



City of Glendale
5850 W. Glendale Ave. / Glendale, Arizona 85301



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: FEB. 22, 2018
CONTACT: ROBERTA BONASKI, PUBLIC AFFAIRS DEPT., 602-686-8743

Foothills Branch Library opens “StoryWalk” at city park ... and everyone’s invited!

GLENDALE, AZ – The public is invited to join in the festivities when the Glendale Public Library officially reveals its first ever StoryWalk® in the Foothills Park on Saturday, March 3, kicking off the upcoming spring season for children and families.

WHAT: Glendale StoryWalk® Grand Opening/Dedication Event
FREE and open to the Public

When: Saturday, March 3, 2018, 11 a.m.-noon

Where: Foothills Park Playground
19073 N. 57th Ave., Glendale, Arizona 85308

The Glendale StoryWalk® is a new interactive feature in the Foothills Park playground, adjacent to the Foothills Branch Library. “It’s a fun, educational activity for the whole family,” said Foothills Branch Librarian Kim Huff, Early Literacy Programming coordinator.

StoryWalk® is a way to enjoy outdoor exercise, fun and unique story-related activities along the way. Playground visitors can follow a very specially-selected children’s book as it weaves a tale while winding its way through signposts along an 18-station path to its happy conclusion.

In collaboration with City of Glendale Parks and Recreation, representatives from the Glendale Public Library say the idea is especially perfect for this time of year. “It’s not just early literacy skills or family time, you’re getting together to enjoy the park and get exercise, too.” said Huff. “There’s never a bad time to enjoy a great book, inside or outside and doing it in our beautiful Arizona out doors with friends, classmates and family makes the experience extra rewarding.”

“StoryWalks are popping up all over the USA and are a wonderful way to create excitement for beginning readers,” said Vice Mayor Lauren Tolmachoff, (Cholla District). “It’s exciting to see so many partners come together to develop the Glendale StoryWalk for children and families in our community. It shows a real appreciation for local art and literature, as well as the importance of early literacy and the values of healthy living.”

StoryWalk-add-1-1-1

The new StoryWalk® is located in Foothills Park Playground, 19073 N. 57th Ave., Glendale. It is free and open to the public during regular park hours, seven days a week. Every three months, at the time of the season change, a new children's book will be featured.

Following a ribbon-cutting ceremony, event attendees are invited to take a StoryWalk® with city staff and volunteers. Children and their families can also enjoy several activities, including a Family Fitness Warm-up to get started, a take-home craft, finishing cheers and free refreshments. Event guests are also encouraged to stop by Foothills Branch Library, 19055 N. 57th Ave. Glendale, to check out other great stories, music, audiobooks, DVDs, video games and more.

The event is free and open to the public. As parking at the park is limited, event attendees are asked to park at the Foothills Branch Library and enjoy a short walk to the park or use free special event shuttle service to and from the park.

Funding for the Glendale StoryWalk® project was provided by the State Library of Arizona through a federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant to the Foothills Branch Library, Glendale, AZ, in June 2017.

Future StoryWalk® events and updates will be posted on the Glendale Public Library webpage at www.GlendaleAz.com/library . For more information, contact Librarian Kim Huff, khuff@glendaleaz.com or 623-930-3852.

StoryWalk® is an innovative and delightful way for children and adults to enjoy reading and the outdoors at the same time. Interactive StoryWalk® features have been installed in 50 states and 12 countries including, Germany, Canada, England, Bermuda, Russia, Malaysia, Pakistan and South Korea. 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.

The Glendale StoryWalk® project is supported by the Arizona State Library, Archives & Public Records, a division of the Secretary of State, with federal funds from the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

MISSION: We improve the lives of the people we serve every day.

Community | Integrity | Excellence | Innovation | Learning