Adventure Guide

How to find family activities + connect to the arts

STORYBOOK CAPITAL of AMERICA
ABILENE, TX
Storybook Sculpture Project
Downtown Abilene

The Abilene Cultural Affairs Council commissioned the first storybook sculpture in 1996. "Childhood’s Great Adventure" is based on the William Joyce book “Santa Calls,” which was set in Abilene, Texas. Joyce was the inspiration behind the National Center for Children’s Illustrated Literature. More sculptures followed over the years. Today, Abilene is home to the largest public collection of storybook sculptures in the U.S. New characters are added each year during the Children’s Art & Literacy Festival. The mission of the Storybook Sculpture Project is to create 3D art that brings children’s literature to life.
**Storybook Sculpture Map**

- **CEDAR STREET**
  - 1100 North 6th Street
  - Abilene Convention Center
  - Down Cedar to
  - 1100 North 6th Street

- **CYPRESS STREET**
  - 625 North 1st Street
  - Abilene Zoo

- **NORTH 1ST STREET**
  - Down North 1st to
  - 625 North 1st Street

- **NORTH 2ND STREET**
  - 2070 Zoo Lane

- **Elks Arts Center**
- **The Grace**
- **T&P Depot**
- **Everman Park**
- **Minter Park**
- **Center for Contemporary Arts**
- **National Center for Children's Illustrated Literature**
- **Abilene Public Library**

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**Childhood’s Great Adventure**

*Installed: 1996*

*Book: “Santa Calls”*  
*Author/Illustrator: William Joyce*  
*Sculptor: Rick Jackson*  
*Santa Claus mysteriously summons three children to visit him at the North Pole by sending them a flying machine they call the Yuletide Flyer.*

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**Seymour**

*Installed: 2013*

*Books: “Can You See What I See?” series*  
*Author/Illustrator: Walter Wick*  
*Sculptor: Randy Gilman*  
*Bronze casting: Geoff Broderick*  
*Look for Seymour, the little toy man made of colorful beads! He hides amongst the objects assembled in search-and-find stories.*

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**Dino Bob**

*Installed: 2000*

*Book: “Dinosaur Bob and His Adventures with the Family Lazardo”*  
*Author/Illustrator: William Joyce*  
*Sculptor: Bob “Daddy-O” Wade*  
*Dinosaur Bob plays with an orange Volkswagen in this sculpture created for the 20th annual Outdoor Sculpture Exhibition.*

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1-6 Seuss Sculptures  
7 Childhood’s Great Adventure  
8 Man in the Moon  
9 E. Aster Bunnymund  
10 Duck on a Bike  
11 No, David! and Fergus  
12 Nicholas St. North (Santa Claus)  
13 Dinosaur Bob  
14 Jack Frost  
15 Seymour  
16 Sanderson Mansnoozie (Sandman)  
17 Toothiana  
18 Good Night Dinosaur  
19 The Three Little Kittens  
20 Stuart Little  
21 The Three Little Pigs  
22 Charlotte and Wilbur  
23 The Three Bears  
24 Marcel the Moose

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*See sculpture sponsors at [www.storybookcapitalofamerica.com](http://www.storybookcapitalofamerica.com)*
Dr. Seuss Sculptures

The Lorax
Installed: 2013
The Lorax speaks for the trees and warns of the dangers of disrespecting the environment.

Yertle the Turtle
Installed: 2013
Yertle the Turtle, the king of the pond, stands on his subjects in an attempt to reach higher than the moon.

The Grinch
Installed: 2013
A cold, heartless green recluse, The Grinch tries to sabotage Christmas in Whoville.

Green Eggs and Ham
Installed: 2013
Sam I am says try green eggs and ham! In a boat or with a goat, here or there or anywhere!

Horton Hears a Who
Installed: 2013
When Horton the elephant hears a small speck talking to him, he vows to protect it because "a person’s a person, no matter how small."

Cat in the Hat
Installed: 2012
The Cat in the Hat turns a boring rainy day into unexpected fun with the help of Thing 1 and Thing 2.

See sculpture sponsors at www.storybookcapitalofamerica.com
Before he was Santa Claus, he was a daredevil named Nicholas St. North. Now he is one of the Guardians of Childhood.

Man in the Moon
Installed: 2014
Book: "The Man in the Moon"
Sculptor: Pedro Rivera
A little boy becomes the Tsar Lunar, the first Guardian of Childhood. He watches over the dreams of the children of Earth.

E. Aster Bunnychmund
Installed: 2014
Book: "E. Aster Bunnychmund and the Warrior Eggs at the Earth’s Core"
Sculptor: Steve Neves
A philosophical warrior rabbit skilled in martial arts, he is also a chocolatier and a Guardian of Childhood best known as the Easter Bunny.

