

PREPARING FOR YOUR MUSEUM VISIT



children's
museum



Manitoba Children's Museum
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An Explore-Abilities Access
Program Companion Resource

To learn more about the
Explore-Abilities Access
Program, see childrensmuseum.com.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

WELCOME	2
MUSEUM RULES	3
SAFETY ALERTS	4
MUSEUM SERVICES & AMENITIES	
• ADMISSIONS DESK	5
• WAITING AREA	6
• SHOP	7
• STAR TRAIL	8
• LOCKERS & COATROOM	9
• LUNCH BOX	10
• REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	11
• WASHROOMS	12
• WATER FOUNTAINS	13
• NURSING ROOM	14
PEOPLE AT THE MUSEUM	
• MUSEUM STAFF	15
• MUSEUM VOLUNTEERS	16
MUSEUM GALLERIES	
• OVERVIEW	17
• ILLUSION TUNNEL	18
• TIME SQUARED	20
• TOT SPOT	22
• TUMBLE ZONE	24
• MELLOW MARSH	26
• JUNCTION 9161, ENGINE HOUSE & STORY LINE	28
• LASAGNA LOOKOUT	30
• POP M'ART	32
• SPLASH LAB	34
• MILK MACHINE	36

WELCOME



Look at this colourful building!

This is the **BUHLER WELCOME CENTRE** and it is how you get in and out of the Manitoba Children's Museum. We can't wait to meet you!

The museum can get pretty loud and bright. You might want to wear ear defenders to block out some of the noise. If you need ear defenders or sunglasses, just ask a staff person and they will get these for you.

MUSEUM RULES

Please:

- 1) Walk at all times.
- 2) Stay together with your group.
- 3) Share and take turns.
- 4) Tot Spot is only for babies and toddlers.
- 5) Look at the posters and signs in the museum for new rules.



SAFETY ALERTS

SAFETY ALERT!

FLASHING LIGHTS AHEAD

If you or your child are prone to epileptic seizures
upon exposure to certain visual stimuli,
please use caution.

ALERTE DE SECURITÉ!

VOUS RENCONTREZ DES LUMIÈRES CLIGNOTANTES

Veuillez faire attention si vous êtes susceptibles
aux crises épileptiques qui sont provoquées
par certains stimuli visuels.

This is a **SAFETY ALERT** sign to help people understand the challenges of some galleries.

Please ask your parent or an adult to read these before entering.

ADMISSIONS DESK

Here is the **ADMISSIONS DESK** where each person lines up to buy a ticket to get in to the museum. Sometimes this is a very busy and loud place to stand and wait.

Everyone is excited to get a ticket!



WAITING AREA

This is the place to stand while you wait to enter the museum. Many schools meet in groups here so that they can visit the museum together as a class.



SHOP

People sometimes like to buy small toys, gifts, and snacks at **SHOP**, our museum's store. Ask your parent or the adult you are with if you have time to visit this part of the museum.

If you don't have time, you can always come back another day!



STAR TRAIL



See the **STAR TRAIL** on the floor? This trail takes you to the different galleries and other rooms in the museum.

When you follow the star trail, you will find different quieter rooms that are called the **BLUE ROOM**, the **GREEN ROOM**, or the **RED ROOM**.

During Explore-Abilities events, you can ask a staff member to take you to one of these rooms if you need a break.



LOCKERS & COATROOM

This is the **LOCKER & COATROOM** area. This is where people can hang up jackets, put away shoes and boots, and keep backpacks.

If you want to use a locker, please bring a loonie!





LUNCH BOX

This is called the **LUNCH BOX** area where people eat their snacks and lunches. It is a nice place to sit down and rest.

REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE

Did you know that there are twelve **GALLERIES** or 'stations' at the Children's Museum?

Sometimes areas in the museum need to be fixed, so certain galleries may be closed for a short time and will re-open soon.



WASHROOMS

Time for a **WASHROOM** break?

Find the first set of washrooms near the Lunch Box area.

Boys go in the **BLUE** door. Girls go in the **PINK** door.

There is also a Family Washroom beside the boys' washroom.

To find the second set of washrooms, just follow the **STAR TRAIL**.



