

museum for all

*An accessibility guide to
enjoying the Museum*



welcome!

Mission and Guidelines for Play

Our mission at the Children's Museum of Denver at Marsico Campus is to create extraordinary experiences that champion the wonder and joy of childhood. The following guidelines help ensure a safe and fun learning environment for all.

- ▲ Children and adults must stay together.
- ▲ Adults are responsible for the supervision of children at all times.
- ▲ Please, no food or drinks in the exhibits.
- ▲ Shoes are required inside the Museum (except in Bloom).
- ▲ Treat all Museum guests, staff and materials with kindness and respect.
- ▲ And above all, have fun!

Comfortable Visit

The Children's Museum has partnered with several local organizations, including Spectra Autism Centers of Colorado and Anchor Center for Blind Children, to develop this guide to help you get the most out of your visit. We also have the following items available at the front desk or in the designated exhibits to make your visit more enjoyable:

- ▲ Wheelchairs
- ▲ Noise-cancelling headphones
- ▲ Soothing weighted lap pads and neck wraps
- ▲ Grip-assists for paint brushes in The Art Studio and tools in The Assembly Plant



Training

Our staff receives ongoing training to supplement and improve the time all families spend in our Museum. Daily educational programs and StoryTimes are designed for inclusion.



Low-sensory Evenings

By limiting attendance and turning down some of the ambient noise in the Museum, we offer an enjoyable space for children to play with their families.

Admission is free for families who require a low-sensory environment to enjoy the museum. Please email CommunityPrograms@cmdenver.org for info and to reserve your spot (required).



Tours & Contact Info

If you have questions or would like a tour from a staff member, please email CommunityPrograms@cmdenver.org. Tours must be scheduled one week in advance and are dependent upon staff availability.



my visit today



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When I visit the Children's Museum, there are exciting things to do and see, and I will have many choices about what activities I want to do. When we arrive, I will need to wait for a grown-up who works at the Museum to check us in. Then it will be time to explore the Museum!

There are many different rooms at the Museum called exhibits. I need to remember to share all of the toys and activities in the exhibits with other children.

The people who work at the Children's Museum are very nice. They can help me if I need something. They all wear black lanyards around their necks and have black, green or grey shirts.

While I am here, I can ask the front desk for headphones or a wheelchair. Grip assists and weighted pads are available in certain exhibits.

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Things to Remember

1. I need to stay with my grown-up.
2. I need to move carefully. If I go too fast I could hurt myself and others.
3. I need to take turns with other children.
4. I can tell my grown-up if the exhibits are too loud or too busy for me.
5. I can have fun!

If I turn the page, I can see and read about the different exhibits in the Children's Museum and choose where I want to go on my visit.



helpful icons

messy alert



This indicates the exhibit can be messy and may require some level of clean-up after play.

baby-friendly



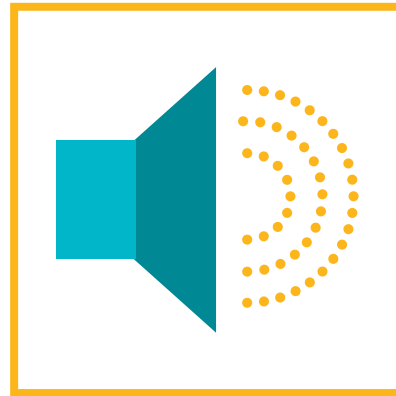
This indicates the exhibit is suitable for babies and young children, newborn through age three.

sharing space



This indicates the exhibit requires children share toys and tools while they play.

