

What is a StoryWalk®?

In a nutshell, a StoryWalk® is a book that has been dismembered, laminated and presented page by page on a trail, bike path, or in store windows to promote reading and exercise. StoryWalks® were created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and developed in collaboration with the Vermont Bicycle & Pedestrian Coalition and the Kellogg Hubbard Library.

Is that Legal?

According to Grace Greene the head of the Children's Library Services for the State of Vermont "By purchasing a book, you can do whatever you want with it." The pages **have** to be the original pages of the book. **No photocopies!!**

Registered Trademark

The name StoryWalk® is a registered trademark. Any libraries using a StoryWalk® must include ® symbol and include the following statement in all promotion of the project: "The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and developed in collaboration with the Vermont Bicycle & Pedestrian Coalition and the Kellogg Hubbard Library."

Helpful Websites:

- FAQs from the Kellogg Hubbard Library
 - <http://www.kellogghubbard.org/storywalk>
- Boston Children's Museum on StoryWalk® and Literacy
 - http://www.bostonchildrensmuseum.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/rttt/storywalk/storywalk_v3web.pdf
- StoryWalk® PowerPoint
 - http://www.pjlibrary.org/uploadDocs/2/StoryWalk-PowerPoint_ABergman.pdf

Interested in Creating Your Own StoryWalk™?

The StoryWalk™ Project FAQ

Here are some frequently asked questions and answers about the process of creating your own StoryWalk™ adapted from the Vermont Bicycle & Pedestrian Coalition's website, www.vtbikeped.org.

What is required of me if I would like to offer StoryWalk™ in my community?

Please use the name StoryWalk™ and include the following statement in all promotion of the project: *The StoryWalk™ Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and developed in collaboration with the Vermont Bicycle & Pedestrian Coalition (VBPC) and the Kellogg Hubbard Library.*

What are some examples of the costs involved?

If you want to create a StoryWalk™ yourself, here are the approximate costs for the way the VBPC makes them:

- 3 copies of each book (2 for mounting, one for damage repair/replacement); books cost between \$7 and \$17 each so that can range from \$25 to \$50.
- Lamination costs about \$1 per page for 5 ml- a range of \$25 to \$40, for 10 ml – a range of \$40 - \$80 for each book depending on its length.
- Stakes (good ones that don't splinter, aren't heavy, won't break easily) cost close to \$1 each - most books need about 30.
- Sticky backed industrial strength Velcro to hold the books onto the stakes cost about \$15 that will accommodate a 30 page book.
- Not including tape and staples (if not using Velcro), and labor (which is the most costly) to assemble and mount the books, costs run about \$100 - \$150 per book.

What basics should I know about preparing the books?

In general, use 10 ml lamination sheets and reinforce the staple path with fiber tape, (or use Velcro) and use four foot mahogany stakes, (they are stronger and lighter than pine). Each page is mounted on card stock with the page number and contact info on the back of each page.

What about copyright laws?

The books cannot be altered in any way and the pages cannot be scanned or reproduced without permission from the publisher. They *can* be mounted on card stock and laminated. It's good practice to make a point of purchasing new books, not taking donations or buying used books, in order for the writers and illustrators to get full benefit. Try to buy your supplies from local businesses as a great way to support your community.

How do you select a book for The StoryWalk™ Project?

Selection of books focuses on minimal text, finding illustrations that don't cross the center of the book, and have a great story line. Smaller books work best for this project. Look for books that can be used in different seasons and that incorporate movement of some kind. Below you will find some examples of books that have worked well for the VBPC. *You might also check out the Healthy Eating and Physical Activity Book lists included in this toolkit for some great 5-2-1-0 friendly stories! Our StoryWalk's have separate story-relevant "movement" cards e.g. hop like the frog in the story to the next page, that are placed throughout the StoryWalk to encourage children to exercise their bodies as well as their minds!*

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www.letsgo.org

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- **Gossie** by Olivia Dunrea
- **If You Give a Pig a Pancake** by Laura Numeroff
- **The Dot** by Peter Reynolds
- **Leaves** by David Ezra Stein
- **Olivia** by Ian Falconer
- **A Hat for Minerva Louise** (with Spanish translation) by Janet Stoeke
- **Whoever You Are** by Mem Fox
- **Sheep Take a Hike** by Nancy Shaw
- **Rail Trail Alphabet Adventures** by Carolyn Siccama
- **South** by Patrick McDonnell
- **Over in The Meadow** Illustrations by Ezra Jack Keats
- **Corduroy** by Dan Freeman
- **I Took My Frog to the Library** by Eric Kimmel
- **A House for Hermit Crab** by Eric Carle
- **Tracks in the Snow** by Wong Herbert Yee

How far apart do you space the pages?