WATER FOUNTAINS

Playing and learning at the museum makes people thirsty! If you need a drink of water, there are **WATER FOUNTAINS** close to both sets of washrooms.



NURSING ROOM

This room is called the **NURSING ROOM**. This is where hungry babies can be fed in a quiet place.



MUSEUM STAFF

Do you have questions? Do you need help? Look for people wearing a **GREEN SHIRT** or **GREEN JACKET** with a museum name tag, and they will help you.

They can also help you to get a bandage or some first aid if you need it.



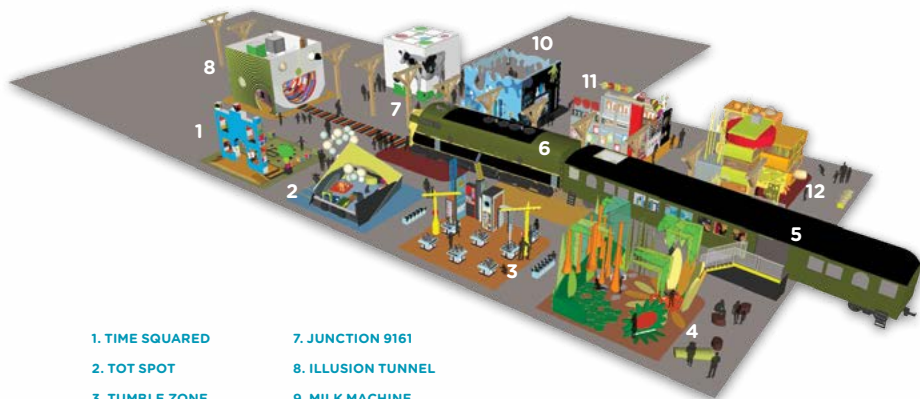
MUSEUM VOLUNTEERS

VOLUNTEERS are people who help the visitors enjoy the museum. Look for the people in blue aprons with name tags if you have questions.



GALLERY OVERVIEW

The Children's Museum has twelve permanent galleries available to explore all year long. Unlike the no-touch exhibits at other more traditional museums, our galleries are always ready for hands-on, interactive fun!



1. TIME SQUARED

2. TOT SPOT

3. TUMBLE ZONE

4. MELLOW MARSH

5. STORY LINE

6. ENGINE HOUSE

7. JUNCTION 9161

8. ILLUSION TUNNEL

9. MILK MACHINE

10. SPLASH LAB

11. POP M'ART

12. LASAGNA LOOKOUT

ILLUSION TUNNEL

As soon as you leave the locker and coatroom area, you will enter the main part of the museum. You will see many different galleries or stations all around. Notice the pink and black spinning sign? You have found **ILLUSION TUNNEL**!

If you like to move your body and look at interesting shapes, colours, designs, and windows, then this gallery is for you! Here you will climb the stairs to the top of our **ILLUSION TUNNEL** and take a ride on the slide! Slides are exciting and fun!

This area can be quite busy with many laughing children. There are also flashing lights in this gallery, so please be aware if you are sensitive to bright flickering lights. It can be quite loud, so if you need a rest, please use a chair in the Lunch Box area.





Please follow these **ILLUSION TUNNEL** rules to keep everyone safe:

- 1) Always walk on the stairs
- 2) One person at a time on the slide
- 3) Sit down with feet first when going down the slide
- 4) Walking up or standing on the slide is too dangerous so it is not allowed
- 5) Take turns on the slide
- 6) Ask for a break if you need one

Remember to look at all of the shapes and designs at the top of the stairs!

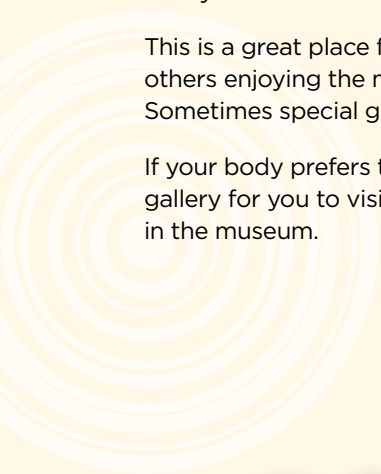
TIME SQUARED

Welcome to **TIME SQUARED**. Look at the huge magical clock! Did you know that this clock has doors that open and close? Watch the clock to see the lights and sounds it makes!

