

Bringing Literacy to your community with a StoryWalk™



Phyllis Peter, Youth Services Librarian, Newton Public Library

What is a StoryWalk™?



A StoryWalk™ is a permanent or short term display of a picture book.

Credit for the idea goes to Anne Ferguson at the Kellogg-Hubbard Library, and it is trademarked, and should be credited somewhere on the StoryWalk™. We put ours in the fine print on our Welcome sign.

Here is the wording you should place somewhere on your StoryWalk™:

The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library. Storywalk® is a registered service mark owned by Ms. Ferguson.

Don't rush this project, it takes a lot of time and planning



Consider starting
with a temporary
StoryWalk™

<https://www.instructables.com/Library-Story-Stroll-Also-Called-Storywalk/>



Funding is
easy for
this one-
no really!!



Kinetic Edge Physical Therapy provided \$5000 for our project

Acknowledge
your
contributors
frequently

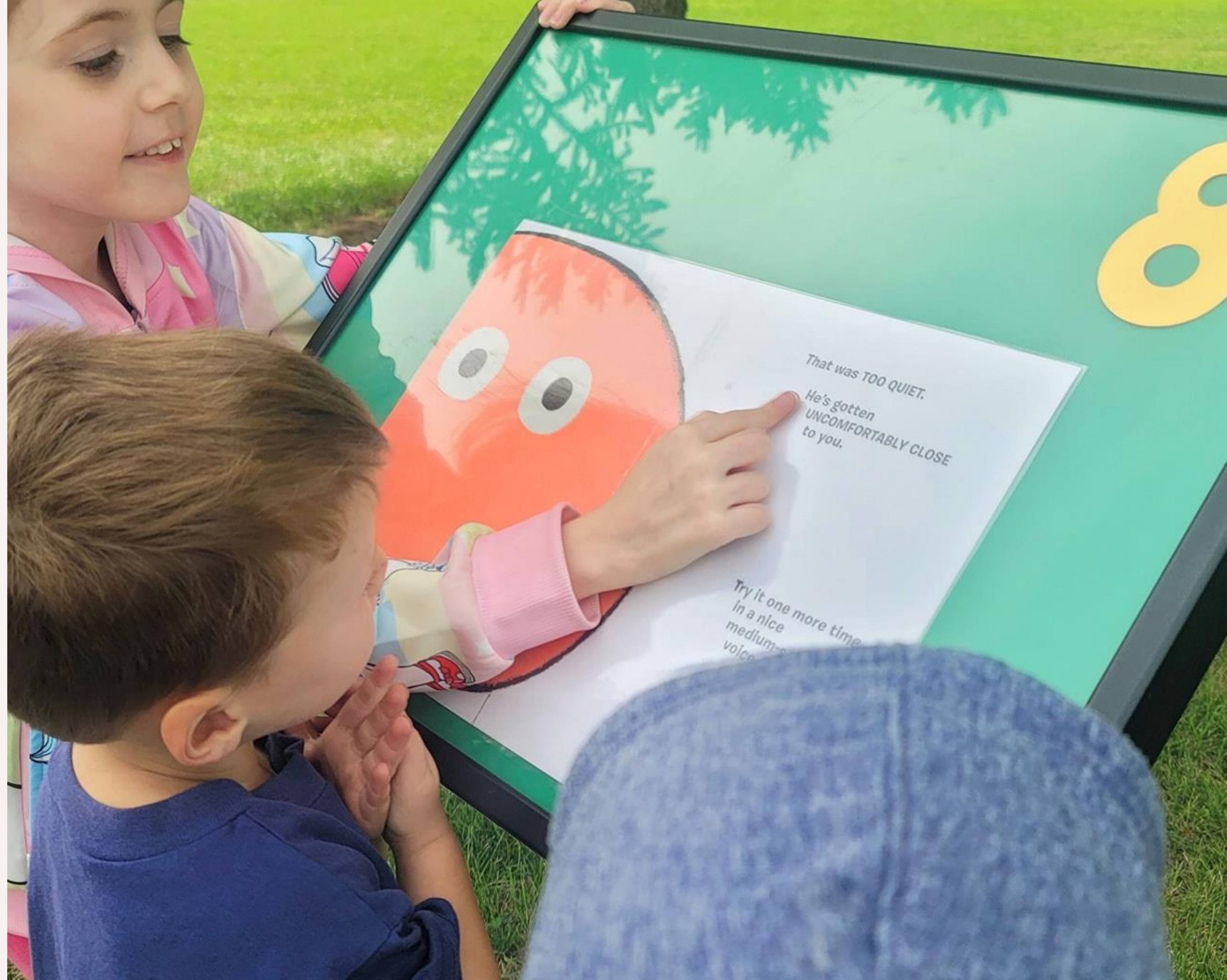


Reasons for Starting a StoryWalk™



More green
time, less
screen time

Inspires family
to do
something
together,
outdoors,
centered
around
literacy



A StoryWalk™ is a creative way to combine movement and literacy, and is a shared book experience as a child walks from page to page, reading the book with a parent, grandparent or teacher



StoryWalk™ Basics (see handouts for more details)

- Location, location, location
- How often will you change it out?
- Distance between pages and total distance of the walk
- Funding
- Methods of display
- Timeline of project



Partnering with other organizations to host events at the StoryWalk™



We partnered with our County Naturalist to have a Fairy Garden book with natural materials, and a Monarch tagging event with the book, "Senorita Mariposa"

Dino Stomp
with Parks
Department:
Walk the
story
together
costumed
dinosaurs,
dino hats
and free ice
cream for
the kids





Dino Stomp event

Healthiest State Initiative Annual Walk



Partner with a
Local author for a
book debut



Partnering
with a
class to
write an
original
picture
book!