noise level

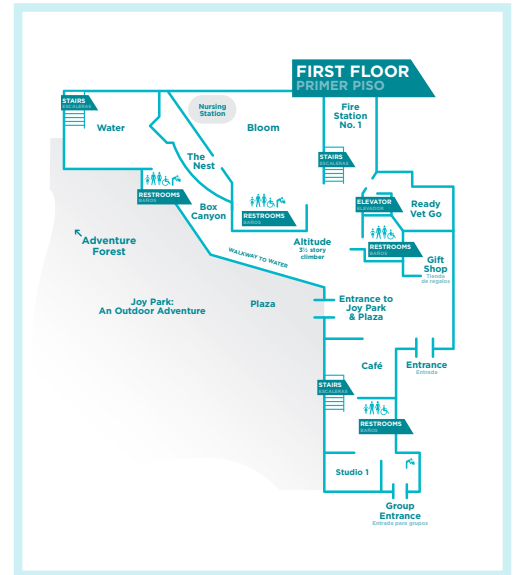


The atmosphere and noise-level is different for each exhibit and can vary depending on time of day. If your child is sensitive to noise, avoid areas that indicate high levels of noise, or borrow a pair of headphones from the front desk.

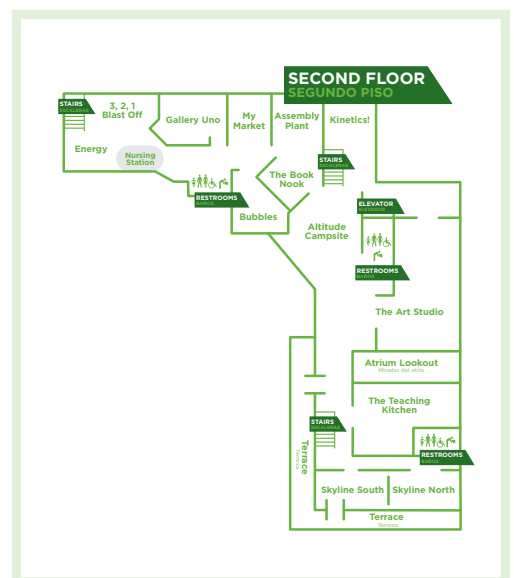
places to go!

- Page 1 *First Floor Map*
- Page 2 *Second Floor Map*
- Page 3 *Adventure Forest*
- Page 4 *Altitude*
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- Page 6 *Bloom*
- Page 7 *Fire Station No. 1*
- Page 8 *Joy Park*
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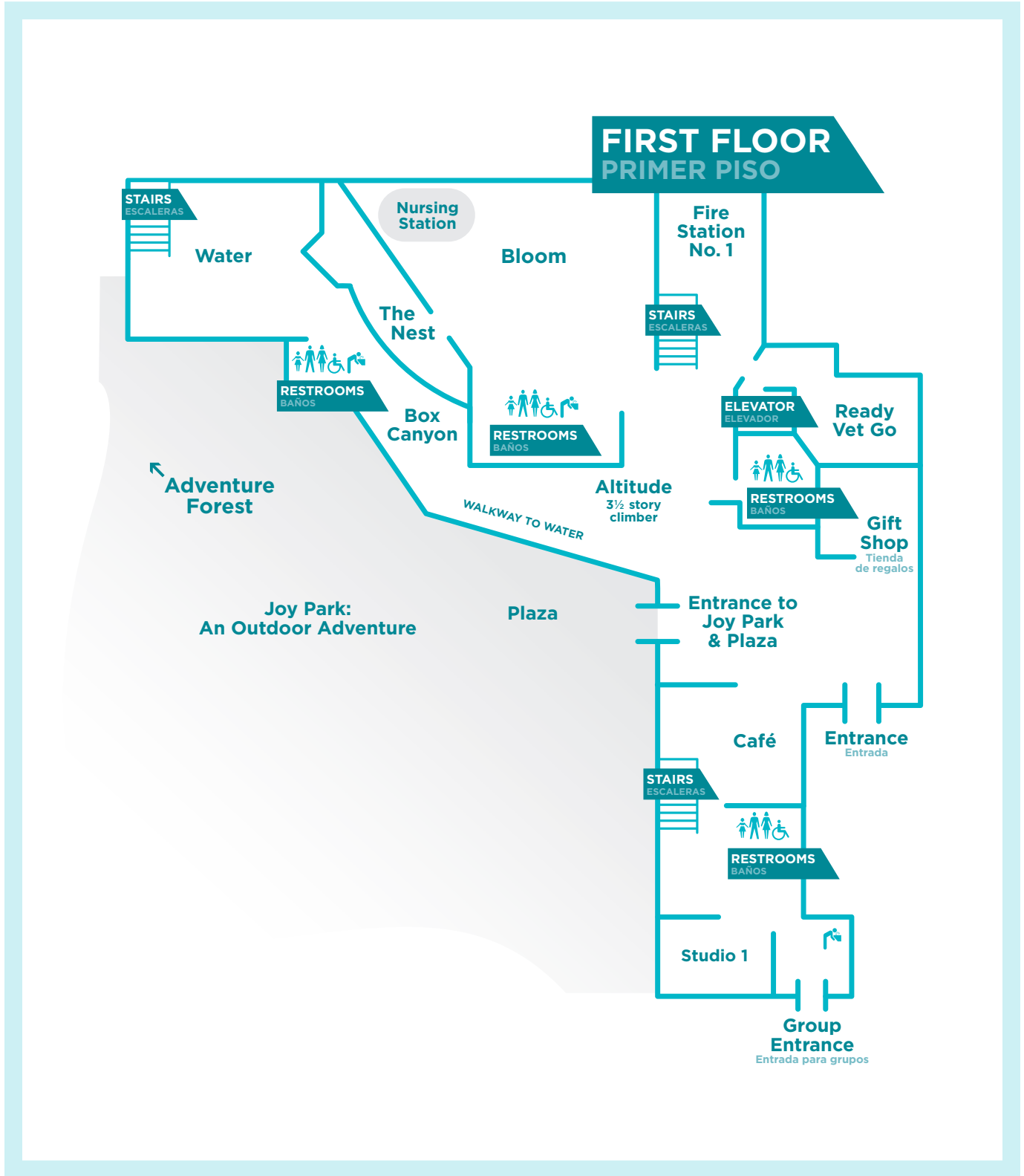
First Floor



