



KaBOOM! Top Ten Ways to say Thank You

To make a lasting impression, think outside of the notecard! Use your creativity and playfulness to show your supporters how much they've meant to your project.

- 10) **Post-Build Barbecue!** After the Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony, celebrate with everybody's favorite food and beverages. Tell everyone that it's okay to play with their food!
- 9) **T-shirts!** Put the names of all sponsors and donors on a colorful, creative T-shirt.
- 8) **Awards Ceremony!** Give out small trophies to people who truly earned them (the person who hauled the most mulch, the organization or committee member who recruited the most volunteers, the person who sweated the most, the organizer who stressed the most ...) Is your town sports-crazed? Cue the Olympic theme song and give gold medals to volunteer winners and major sponsors. Have a local trophy company donate them - or better yet, have children make them!
- 7) **Banners, Banners, Banners!** Have a local business donate banners with the names of major sponsors and supporters. (Include the name of the business that donated the banner!) Hang them over the playspace, over a downtown street, or drag them behind a plane!
- 6) **Skywriting!** Try to get a company to do a skywriting message for the whole town to see. This one might be difficult to find, but think how charged your volunteers will be when "Thank You PlaySpace Builders" appears in the sky!
- 5) **Newspaper Ad!** Place a full page ad in the local paper during the week following the build. Just imagine: It's Sunday morning. You crawl out of bed, put on a pot of coffee, and go fetch the morning paper from the end of the driveway. You open to page 3 and see a wonderful picture of children playing on the playspace that you just helped build, with a huge headline saying "Thanks to all who were a part of the build!" What a great way to start the day!
- 4) **Time Capsule of Play!** Let kids, donors and friends of the playspace choose objects that have a special relationship to the playspace build. Display and bury the time capsule during the Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony, and choose a future date to unearth it (at least 10 years from now!). You might include drawings from Design Day, a dirty T-shirt from the build, a proclamation from the Mayor declaring the day Playspace Day, product donations from participating businesses, a broken clamp/bolt, or whatever else you can think of! Remind everyone that with proper maintenance, the playspace will still be around when the capsule is removed!
- 3) **Permanent Plaque or Marker!** This is another great way to say thank you - a permanent plaque or sign with an inscription dedicating the playspace to all who made it possible. Commission a special plaque, or add the inscription to permanent safety signs at the playspace. Officially unveil it at the Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony!
- 2) **PlaySpace Photo Album!** Preserve that feeling of community spirit and pride by compiling your best photos from Design Day, fundraising events, children's activities and Build Day(s) into a simple but touching memento. Consider having children design the cover! If you race to a one-hour photo store, you can have these ready for the Ribbon-Cutting, or you can wait until the concrete is dry and include photos of children playing on the new playspace.

**And the #1 way to say
"thank you" to sponsors, donors, and
one another is ...**

- 1) **Simply go up to individuals,** pat them on the back, shake their hands, give them a hug and say ... THANK YOU!!!