That depends on the length of the route available, the number of forks or intersections it has and the number of pages in the book. Make sure that the readers know where to find the following page, it is best if the next page can be seen. About 40 paces or so seems like a good distance between pages. The VBPC has found that a half-mile total distance works well for small children.

What suggestions do you have for someone interested in creating The StoryWalk™ Project in his or her town?

Start by finding some other like-minded people to work with on this project. The VBPC work well as a team and offer different perspectives and experiences. This project combines the benefits of physical activity, time outdoors in nature, literacy, and family time. Because of that, many community partners are interested in it and it lends itself well to funding from different sources. Try to involve other members of the community in the project in different ways; it lends itself to creative adaptations. Here are some ways the VBPC worked with their community: a senior center group translated a book into French, a high school Spanish class translated one as well, and a children's nature center was inspired to write and illustrate their own books. The possibilities are endless!

For more information on the StoryWalk™ Project and creating your own StoryWalk™, contact Anne Ferguson at storywalkvt@yahoo.com, Nancy Schulz at nancy@vtbikeped.org, or Rachel Senechal at rysenechal@kellogghubbard.org. For more information on borrowing a StoryWalk™ contact the Let's Go! Home Office at info@letsgo.org or at 207.662.3734.

Adapted from **The StoryWalk™ Project FAQ** found at http://www.vtbikeped.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=83:the-storywalk-project-faq-&catid=17:current-from-the-coalition&Itemid=89



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**A YEAR OF BOOKS TO CONSIDER
FOR STORYWALK®**

The Hallelujah Flight

Written by Phil Bildner and illustrated by John Holyfield

Based on a true story from 1932, James Banning is the first African American to complete a transcontinental flight.

Ron's Big Mission

Written by Rose Blue and Corrine J. Naden and illustrated by Don Tate

Astronaut Ron McNair lost his life in the Challenger Accident in 1986. This is a fictionalization of Ron's first big mission when, in a segregated South Carolina in the 1950s, he challenged the rule that only white people could check out books in his library.

These Hands

Written by Margaret H. Mason and illustrated by Floyd Cooper

Joseph's grandpa tells his grandson all the things his hands can do. However back in the 1950s and early 60s, the one thing his hands were not allowed to do was mix the bread dough in the Wonder Bread factory because the bosses said white people would not want to eat bread touched by these hands.

Underground

By Denise Fleming

Explore life under the ground you walk!

Isabella's Garden

Written by Glenda Millard and illustrated by Rebecca Cool

Told in the pattern of the rhyme, "The House That Jack Built," this story follows Isabella's garden, from it's beginning with tiny seeds, as it flourishes throughout the year, and fades back in the winter, leaving only a handful of seeds, just enough for a garden to grow.

Whole World

Illustrated by Christopher Corr and recorded on compact disc by Fred Penner

This illustrated version of the song "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands," features the relationship between people and the natural world.

Here Comes the Garbage Barge!

Written by Jonah Winter and illustrated by Red Nose Studio

In 1987 a barge departed from New York's Long Island in search of a place to dump its garbage. After 162 days and numerous unsuccessful and embarrassing attempts to unload, the garbage barge returned to New York. Its garbage was burned in New York's City of Brooklyn, and the ash was returned to its original home of Islip, Long Island, where it was buried. This is a mostly true account of what happened.

Our Tree Named Steve

Written by Alan Zweibel and illustrated by David Catrow

A family builds a house but saves one tree from being cut down. The tree, called Steve, becomes part of the family and is there for the many milestones in their lives.

All in a Day

Written by Cynthia Rylant and illustrated by Nikki McClure

Each day brings with it a whole new promise. As the story follows one boy throughout his day, the challenge is to live it well and make it count.

The Summer Visitors

By Karel Hayes

Follow a family to their summer cottage along the lake shore. A family of bears joins them, trying hard not to be detected.

The Cazuela That the Farm Maiden Stirred

Written by Samantha R. Vamos and illustrated by Rafael López

Another story written in the pattern of the rhyme, "The House That Jack Built," this bilingual offering follows the farm girl who makes "arroz con leche," translated from the Spanish as "rice pudding." The ingredients and the characters that bring them are given in Spanish with a glossary at the end of the book.

Leaves

By David Ezra Stein

Bear sees leaves falling from a tree and is puzzled. His first time view of what happens to the leaves throughout the year is a simple celebration of the seasons.

