

# Storyville:

“Where Joyful Play Is Learning”

## Explore the Baby Garden

### For little ones who are not yet walking

- ✿ Enhance your baby’s earliest literacy experiences by cuddling up with a board book, chanting simple rhymes, and labeling everything you see including a friendly white rabbit and watering can.
- ✿ Give your baby that valued tummy time through stimulating floor play activities.
- ✿ Encourage your baby to crawl, stand, and cruise onto springing butterflies, dragonflies, and pull-up flowers.
- ✿ Keep those busy hands active at the Velcro Sensory Activity Table.
- ✿ Take turns making silly faces into round mirrors.
- ✿ Play peek-a-boo through tulip cutouts in the Picket Fence.

## “Go Fish” at TODDLER BAY-

### For an outdoor adventure, indoors

- ✿ Sit and read together under the stars in the Light House.
- ✿ Watch your toddler catch and match fish, crabs, and other bay creatures using magnetic fishing poles.
- ✿ Nest with shore birds and identify their songs at the Buoy Beacon Light.
- ✿ Walk and talk with your curious toddler about the bay artifacts you see and hear in the Tidal Pool Boxes.
- ✿ Foster a sense of independence with active exploration -- encourage your toddler to crawl through a driftwood tunnel and rock on a rocking boat.
- ✿ Make literary connections together with thematic books about the world around us.

## “**BUILD IT**” IN THE CONSTRUCTION ZONE

### **FOR INDUSTRIOUS DESIGNERS, ENGINEERS, AND CREATORS**

- Support your child’s mathematical and scientific thinking through a variety of shared activities.
- Assist your budding architect manipulate magnetic shapes to design a house inspired by an actual floor plan marked on the floor.
- Facilitate active communication by talking through PVC pipes.
- Experiment with inclinations and gravity in the Build-A-Ramp Area.
- Introduce your child to safe and productive use of tools at the workbench.
- Promote independent and social skills in the large block, connecting block, and vehicle play areas.
- Find a convenient thinking spot in the Loft Area.
- Make literary connections together with thematic books about projects in our community.

## **Make Yourself at Home in the House**

### **For meaningful play in a familiar setting**

- Enhance pretend play skills and share everyday activities with your child in a comfortable, safe place.
- Give your child the opportunity to prepare a pretend meal, set the table, and feed a baby doll using child-sized props in a kitchen complete with a refrigerator, cook top, and sink.
- Try out different family roles with your child as you cozy up to a good book, talk on a play phone, and sort laundry in the living room together.
- Discover old toys from around the world in the Attic with your child.
- Notice charming little details together including a faux door with keyhole, two portrait holes, and tiny mouse-hole stairs.
- Cozy up with your child and listen to a story under the stairs.
- Make literary connections together with thematic books about home life.

## **Find a Good Book at Storyville's Own Library**

### **For book lovers at any age**

- ✿ Allow your children to choose books that interest them.
- ✿ Find books about transportation on the Fire Truck Bookcase.
- ✿ Find books about animals on the Elephant Bookcase.
- ✿ Find books about the community on the Skyline Bookcase.
- ✿ Find books about the environment on the Garden Bookcase.
- ✿ Relax on a widow seat and share your children's chosen books with them.

## **Show Off Your Talents in the Theater**

### **For dramatic play and character development**

- Encourage your young performers to retell favorite stories or make up their own show using puppets, costumes, props and their own imaginations.
- Assist your child in displaying coming attractions posters on the Marquee and selling tickets at the Ticket Booth.
- Instill a sense of make-believe in your children by encouraging them to dress up as their favorite storybook characters.
- Foster your children's self-confidence by marveling at their ability to role-play, improvise dialogue, and sequence events under dramatic stage lights and rotating scenes.
- Put on a show together at the built-in Puppet Theater.
- Model polite manners--take turns being the audience for each other.
- Make literary connections together with thematic books about the arts.

## **Go Shopping at the Store**

### **For marketplace fun**

- Foster useful consumer math and social skills as your child spends and saves play money, calculates value by using a weighing scale and practices good customer service using functional check out registers.
- Encourage your young merchant to sort, classify, market and sell play goods based on a theme.
- Encourage your young shopper to find, count, compare, and buy play goods based on a theme.
- Make literary connections together with thematic nursery rhyme advertisements.

## **Check Your Mail at the Post Office**

### **For the young writers' express**

- ◆ Support meaningful letter recognition and writing skills with alphabet boards, templates and a variety writing instruments.
- ◆ Guide your child to sort small, medium, and large postal letters found a large mailbag into corresponding mail slots.
- ◆ Facilitate the development of one to one correspondence and matching skills as your child delivers mail to various storefronts with numbered addresses in Storyville.
- ◆ Make literary connections together with thematic books about the alphabet and writing.

## **STROLL DOWN STORYVILLE LANE**

### **FOR NEIGHBORHOOD FRIENDS TO MEET**

- Sign in under the Welcoming Tree
- Listen to a story in an English-style telephone booth.
- Notice road safety features including a fire hydrant, a lighted manhole, and spelling traffic signs.
- Attend an impromptu storytime at Town Square.