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## **Washington Redskins' Josh Morgan Headlines Month-long Celebration of Literacy, Science at National Children's Museum**

**NATIONAL HARBOR, MD (Feb. 19, 2013)** – The National Children's Museum (NCM) will partner with PBS Kids and the National Educational Association's Read Across America initiative throughout March for a month of literacy and science- focused educational programming.

Events will include storytime with Washington Redskins' wide receiver Josh Morgan, surprise "Drop Everything and Read" storytime, a tribute to Dr. Seuss and special screenings of the new full-length film *Sid the Science Kid: The Movie*. Unless otherwise noted, all programs will take place at the National Children's Museum at 151 St. George Blvd. at National Harbor in Prince George's County, Md.

### **Dr. Seuss' Birthday Party**

**Saturday, March 2, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. (all day)**

Help NCM kick off Read Across America month by celebrating what would have been Dr. Seuss' 109th birthday! Families can enjoy a Dr. Seuss storytime and other performances in the NCM Theatre, crafts in the Center for Learning and Innovation, and, of course, cake! Pat Lawson Muse, NBC4 anchor and reporter, will read a classic Dr. Seuss book in the NCM Theatre at 1:30 p.m. Please visit [www.ncm.museum](http://www.ncm.museum) for more information.

### **Storytime and book signing with author Karen Leggett Abouraya**

**Saturday, March 9, 11:30 a.m.-12 p.m.**

Former journalist, traveler and author Karen Leggett Abouraya will visit the NCM Theatre for a special reading of *Hands Around the Library*, her beloved story about protecting treasured Egyptian books. A book signing will immediately follow the reading. Families interested in purchasing the book may visit <http://handsaroundthelibrary.com/where-to-buy> to order online or check its availability in local stores.

### **Free Family Night sponsored by GEICO**

**Friday, March 15, 5-8 p.m.**

Enjoy free admission to the museum as well as hands-on activities and interactive play in the NCM theatre and exhibit areas. March's Free Family Night will celebrate Read Across America. Please visit [www.ncm.museum](http://www.ncm.museum) for up-to-date information on ticketing and special programs.

### **Storytime with Washington Redskins' Josh Morgan**

**Saturday, March 16, 1:30-1:45 p.m., 1:45-2 p.m.**

Recently named the Washington Redskins' Walter Payton Man of the Year, wide receiver Josh Morgan will visit NCM for a special reading of *Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain*. Written by Verna Aardema, *Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain* features an exciting, rhythmic narrative and brilliant illustrations. Each reading will take place in the NCM Theatre.

### ***Sid the Science Kid: The Movie Screenings***

**March 23-24, 30-31, 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m. and 1-2:15 p.m.**

Get an exclusive sneak peek of this fast-paced, science-filled adventure before its DVD release in April. Produced by the Jim Henson Company, the feature-length film based on the popular television series airing on PBS Kids, *Sid the Science Kid: The Movie* follows Sid and his friend as they get a behind-the-scenes look at a new museum before it opens. What happens when one of the museum's robots goes haywire? It's up to Sid and his friends to use science to solve the problem. All screenings will take place in the NCM Theatre; no separate tickets are required.

### **Activities in the Center for Learning and Innovation**

In a style that Dr. Seuss himself would love, NCM visitors will learn two techniques that make storytelling so much fun! The program rooms in the Center for Learning and Innovation feature daily hands-on activities that relate to the Museum's exhibits and core initiatives. Activities in the Center this month will feature an interactive game based on the book *Mr. Brown Can Moo! Can You?* (ages 3 and under); ugali, a traditional cornmeal dish native to Tanzania; tribal paper beads; sand paper alphabet rubbings; and other science- and literacy focused crafts.

Visitors can purchase tickets to the Museum in person at the NCM box office or online in advance (available for weekend and holidays visits only). If timed entry tickets sell out online, tickets for that day and time slot may still be available for purchase in person at the box office. For more information, visitors may go to [www.ncm.museum](http://www.ncm.museum), email [info@ncm.museum](mailto:info@ncm.museum) or call the museum's main number at 301.392.2400.

The National Children's Museum has served more than 50,000 visitors since opening in Dec. 2012. The museum is open seven days a week from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. between Labor Day and Memorial Day. During the summer months, the museum will be open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Standard admission is \$10 per child or adult and \$8 for seniors ages 65 and up. There is no cost of admission for infants 12 months or younger.

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### **About National Children's Museum**

The National Children's Museum (NCM) is a world-class cultural and educational center ([www.ncm.museum](http://www.ncm.museum)) that inspires children to care about and improve the world. NCM opened in Dec. 2012 at National Harbor in Prince George's County, Md. After operating as a "museum without walls" for several years, the Museum is now Greater Washington's premier family attraction and the only national museum dedicated especially to children and their families and caregivers. NCM was designated by Congress in 2003 and was founded in 1974 as the Capital Children's Museum.