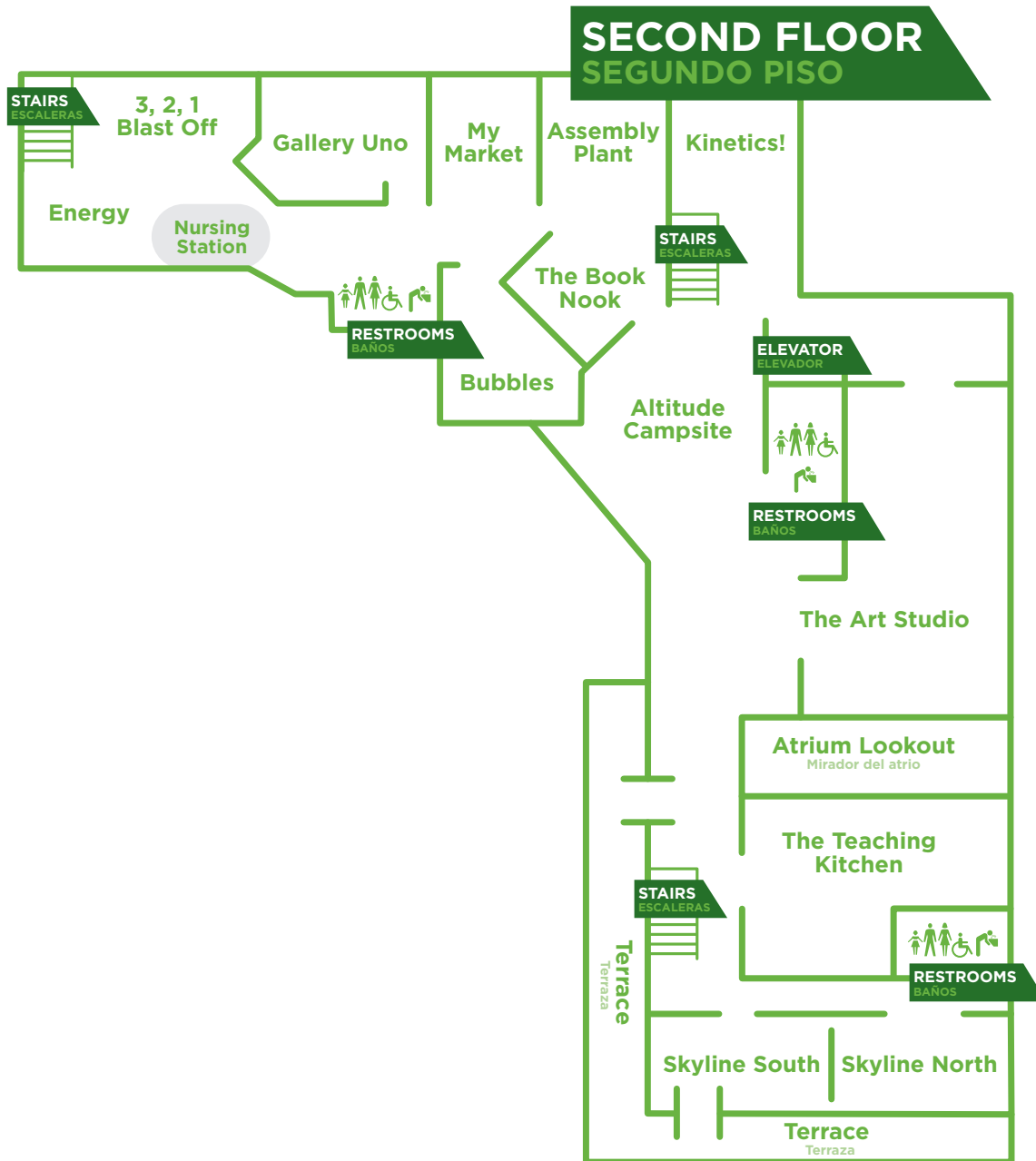
Second Floor



museum map



museum map

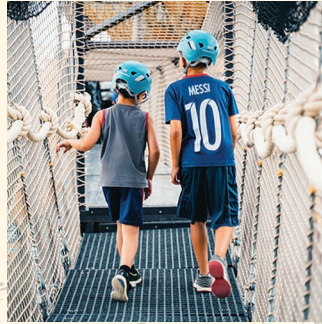


ADVENTURE FOREST in JOY PARK

SEASONAL EXPERIENCE, OPEN MAY – OCTOBER, EXACT DATES VARY

Climbers must be 5 years old or 44 inches tall and be able to climb independently.

While playing outside, I can go with my grown-up to the back of the park to the big climbing place! My grown-up can help me find out if I am old enough or tall enough to play here. The person who works at the Museum will tell us about climbing safely. To be safe, I will wear a helmet to protect my head. If I want, my grown-up can go with me, or I can climb by myself. I can climb down any time if I don't want to keep going up. I can take a ride on a rope swing, crawl through tunnels, and go down a giant slide. I can ask the Museum staff to show me the different ways to go up or down. If I get too hot or cold, I can ask my grown-up to go back inside.