Nicholas St. North
Installed: 2014
Book: "Nicholas St. North and the Battle of the Nightmare King"
Sculptor: Steve Neves
Before he was Santa Claus, he was a daredevil named Nicholas St. North. Now he is one of the Guardians of Childhood.

Jack Frost
Installed: 2014
Book: "Jack Frost"
Sculptor: Steve Neves
Bronze casting: Geoff Broderick
Able to manipulate snow and ice, Jack Frost is the Guardian of Fun. He helps the other Guardians battle Pitch, the Nightmare King.

Sanderson Mansnoozie
Installed: 2014
Book: "The Sandman: The Story of Sanderson Mansnoozie"
Sculptor: Steve Neves
Bronze casting: Geoff Broderick
This former captain of a shooting star is the Sandman, Guardian of Dreams.

Toothiana
Installed: 2014
Book: "Toothiana: Queen of the Tooth Fairy Armies"
Sculptor: Steve Neves
Bronze casting: Geoff Broderick
All those teeth she collects? They contain memories. The forgotten memories of childhood . . . including the memories of how to fly.
Duck on a Bike
Installed: 2015
Book: "Duck on a Bike"
Author/Illustrator: David Shannon
Sculptor: Steve Neves
Bronze casting: Geoff Broderick
One day on the farm, Duck gets the wild idea he can ride a bike. Soon, the other animals want to ride, too!

No, David! and Fergus
Installed: 2015
Book: "David Gets in Trouble"
Author/Illustrator: David Shannon
Sculptor: Steve Neves
Bronze casting: Geoff Broderick
Everywhere David goes, he seems to get in trouble. Now he is eating Fergus’ dog treats! No, David!

Good Night Dinosaur
Installed: 2016
Book: "How Do Dinosaurs Say Good Night?"
Author: Jane Yolen
Illustrator: Mark Teague
Sculptor: Steve Neves
Dinosaur doesn’t throw his teddy bear about when it’s time to turn the lights out. He tucks in his tail and whispers, “Good night!”

The Three Little Kittens
Installed: 2017
Book: "Three Bedtime Stories"
Author: Golden Books
Illustrator: Garth Williams
Sculptor: Steve Neves
Mama cat is not happy when her three little kittens lose their mittens. Unless they find their mittens, they shall have no pie!

Stuart Little
Installed: 2017
Book: "Stuart Little"
Author: E.B. White
Illustrator: Garth Williams
Sculptor: Steve Neves
Bronze casting: Geoff Broderick
Adventure follows this mouse wherever he goes, from sailing a boat in Central Park to saving a friend from Snowball the cat.

The Three Little Pigs
Installed: 2017
Book: "Three Bedtime Stories"
Author: Golden Books
Illustrator: Garth Williams
Sculptor: Steve Neves
Bronze casting: Geoff Broderick
Three little pigs with three different houses all encounter one big, bad wolf!

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1. Charlotte Weaves Astonishing Words into Her Spider’s Web to Save Her Best Friend, a Pig Named Wilbur.

2. Marcel Has Trouble Following Wilfred’s Rules, Such as Going Where the Boy Wants to Go. Perhaps Because Wilfred’s Pet Doesn’t Quite Realize That He Belongs to Anyone.

3. The Three Bears Return Home to Find Someone Sat in Their Chairs, Tasted Their Porridge and Laid in Their Beds and That Someone Is Goldilocks!

4. Download the Free App Storybook Sculpture Audio Tour for iPhone. The App Will Allow You to Play a 2-Minute Reading from the Book Associated with the Sculpture as Well as Offer Details About the Sculpture and Book.


Here’s what you do:

1. Download the free GooseChase app for Android or iPhone.
2. Sign up and select a user name. Team members can download the app on their own phones but must use the same user name for log in.
3. Join the game by searching for Storybook Sculpture Scavenger Hunt.
4. Complete as many missions as possible by submitting creative photos within the app.
5. Do not climb on the sculptures to take photos.
6. Earn a Storybook Capital button for completing the missions. Pick up your button at the T&P Depot, 1101 N. 1st St. Open 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m. weekdays.

The Grace Museum
102 Cypress St.
325.673.4587
www.thegracemuseum.org

Picture book readings in the Children’s Museum at 10 a.m. on the third Thursday each month. The readings take place on the famous mini-Paramount Theatre stage followed by an art activity. The cost is $10 per family with a copy of the book or $5 per family for the reading and art activity. Pre-registration required.

ArtWalk
Second Thursday each month 5-8 p.m.
Hosted by the Center for Contemporary Arts
www.center-arts.com

Mini downtown festival with free museum entrance, art activities, entertainment, food trucks and more.