People like to use this area to sit down, relax, and read a book. It is close to the exit, so it is also a nice place to meet up with friends or family before or during your visit.

This is a great place for storytelling and to just sit and watch others enjoying the museum. This area is often used as a stage! Sometimes special guests perform in this area.

If your body prefers to move slowly and relax, this is a good gallery for you to visit. It isn't as loud as some of the other places in the museum.

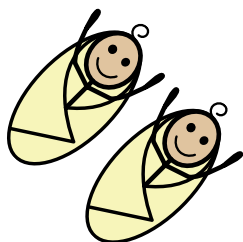




TOT SPOT

TOT SPOT is a miniature Children's Museum inside the museum. It is only for babies and toddlers.

If you are over 2 years old, please play in the other galleries and save this one for the little ones. This keeps everyone safe and happy.



**FOR BABIES & CHILDREN
UNDER 2 YEARS OLD ONLY**



TUMBLE ZONE

Have you ever seen a construction site with cranes and wished you could build a tower or skyscraper? Well here is your chance! Put on a safety reflective vest and helmet and organize your blocks in **TUMBLE ZONE**!

You can start out by planning your project. Watch out for falling blocks on the unstable table! Use the crane to load blocks to the peak and measure how high you can build your structure. There is plenty of room to create your masterpiece on one of the seven different building stations.

In **TUMBLE ZONE** you will also see benches and seats to take a rest after a hard day's work.

Just like in real life, construction zones are busy places with lots of movement, noises, and activity. It is helpful to remember to watch where you are walking and to pay attention to construction materials and the many other people playing in the area. Everyone helps out by sharing building supplies with each other and taking turns using the crane. We can't wait to see what you will create!





MELLOW MARSH

Make your way over to **MELLOW MARSH** and listen very carefully to the sounds you hear. In this area you will be able to create music by using your hands and feet.

Look up high to see the orange sound trumpets hanging in the air! There are different sounds coming from these trumpets. What sounds do you hear? Step on the lily pads and listen carefully!

The turtle's shell is shaped like a drum! Tap your hands on the turtle drum to hear the sound it makes.

Make an imprint of your hand in the red 3D push screen and watch how it appears on the other side!

Use your imagination while listening to the sounds and paint a picture on the touch-screen painting station.





Have you ever seen the inside of a piano before? This gallery has a piano with flashing lights, spoons, and other objects that don't belong! How many toys can you see hidden in the piano? If you are sensitive to flashing lights, please be careful around the piano.

Remember, this gallery is full of unexpected nature sounds and interesting textures to touch. The sounds might make you think there is a bird or insect right beside you, but don't worry - you are completely safe. The sounds you hear are just recordings that are played through different speakers.



ENGINE HOUSE, JUNCTION 9161, AND STORY LINE

Welcome aboard! Pretend you are a train conductor while you walk through this real-life train. Don't worry, this train is parked in the Children's Museum and it will not move.

You can use the stairs (there are 8 stairs on one side and 13 stairs on the other side of the train) or you can use the ramp.

Take one set of stairs to enter the **ENGINE HOUSE**. Pretend to drive the train. Ring the bell! Watch out for flashing lights in this part of the train.

Take the other set of stairs and climb up to **JUNCTION 9161**. Here you will see a video of what it is like to travel across Canada by train. Look out of the front window of the train to catch the view ahead!





The back of the train is called **STORY LINE**. Here you will find theatre costumes, books, a stage, and a giant storybook! Go up four platforms to get to the very top of the train in the View Point.

If you want to learn more about traffic signals, look beside the train for the traffic lights and walk signal!

The digger just in front of the train is a favourite of many visitors. Push the button on the side to start the digger. Please take turns so everyone has a chance to play.






LASAGNA LOOKOUT


What adventure awaits you at **LASAGNA LOOKOUT**? In this gallery, imagine you are climbing into a gigantic layered lasagna. Can you see all of the pretend ingredients on each level? Your job is to create a fantastic lasagna using all of the imaginary ingredients.