NOTE FOR GROWN-UPS

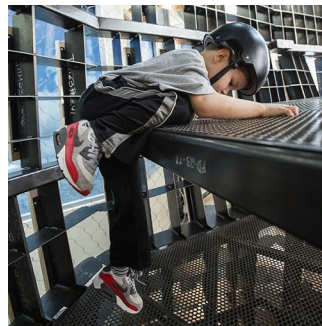
Adventure Forest is a seasonal experience and will close in the event of inclement weather, including precipitation, high winds, lightning, heat or in cases of low air quality.



ALTITUDE

CLIMBER

I can climb, crawl and walk through this exhibit. At the top, there are windows where I can see outside. I have to put on a helmet to protect my head and wear a card on my shirt. If I want, my grown-up can go with me. There are lots of other kids in this exhibit so I should be sure to watch where I am going. I can climb down at any point. I have to remember that this is a small space with uneven platforms, so I need to move slow and steady. If I get stuck, I can ask a Museum staff member for help.



note for grown-ups

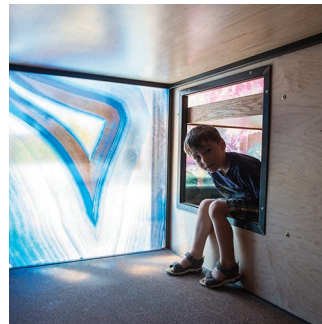
It is recommend that climbers are at least 40" tall to climb alone.