Abilene Public Library
Main Library, 202 Cedar St.
South Branch, Mall of Abilene
Mockingbird Branch, 1326 N. Mockingbird Ln.

All library events are free.

Summer Reading Club (June 1-July 31)

- Baby Steps (Ages 0-1)
- Lapsits (Ages 1-2)
- Play & Learn (Ages 1-3)
- Toddler Time (Ages 2-3)
- Evening Storytime (Ages 2-6)
- Preschool Storytime (Ages 3-6)
- Music and Movement (All ages)
- Super Storytime (All ages)
- Stories & More (All ages)
- Family Fun (All ages)
- Stories in the Park (All ages)
- Make & Take (All ages)
Abilene Broadway Series
Abilene Convention Center
1100 N. 6th St.
www.celebrityattractions.com
“The Sound of Music”
Nov. 19, 2018

Paramount Productions & Movies
Paramount Theatre, 332 Cypress St.
Paramount-abilene.org
Junior Broadway show with an all-local youth cast - Jan. 18-20, 2018

Family Film Series
“Cinderella” - July 21, 2018
“The LEGO Batman Movie” - Aug. 18, 2018
“Mary Poppins” - Sept. 1, 2018

Live Children’s Theater
Abilene Convention Center
1100 N. 6th St.
www.celebrityattractions.com

Abilene Ballet Theatre
Paramount Theatre, 332 Cypress St.
www.Abileneballettheatre.org
“The Nutcracker”
Nov. 16-18, 2018

Children’s Performing Arts Series
Paramount Theatre, 332 Cypress St.
www.cpasabilene.org
Live professional theater from national shows for Abilene’s youngest audiences!

Paramount Productions & Movies
Paramount Theatre, 332 Cypress St.
Paramount-abilene.org
“Mary Poppins” - Sept. 1, 2018

Family Film Series
“Cinderella” - July 21, 2018
“The LEGO Batman Movie” - Aug. 18, 2018
“Mary Poppins” - Sept. 1, 2018

Children’s Performing Arts Series
Paramount Theatre, 332 Cypress St.
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Live professional theater from national shows for Abilene’s youngest audiences!

Young Audiences of Abilene
Abilene Public Library,
202 Cedar St.
www.yaabilene.org
“Fairy Tales & Fables”
Feb. 24, 2019

“Fairy Tales & Fables”
Feb. 24, 2019

Foundation for Laughter
June 16, 2018
Magic, puppetry and comedy reveal how reading is fun and lets our imaginations soar.

Mark Shelton
June 12, 2018
A high-energy show that treats audiences to a world-class percussion performance!

Elizabeth Kahura
July 10, 2018
Folktales and other stories from Africa that remind us of the importance of embracing diversity.

Mister Mark
July 26, 2018
Interactive games, dance, humor and easy-to-sing choruses, each with an underlying lesson!
For more than 20 years, the National Center for Children’s Illustrated Literature (NCCIL) has collaborated with award-winning illustrators to produce exhibitions of their artwork that are distinctive, appealing to museum visitors of all ages and are of the highest quality. In addition to this unique artistic partnership, following its debut at the NCCIL gallery, each exhibition travels to museums, public libraries and galleries nationwide. The mission of the NCCIL is to exhibit, tour, collect, preserve and promote original art from the finest children's literature. For the local community, the NCCIL offers opportunities to meet visiting artists, free Saturday family art activities, Monthly Art Adventure for pre-schoolers, exhibition tours for students, workshops and book signings. The museum also has a bookstore stocked with books signed by artists who have exhibited at the NCCIL.

You could not, would not, want to miss a storybook celebration such as this! The Children’s Art & Literacy Festival (Calf) honors the featured summer illustrator at the NCCIL. Calf 2019 will celebrate Peter Brown, illustrator and author of the best-selling books “Mr. Tiger Goes Wild,” “Creepy Carrots,” “The Wild Robot” and more.”

The three-day festival will launch with a parade, costume contest and artist talk on Thursday night. All day Friday and Saturday enjoy dramatic readings, art activities, magic shows, workshops, petting zoos, train rides and more.
Welcome to the Storybook Capital of America

In Abilene, characters from your favorite children’s books come to life. Take your picture with the largest collection of storybook sculptures in America. See original artwork from best-selling children’s book illustrators. Watch live children’s theater. Explore historic downtown Abilene. Enjoy dramatic readings and art activities. Create your own art. Write your own stories. Start planning your childhood adventure now!

Storybookcapitalofamerica.com

Take a little piece of the Storybook Capital home by visiting our online store!