For example: Pool noodles are used as pretend pasta noodles. The wavy layer is the imaginary sauce. The foam tomatoes are pretend tomatoes to add to the structure. Can you find the make-believe meatballs?



As you climb through each layer of **LASAGNA LOOKOUT**, you will notice that each layer has new and interesting textures, shapes, and sensations. You will be able to climb over and under and through different textures to get a whole-body sensory experience. Sometimes your body will feel squished when you go through this structure. There are moving objects in this area, so be prepared to feel lots of excitement as you see many others climbing and moving around you. It can get pretty loud in this area. You might hear children laughing, squealing, giggling, and talking loudly. Sometimes children fall down when they are playing and this means that you might hear other children crying occasionally.

Climbing is hard work so don't be surprised if you are tired after visiting this gallery. Some children like to go and have a quiet rest and a drink of water after playing here and that's okay.





Before you start playing in **LASAGNA LOOKOUT**, please remember the following rules:

- 1) Take off your shoes before entering
- 2) If you are 106 cm tall you can play in the structure alone
- 3) If you are under 106 cm tall you must have a grown up with you in the structure
- 4) Play with pool noodles gently
- 5) If you use supplies in dangerous or unexpected ways (like throwing things or using them as weapons), you will be asked to leave this space
- 6) The tunnel that looks like a macaroni noodle is a safe place for toddlers to play

Here are some examples of how to build a pretend lasagna:

- Bottom layer – Take the pool noodles (pretend pasta) and fill the holes
- Second layer – Use the foam tomatoes (pretend tomatoes) from the cans and fit them into the wall
- Third layer – Walk through the hanging pool noodles (pretend pasta)
- Fourth layer (Top) – Play along the yellow balls (pretend melted cheese)



POP M'ART

Make a fruit face from magnetic foam and spin the colour pies (interactive colour wheels) at **POP M'ART**. This gallery is for those who love to create crafts using many different kinds of supplies. Some of the supplies may seem strange and new to you. This is okay. All of the arts and crafts supplies are safe to use.

Imagine that you are in a grocery store looking for fruits and vegetables. Just like you choose groceries at a grocery store, at **POP M'ART** you can choose your supplies from the bins and make a beautiful souvenir to take home.

You might notice that the art supplies change each time you visit the museum. This keeps the activities fresh and fun.

Sometimes you might have to wait your turn while making crafts and this is okay. The supplies are meant to be shared and enjoyed by everyone. In this gallery there are scissors and white glue. Please remember to be careful when using these items. You might be happy to know that this is one of the quieter galleries where you can just relax and make a craft.



SPLASH LAB

Experiment with water in **SPLASH LAB**! Learn about how water moves.

Firstly, help yourself to an apron to keep your clothes dry. Ask someone for help if you need assistance putting on an apron.

Check out the water vaporizer, the fountains, and tornado funnels. Learn how magical water can be! There are three different sections to explore.

Please be aware that this can be a very loud gallery. The hand dryer makes a really loud roaring sound.

One of the key rules in this gallery is to remember that playing with water is fun as long as we avoid splashing other people and respect that other people like to stay dry.







MILK MACHINE

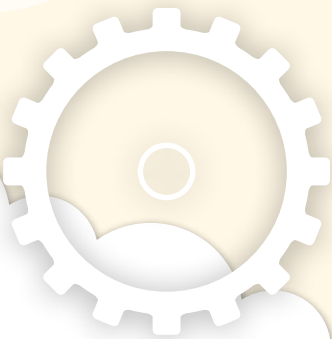
Do you know how milk is made? Learn about the work that dairy farmers do when you visit **MILK MACHINE**.

Peek behind the soft grass to see who hides within!

Watch your step as you hop on the 'cow pies.' Did you know that cow pies are not really food that you eat, but something people say when they are talking about a pile of cow poop? But don't worry, the Children's Museum cow pies are not real cow poop, they're just pretend.

'Udder Control' shows you how milk is produced in factories. Place a fluffy ball in and watch it fly through the tubing. How many paths can you make the ball take?

It is hard work to act like a dairy farmer! Take a rest on the 'cow comfort' mat. Feel the 'cow brush' and imagine if you used a brush like this at home. Find out what cows eat and learn about the life of a dairy cow in the 'Cow Control' station.







children's museum

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