BOX CANYON

FOR LITTLE
EXPLORERS

If I am too small to go into Altitude, the big climber, I can play here. I can climb through different boxes or try balancing in the kayak. There is also a wall of fog that I can move through. My grown-up will be close by if I need help. I have to remember to watch where I am going because there are other kids in this small space.



bloom

a playful space for early learning

If I am a baby or a toddler, this exhibit was created just for me! In here, I can explore the fairy garden, crawl through the mossy tunnels, and try on costumes to pretend to be different creatures. If I am a small baby, I can lie down in a quiet and safe place to play with my grown-up or take a nap. If I am a bit older, I can practice crawling, pulling myself up, or moving on my feet.

If I am older than 36 months, I can play here with my younger family members, and it is important to always make sure I play safely around kids who are smaller than me.



note for grown-ups

We created this exhibit for children newborn to 36 months. Older siblings are welcome to play safely with their younger siblings. This is a shoe-free zone, though socks are required; the Museum provides shoe covers and socks if needed. Families are welcome to nurse and bottle feed. No other food or beverages, besides water, may be consumed in Bloom.





FIRE STATION NO. 1

When I enter this exhibit, I will see a big fire truck that has lights and sirens. I can press buttons that make sounds. If I want, I can put on a firefighter's jacket and hat. I can practice how to call 911 and learn what I should do in a fire. I can also go down the fire pole or aim the fire hose at a window to put out a fire. If the sirens are too loud for me, I can ask to go to a different exhibit or put on headphones.



★ note for grown-ups ★

This space has an ADA compliant fire hose at the Putting Out The Fire experience.





If I want to play outside, I can go to this exhibit. I can play in the sand or in the apple truck. During the summer, I can also play in the water. I can take a ride on the zip line. If I can't get on by myself, I might need to ask my grown-up for help. I need to remember to take turns with other kids in line to ride the zip line. I can also build a fort. If I get too hot or cold, I can ask my grown-up to go back inside.



note for grown-ups

Come prepared for outdoor messy play! In the summer, this means bring a swimsuit, towel, sunscreen and a change of clothes. In the winter, we recommend boots, a jacket, hat and mittens. There are transfer platforms available in the Sand Dunes and the River. We use chlorine in the water to keep the exhibit safe and clean.



Nest

the

sensory-friendly studio

The Nest is somewhere I can go to feel calm in my body. When I enter this room, I notice that it is darker and quieter than the other exhibits. I may see other kids and grown-ups in there, too. In this room, there are toys and objects to look at, touch, squish or arrange, and cozy blankets and chairs. I may use the things in this exhibit however I'd like to, and I know that what I need to feel safe and comfortable is unique to me.



note for grown-ups

The Nest is designed to support individuals with autism spectrum disorder, as well as individuals who experience sensory processing differences. This sensory-friendly space is also meant for any guest who would benefit from taking a break from a busier environment.





In this exhibit, I can pretend that I am a veterinarian. I can put on a coat and stethoscope to help the stuffed animals. There are machines to play with in this exhibit, including an x-ray for animals, a microscope, and a centrifuge. When the centrifuge is running, it can be a bit loud. I need to remember to share the animals and tools with others so that everyone gets a turn.



SNOW DAYS

**Seasonal experience, open
December - February, exact dates vary**

Joy Park has different, fun things to do during the wintertime. I can ice skate with slipper covers over my shoes, go sledding, build a snow person, throw snowballs, go ice fishing for pretend fish and play with the stuffed sled dogs. There are outside fires where I can warm up if I get cold. If it's too cold, I can ask my grown-up to go back inside.



note for grown-ups

Come prepared for outdoor play with boots, a jacket, hat and mittens.





This exhibit shows me how water moves. I can put balls into a water tornado or I can fill buckets to shoot water in the air. I can also put boats in the river and watch them float. I should remember to move slowly because the floor can be slippery.



