



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Storyland: A Trip Through Childhood Favorites™ Opening January 21 ***New Literacy Exhibit Brings Beloved Children's Books to Life***

Fort Worth, TX - Beloved children's books will come alive as *Storyland: A Trip Through Childhood Favorites* opens at the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History on Saturday, January 21. *Storyland* provides imaginative, book-based experiences for children from birth to eight and models early literacy experiences. The exhibit closes on May 7, 2017.

Storyland transforms seven beloved and award-winning picture books – *The Tale of Peter Rabbit* by Beatrix Potter; *The Snowy Day* by Ezra Jack Keats; *Where's Spot?* by Eric Hill; *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* by Laura Numeroff; *Chicka Chicka Boom Boom* by Bill Martin, Jr. and John Archambault; *Abuela* by Arthur Dorros; and *Tuesday* by David Wiesner into three-dimensional play and bi-lingual (English and Spanish) learning environments. These environments highlight the six pre-reading skills defined by the Public Library Association and Association for Library Service to Children, a division of the American Library Association: disposition to read, print awareness, letter knowledge, sound awareness, vocabulary and narrative skills and comprehension.

Children explore literacy skills and concepts through imaginative, interactive experiences and dramatic play, such as:

- Families can immerse themselves in the world of *The Tale of Peter Rabbit*, one of the bestselling children's books of all time. Children explore Peter Rabbit's world as they build vocabulary and narrative skills while searching for Peter's lost belongings, harvesting vegetables and playing in Peter's burrow.
- The exhibit features an area based on *Where's Spot?*, a well-known board book about the search for Spot the dog. Babies and young toddlers will explore sounds and images through busy wall interactives, highlighting for adults how literacy development begins at birth.
- *The Snowy Day* welcomes visitors to Peter's wintry world, where a young boy explores his neighborhood after a fresh snowfall. In addition to dramatic play activities, children have opportunities to build print and sound awareness, as they build a snowperson and explore wintry sounds and words.
- Children are encouraged to reflect on their *Storyland* experience by creating a drawing inspired by the books and writing a caption, title or story. A digital Drawing Cam will capture the paper image and visitors can add it to an electronic gallery of other postcards for visitors to see, and email it home as a souvenir of their experience.

Storyland: A Trip Through Childhood Favorites is presented by Target with support from the State of Minnesota Clean Water, Land, and Legacy Amendment. This project is made possible by a grant from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services. Promotional support provided by Star Tribune.

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About the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History

The Museum was established in 1941 and is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. Anchored by its rich collections, the Museum is dedicated to lifelong learning. It engages guests through creative, vibrant programs and exhibits interpreting science and the history of Texas and the Southwest. The Museum is open daily, except Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Visit www.fortworthmuseum.org for more.