, an important example of a public building in the Beaux-Arts style. There is an adjoining building, the annexe, which was built in 1918 and originally used as a pension office. A modern addition was added to the building complex in the 1970s, including toilets and a staff room.

As part of this project, the City of Port Phillip is taking the opportunity to reinstate two original features of the buildings. On the front portico entrance, a blank window on the left side of the front portico façade will be restored to match the blank window on the right side. In the annexe building, a doorway will be reinstated as the original shaped window.

Artist's impression of the Emerald Hill Library & Heritage Centre – view from Bank St



Expanded library services

The proposed redevelopment provides more space for library services including:

- new children's area
- more books, DVDs and CDs
- more space for casual seating with wireless access, including a new courtyard
- six more PCs for public access, including four public access PCs in the heritage services area
- more space for programs and workshops – a new program space is included, plus most library shelves will be on wheels to allow easier use of the library area when needed for larger events.

Focus for cultural heritage and local history services

It is proposed that Council's Local History Librarian and the Cultural Heritage Officer will be principally based at Emerald Hill Library & Heritage Centre, although they will still have meetings and other duties elsewhere.

The local history and cultural heritage services at Emerald Hill will include:

- research areas for public use, including PCs, and access to microfiche and microfilm
- meeting space for heritage and history related groups, eg. Middle Park Historical Society
- lockable desk & cabinet for use by local historical society
- drop in service (limited hours per day) including:
 - ♦ photo reproduction service
 - ♦ guided walks bookings and self-guided walks information
 - ♦ assistance with research
 - ♦ schedule appointments with Cultural Heritage Officer and Local History librarian
 - ♦ access point for Local History Collection items.
 - ♦ possible expanded volunteer program.



Artist's impression of the interior, Emerald Hill Library & Heritage Centre

Meeting and program space

A new program space with access to kitchenette and toilets will be available for library and heritage programs and workshops run by the City of Port Phillip, and for community-run programs and meetings.

There will also be a meeting room in the heritage area for about 10-12 people. This will be available for history and heritage related groups and meetings.

Technology

The project will include:

- a total of 10 public access PCs (six PCs in the library spaces, plus four new PCs in the local history and cultural heritage area). This is an increase of six PCs from the current four. There will also be IT capacity to add additional PCs in the future if required.
- wireless access throughout the building and in the immediate outside area, with additional casual seating inside and out
- access to microfiche and microfilm readers
- self service options.

Sustainability

Sustainability measures will include the collection of stormwater from the roof, stored in rainwater tanks. This will irrigate the 'green walls', the two vertical garden walls in the front courtyard adjoining Bank Street.

Improved disability access

The existing building has a ramp into the library portico, which does not meet current accessibility standards. Existing access between the library and the annexe is via a stairway. The new design has proper ramp access into the building as the main entrance, along with ramp access between the annexe and the rest of the building. Public toilets will also be built to meet accessibility standards.

More information and to have your say

For more information or to have your say, please refer to the enclosed FAQ sheet or visit www.portphillip.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay. Alternatively, contact Libby Hart on lhart@portphillip.vic.gov.au or 9209 6615. Consultation closes Monday 28 November.

Artist's impression of the Emerald Hill Library & Heritage Centre – view from Perrin St



Frequently Asked Questions

When will construction begin?

Construction could begin as early as September 2012. However, timelines depend on the outcomes of the community consultation and statutory planning processes. Construction is likely to take around 12 months.

Will the library be closed during construction?

Temporary library services throughout the construction period will be provided from the South Melbourne Town Hall, in the theatrette. Council will work with groups that usually book the theatrette to seek alternative venues for them.

Will the new building look different from the outside?

The existing heritage buildings will have two heritage features reinstated and restored. At the portico entrance, a blank window on the left hand side was punched through many years ago to allow a ramp to go through. This blank window will be reinstated to match the blank window on the other side, as it originally did in 1912. In the annexe building, the project will reinstate the window on the annexe where a door was punched through many years ago, so that it reverts to its 1918 design.

The 1970s modern extension which houses a corridor, toilets, and a staffroom will be demolished. In its place will be built a new extension which includes a new children's area, a program space for events, and new toilets with disability access.

Will there be more library space?

Yes, space for library services will increase significantly. Currently, the central library room is 175 square metres. The new development will see a new childrens area (additional 84 square metres) and a library and heritage extension area (additional 58 square metres). There will also be additional areas of seating with wireless access in a new courtyard (additional 65 square metres) and in the portico (26 square metres). Members of the public and community groups will also have access to additional space in the Heritage service area and in the new Program space.

Will there be more books, DVDs and CDs?

Yes. When the new Library & Heritage Centre opens in 2013, the collection of books, DVDs and CDS will be increased by about 25% compared to the current collection. The project also allows room for future growth in later years.

How will the meeting room and program space be booked?

This has not been finalised yet. Feedback and ideas are welcome.

How much will the project cost?

Design, construction and landscaping costs are projected to cost about \$3.46 million.

What happens to the consultation feedback?

Council will consider the feedback received at its meeting on 28 November 2011. In December 2011, Council will finalise its requirements for the building. This is with a view to submitting a statutory planning application by the early months of 2012.

Some decisions about the shape of future services may need to wait until further budget processes for 2012/13 or 2013/14. All feedback considered as part of this process will inform those future decisions.

Will there be a statutory planning process?

Yes, it is expected that a statutory planning application will be formally lodged in the early months of 2012. The public consultation process will commence in line with statutory requirements soon afterwards. This consultation process will be focused on statutory planning matters. Any member of the public can make a submission as part of this process, and address the Statutory Planning Committee of Council.

What happened to the previous plans to build an Urban Studies Centre?

In 2009, Council decided not to proceed with plans to build an Urban Studies Centre at the site. Instead, Council wishes to build an expanded Library & Heritage Centre at Emerald Hill.

Have Your Say

You can have your say in a variety of ways.

View the proposed plans

Proposed plans and other information will be available from the Council website and at Emerald Hill Library during opening hours from 14 to 28 November. Plans will also be available at other Port Phillip library branches and town halls. There are a variety of ways you can have your say.

Attend a session at Emerald Hill Library

Community information sessions (drop in any time during the session):

- Monday 14 November, 4 pm – 5.30 pm
- Tuesday 22 November 6 pm – 7.30pm

Make a submission

- Fill out a written feedback form at Emerald Hill Library, other library branches or at town halls
- Fill out the online feedback form on Have Your Say at www.portphillip.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay
- Attend the Council meeting at 6 pm, Monday 28 November, St Kilda Town Hall. At this meeting, Council will receive community feedback about the project and members of the community may formally address Council.

All comments are welcome. Consultation closes Monday 28 November 2011.

For more information, please contact Libby Hart on lhart@portphillip.vic.gov.au or phone 9209 6615. Please advise if you have any hearing, access or interpretation requirements for any of the above sessions.

Artist's impression of the
Emerald Hill Library &
Heritage Centre – aerial view