This was a school year long project, we started by introducing elements of a picture book



Photo credit, Christopher Braunschweig, Newton Daily Newst

The project was a collaboration of the classroom teacher, the youth services librarian and the art teacher. Students came up with an original plot, and sketched an outline for the book and the illustrations.



Photo credit: Christopher Braunschweig, Newton News

The end product was amazing!

Students assisted with installation and the project was featured in the newspaper.



Positive project outcomes were numerous in this School/Library collaboration



Little things I have learned along the way (learn from my mistakes)



Number the signs

Provide a map at the beginning and put an explanation on all advertising you do

Changing the signs is very weather dependent

Better to announce the new book when you have it ready to view, you don't want to change signs on windy or rainy days!

Consider putting the StoryWalk™ in your Collection Development Policy

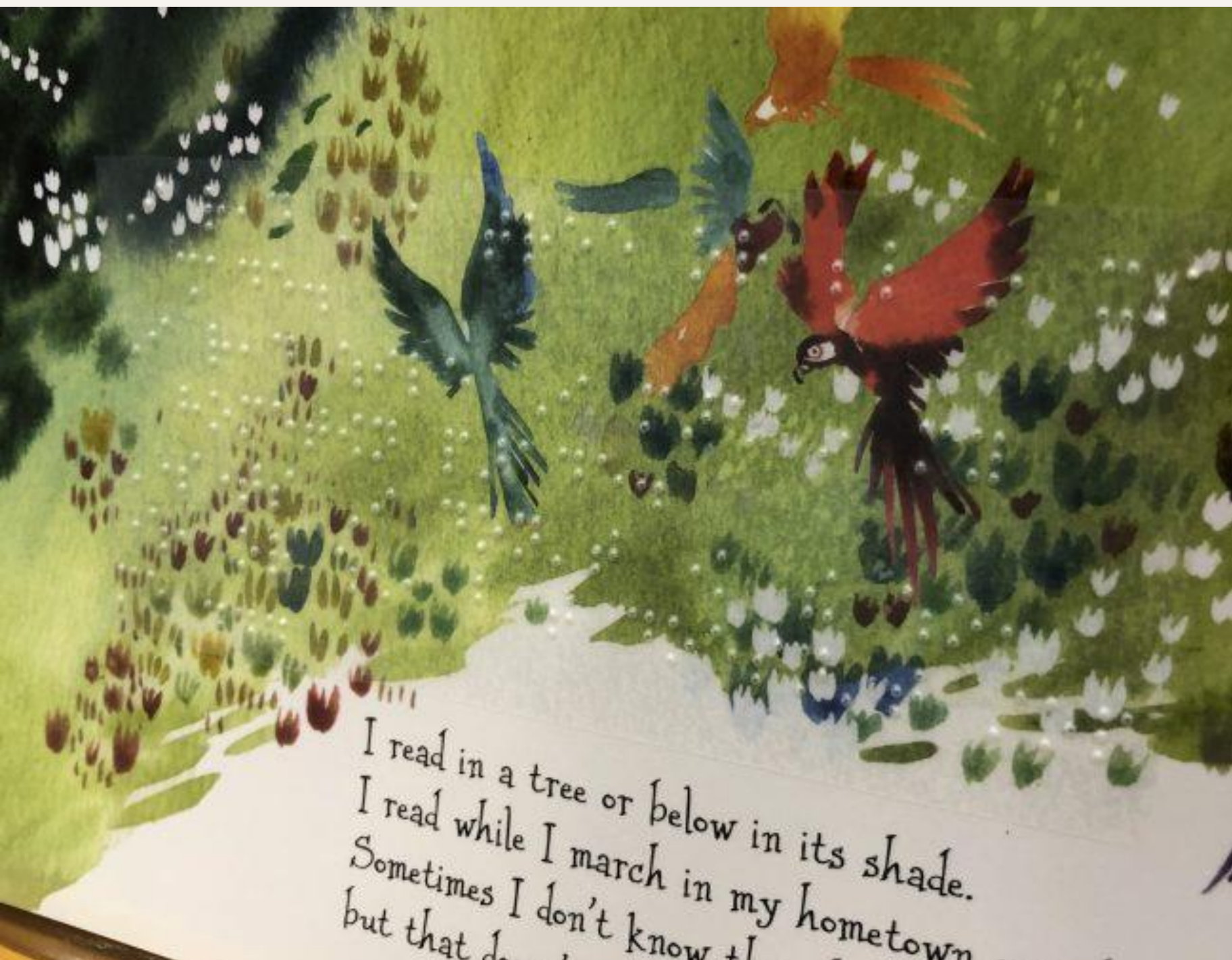
Book challenges to StoryWalk™ books has happened

Walk the route with the department or persons who are doing the installation. Take time to map out exact placement of the posts, think about drainage, space between signs, etc.



Snow, rain, hail, bird poop,
spiders and vandalism





Making your StoryWalk accessible
to the Blind and Print Disabled

Good info at: iowalibrary.blog/resources-2/storywalks-and-story-trails/

Contact Denise Bean, Youth Services Librarian at the
Iowa Library for the Blind and Print Disabled
denise.bean@blind.state.ia.us

Let's Move in Libraries
<https://letsmoveinlibraries.org/storywalk/>