NOTE FOR GROWN-UPS

Play in WATER can result in clothing getting wet. Extra clothes are recommended. Chlorine is utilized to keep the exhibit safe and clean.



THE ART STUDIO

I can paint in this exhibit or play with clay. There are many different colors I can paint with. If my hands get dirty, I can wash them in the sink that is just my size.

If I want to play with other kids, I can draw on the windows with chalk paint or on the big car. I have to let my paintings dry before I can take them home. I can put them on the drying rack and then go somewhere else to play. We just have to remember to come back and pick them up!



note for grown-ups

This space offers an ADA clay table, painting easels and collaborative painting experience, as well as grip assists for paint brushes.



Assembly Plant

In this exhibit, I get to use real tools to create a project. I can follow the directions written on one of the blueprints or I can make something on my own. I need to stay safe and work with my grown-up. I should start by putting on my plastic safety glasses so I don't get anything in my eyes and headphones to protect my ears from loud sounds. I can use different materials like cardboard, plastic water bottles, wood and egg cartons to make projects like helicopters, spiders or robots. I need to remember to pick up all my trash and put away all my tools.



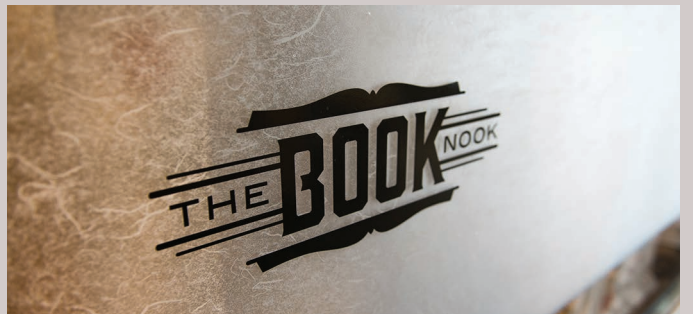
note for grown-ups

This space offers an ADA compliant work station and headphones, as well as tools with grips assists, located at the ADA compliant work station.



THE BOOK NOOK

This is a very quiet exhibit where I can put on a puppet show or take a break and read a book. There are many different books that I can read. If I am just learning to read, I can find a small book but if I already know how to read I can find a bigger book. There are all kinds of books that will be just right for me. There might be a staff member reading stories. If I want, I can sit and listen to their stories.



NOTE FOR GROWN-UPS

This is a quiet space, great for taking a break. Weighted lap pads and neck wraps are available in The Nest.





Bubbles

In here, I can make big bubbles with rings or create a wall of bubbles around me. I will be making bubbles with soap so I should put on the plastic glasses to keep the soap out of my eyes. I need to remember to move carefully because the floor may be slippery. Lots of friends like to play in here so it may be crowded. I will have to wait my turn to play. When I am finished, I can wash my hands in the sink that is just my size.



The Campsite

I can pretend that I am camping here. If I want, I can put on an animal costume to dress up like a Colorado creature. I can put different animals around the campsite. I can also practice tying a knot with a rope. If I have trouble, I can ask my grown-up for help. I can also play inside of the tent with my friends. There is always a lot going on around this exhibit so if I want to take a break, I just need to ask my grown-up.