Leaf Man

By Lois Ehlert

A man made of leaves is carried away with the wind. Illustrations of leaves and other natural items found outdoors in the fall inspire children to make their own leaf art.

Bear Says Thanks

By Karma Wilson and illustrated by Jane Chapman

Bear, all alone and bored in his cave, decides to make a feast but his cupboards are bare. His friends come with food and remind him that, though he may not have food, he has stories to share. They are all thankful.

Stone Soup

Retold by Heather Forest and illustrated by Susan Gaber

As an easy-to-read-aloud and wonderfully illustrated version of the classic legend, "Stone Soup," this is perfect for celebrating the ideas of teamwork and sharing.

The Crossing

Written by Donna Jo Napoli and illustrated by Jim Madsen

Jean Baptiste, the Native American baby son wrapped on the back of his mother, Sacagawea, tells how his mother and father helped Meriwether Lewis and William Clark find a passage to the west coast in 1805.

New Old Shoes

Written by Charlotte Blessing and illustrated by Gary R. Phillips

In this story of giving, an American boy receives a new pair of red shoes. He runs, stomps and jumps in them. After a slight tear in the side of one, the shoes are sent to children in Africa. Once there, the shoes continue to be worn and played in, never wearing out.

Those Shoes

Written by Maribeth Boelts and illustrated by Noah Z. Jones

Jeremy learns that the good things he has – warm boots, a loving grandmother, and good friend -- are worth much more than the things he wants – a pair of those shoes that everyone in school seems to be wearing.

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Please note: When the project is offered in the following counties in Pennsylvania: Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Lawrence, Washington, and Westmoreland, the term "StoryWalk" can only be used by the Pittsburgh Association for the Education of Young Children ("PAEYC"). You can hold the event, just call it something else.

What are the costs involved?

For Vermont communities who would like to borrow StoryWalk® books from us, the cost is free! If you want to create StoryWalk® books yourself, here are the costs: We purchase 3 copies of each book (2 for mounting, one for damage repair/replacement); books cost between \$7 and \$17 each so that can range from \$25 to \$50. Lamination costs about \$3 for 10 ml – a range of \$90 - \$100 for each book depending on its length. Stakes (good ones that don't splinter, aren't heavy, won't break easily) cost close to \$1 each - most books need about 30. Sticky backed industrial strength Velcro® to hold the books onto the stakes cost about \$35 that will accommodate a 30 page book. Not including tape and staples (if not using Velcro®), and labor (which is the most costly) to assemble and mount the books, costs run about \$200 - \$250 per book.

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As it turns out, comments from parents in the guest book have indicated that often they plan to purchase the book that they have seen at the StoryWalk® Project. The Kellogg-Hubbard Library also buys a copy of the books that we use if they do not already have them in their collection.

How do you select books for The StoryWalk® Project?

Selection of books focuses on minimal text, finding illustrations that don't cross the center of the book, and a great story line. Smaller books work best for this project. We look for books that can be used in different seasons and are nature-based. Always, it is a great story line that is the key to this project – we also consistently look for books with a message of kindness and caring.

How far apart did you space the pages?

That depends on the length of the route available, the number of forks or intersections it has and the number of pages in the book. Make sure that the readers know where to find the following page, it is best if the next page can be seen. About 40 paces or so seems like a good distance between pages. We have found that a half-mile total distance works well for small children.

How can you tell how many people have seen the StoryWalk®?

We place a guest book at the end of the StoryWalk® and ask readers to tell us the date, number in party, and any comments or suggestions that they have for the project.

How did you set up a guest/comment book to be protected against the elements?

We have placed a loose-leaf binder in a weatherproof box along with pencils (pens freeze and won't write on damp paper). The boxes are ones developed for real estate information with lids that can be mounted or attached to stakes.

What suggestions do you have for someone interested in creating The StoryWalk® Project in his or her town?

If you live in Vermont, you can borrow StoryWalk® books for up to two weeks, contact Anne to arrange this. All books are picked up and returned to the Kellogg-Hubbard Library in Montpelier.

If you don't live in Vermont or would like to create a StoryWalk® yourself, start by finding some other like-minded people in your community to work with on this project. We work well as a team and offer different perspectives and experiences. This project combines the benefits of physical activity, time outdoors in nature, literacy, and family time. Because of that, many community partners are interested in it and it lends itself well to funding from different sources.

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How can anyone help to support the StoryWalk® Project?

Thanks for asking! Donations are always welcome, we suggest a donation of \$25 for borrowing a book. All donations can be sent to the Vermont Bicycle & Pedestrian Coalition (see address below) – be sure to write "StoryWalk" on the memo line of the check. Thank you for your support!

