

# Helping Hands: A Day in Our Neighbourhood



## *School Program Teacher Overview* *Canadian Children's Museum*

### **Introduction**

This program incorporates many favourite activities for youngsters, and has been specially designed for Junior/Senior Kindergarten and Grade 1. Taking on the roles of shipmates, market vendors and postal carriers, students work together as they learn new skills. Please divide your group in two prior to your Museum visit.

### **Goals**

- To present a stimulating roleplaying environment, introducing students to the roles of various people in their communities, using postal carriers, builders and market vendors as examples.
- To promote the growth of children's inquiry, reasoning and creative thinking skills.
- To promote the growth of literacy and math skills.

### **Program Description**

Students meet a Letter Carrier and a ship's Captain, both needing helpers. Students offer to help, then head off into the community as Letter Carriers, Market Vendors, Builders and Sailors. They learn a working song, deliver mail, work on the ship and deliver cargo. The program features a full workload requiring creative thinking, reading and pattern recognition, as students make their way through the International Village.



### **Duration, Times and Reservations**

- Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
- Start times: 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.
- To make your reservation, please call Group Services at 819 776-7014

### **Grade Levels**

- Ontario — Junior Kindergarten to Grade 2 (maximum of 30 students per session)
- Quebec — Preschool to Cycle 1 (maximum of 30 students per session)



## Specific Learning Outcomes

In addition to the general goals outlined above, this program provides your students with activity-related experiences which will deepen their knowledge and understanding of a number of specific topics.

Through this program:

- Students will use pattern recognition as they match materials to categories and items on a shopping list.
- Students will understand the need for cooperation in completing a task.
- Students will make sense of simple written materials as they match the locations and symbols on letters, parcels and homes.
- Students will use mathematical skills as they count money and supplies.
- Students will learn rules and responsibilities when asked to accomplish a specific task such as collecting and selling the items specified on the shopping list.

## Curriculum Links

In order to support Ontario and Quebec curricula, this program has been tailored to enhance your classroom content. A few specific curriculum links for each level are outlined below.

### Ontario

Kindergarten

- Language: Make sense of simple written materials, using reading strategies that are appropriate for beginners.
- Mathematics: recognize use of patterns.

Grade 2

- Social Studies: Heritage and Citizenship — Relationships, Rules and Responsibilities; Canada and World Connections — The Local Community
- Language — read a variety of simple written materials for different purposes

### Quebec

Preschool Education

- Competency 3 — To interact harmoniously with others
- Competency 4 — To communicate using the resources of language
- Competency 5 — To construct his/her understanding of the world

Cycle 1

Language

- Competency 1 — To read and listen to literary, popular and information-based texts

Social Sciences

- Competency — To construct his/her representation of space, time and society

Mathematics

- Competency 1 — To solve a situational problem related to mathematics

## Preparing Your Class

In order to ensure that your class gets the most out of this educational experience, we encourage you to consider the following pre-visit activities:

- Your students could learn the simple song, “Row, Row, Row Your Boat”:

Row, row, row your boat,  
Gently down the stream.  
Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily,  
Life is but a dream.

- Study terminology related to ships, such as: port (side), starboard, bow, stern
- Help your students identify which foods fall into each of the food groups listed below. As shipmates and market vendors, your students will be responsible for sorting foods by category.
  - Milk products
  - Fruits and vegetables
  - Meat and fish

## Post-Visit Activities

To help cement the lessons your students learn during their Museum program, you may want to consider some of these follow-up activities:

- Take a closer look at the different roles and occupations experienced by your students during the program.
- Visit your local supermarket and/or post office.
- Invite students to investigate other community roles and have them act them out or present these to their fellow students.

## Evaluation

In order to ensure that our programs remain helpful and relevant to your curriculum and to your students, we encourage all teachers to send in a post-program evaluation. Evaluation forms will be provided onsite, and we hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to provide us with important feedback on your Museum experience.