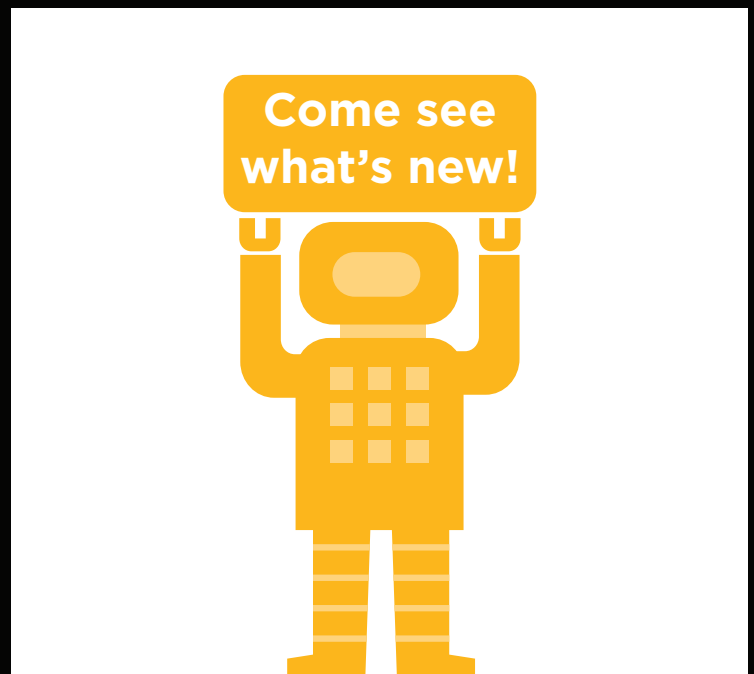
ENERGY

This exhibit has a lot to do! The walls are high and I have to move through a maze. I can pick up tubes and find energy balls inside of them. Once I find energy balls, I can take them to the hot air balloon and watch it take off. I can make a rocket with the help of my grown-up and launch it high in the air. I can try on different wings or capes at the wind wall and see what it feels like to fly. I can play a special piano with lights or make art with the giant Lite Brite.



Gallery UNO

Gallery Uno is the Museum's rotating exhibit space. One word is chosen to define each experience, allowing the Museum to create relevant and timely installations that evoke connection and conversation. Each experience will be designed to be whimsical, irreverent, clever, joyful and, perhaps most of all, experimental.



NOTE FOR GROWN-UPS

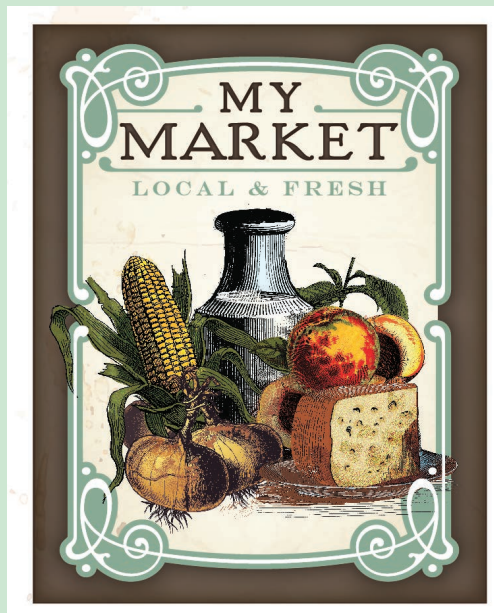
Please email Information@cmdenver.org to learn more about the current Gallery Uno exhibit, or ask the front desk upon arrival.



Kinetics

In this exhibit, I can be a scientist. I can learn about movement and motion with balls, ramps and rollers. If I want, I can build a mini-roller coaster. I need to remember to share the balls and tracks with other kids. I should move slowly because there are a lot of bright orange balls on the ground. When there are enough balls in the bin, a siren goes off, lights flash and the balls drop to the floor. If the siren is too loud for me, I can ask my grown-up to go somewhere a little quieter or ask for headphones.





In this exhibit, I can pretend to go to the market. There are lots of fruits and vegetables for me to choose from as well as milk and cheese. When I am at the market, I can use a basket to gather my food or I can go behind the counter and pretend to sell the food. Once I have all my food I can go into the kitchen, put on an apron and make something. I can follow one of the recipes that are next to the oven. This will tell me what food I need and how to make it. When I am all done playing here, I need to remember to put away my toys in the right bins.



NOTE FOR GROWN-UPS

This space has an ADA compliant table in the farmhouse kitchen.





If I want to go to a class in The Teaching Kitchen, I need to ask my grown-up to sign us up on the sheet outside the doors. In the kitchen, I can learn how to make different things to eat by listening to the instructions and following a step-by-step recipe. I have to work with my grown-up and remember to ask before I eat anything. Sometimes the class uses kitchen tools that require safe behavior or help from a grown-up. It is important to follow the rules in the kitchen so that I stay safe.



note for grown-ups

This space offers an ADA compliant observation counter for demonstrations and table for class participation.



have



fun!