If I have any other questions, how can I reach you?

Anne Ferguson **StoryWalk® Project Creator and Coordinator (Volunteer)**

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Montpelier, VT 05602

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The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, Vermont and developed in collaboration with the Vermont Bicycle & Pedestrian Coalition and the Kellogg-Hubbard Library.

The StoryWalk® Project –Books 2012

with # of pages and staple or Velcro®

"Gossie" (with French translation)	by Olivier Dunrea	31 p	Staple
"If You Give a Pig a Pancake"	by Laura Numeroff	29 p	Velcro®
"The Dot"	by Peter Reynolds	29 p	Velcro®
"Leaves"	by David Ezra Stein	32 p	Velcro®
"Weezer Changes the World"	by David McPhail	42 w/3?'s	Velcro®
"A Hat for Minerva Louise" (with Spanish translation)	by Janet Stoeke	23 p	Staple
"Whoever You Are"	by Mem Fox	23 p (2 pg per stake)	Staple
"Sheep Take a Hike"	by Nancy Shaw	27 p	Velcro®
"Rail Trail Alphabet Adventures"	by Carolyn Siccama	27 p	Staple
"South"	by Patrick McDonnell	43 p	Staple
"Over in The Meadow"	Illustrations by Ezra Jack Keats	21 p	Velcro®
"Corduroy"	by Dan Freeman	29 p	Velcro®
"I Took My Frog to the Library"	by Eric Kimmel	21 p	Velcro®
"A House for Hermit Crab"	by Eric Carle	28 p	Velcro®
"Tracks in the Snow"	by Wong Herbert Yee	29 p	Velcro®
"The Animals' Winter Sleep"	by Lynda Graham-Barber	23 p	Velcro®
"Zoom"	by Istvan Banyai	32 p	Velcro®
"Guyku"	by Bob Raczka	39 p	Velcro®
"Dream Big starring Olivia"	by Ian Falconer	32 p	Velcro®
"Mary Had a Little Lamp"	by Jack Lechner	31 p	Velcro®
"Me.... Jane"	by Patrick McDonnell	38 p	Velcro®
"Chicken Thief"	by Beatrice Rodriguez	25 p	Velcro®
"Elusive Moose"	by Joan Gonnij and Clare Beaton	33 p	Velcro®
"Feeding the Sheep"	by Leda Schubert	25 p	Velcro®

“How to Make an Apple Pie and See the World” by Marjorie Priceman 31 p Velcro®
“We Went Looking” by Aileen Fisher 26 p Velcro®
“The Little Old Lady Who Was Not Afraid of Anything” by Linda Williams 30 p Velcro®
“Dear Mr. Blueberry” by Simon James 26 p Velcro®
“Leon and Bob” by Simon James 25 p Velcro®

The StoryWalk® Project

Frequently Asked Questions

March 2015 update

What is required of me if I would like to offer StoryWalk® in my community?

Please use the StoryWalk® trademark and include the following statement in all promotion of the project: "The StoryWalk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and developed in collaboration the Kellogg Hubbard Library. Storywalk® is a registered service mark owned by Ms. Ferguson."

All usage of the Storywalk® mark must comply with these guidelines, and must be limited to use in connection with educational, noncommercial projects consistent with the StoryWalk® Project mission to promote literacy.

Please note: *When the project is offered in the following counties in Pennsylvania: Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Lawrence, Washington, and Westmoreland, the term "StoryWalk" can only be used by the Pittsburgh Association for the Education of Young Children ("PAEYC"). You can hold the event, just call it something else.*

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Not including labor to assemble and mount the books, StoryWalk® costs run about \$200 - \$250 per book.

What basics should I know about preparing the books?

In general, we use 10 ml lamination pockets, Industrial Strength Sticky Back Velcro® (the lightweight indoor Velcro® isn't strong enough) and use four-foot mahogany stakes, (they are stronger and lighter than pine). Each page is mounted on card stock; we put the page number, book title and author, and contact info on the back of each page. We staple gun the Velcro® to the stake. We have the lamination done by a copy center.

I can't stress enough the importance of a wide margin of laminate around the edges of each page – this completely seals protects the page from moisture which will ruin the page.

What about copyright laws?

We contacted the head of the Children's Library Services for the State of Vermont - Grace Greene - who told us that if we purchased the book, we could do what we wanted with it. (Books are governed by the "first sale" doctrine.) The books cannot be altered in any way, and the pages cannot be scanned or reproduced. Simply mount them on card stock and laminate each individual page.

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