



## Why Read Poetry with Young Children?

Poetry is a literacy treasure. It's loaded with rich content in a concise format. Children are drawn to the natural rhythm of poetry. Poetry can also be read in quick snippets to maintain children's attention. Enrich your reading routine with the poems in *Finding Treasure: A Collection of Collections*.



### Activity Options:

**Snow Globe Scene:** After reading the poem “Sissy’s Snow Globe,” participants draw a scene in their own 2D snow globe.

**Button Box Bookmark:** After reading “My Mother’s Button Box,” participants select buttons from a button box and make a bookmark.

**Milk Carton Birdhouse:** After reading the poem “Roger’s Roosts,” participants create their own bird house out of a milk carton.

## Preparing for the Activities:

Following are some suggestions for preparing for an event with *Finding Treasure: A Collection of Collections*.

- ✓ Secure a copy of *Finding Treasure: A Collection of Collections* written by Michelle Schaub and illustrated by Carmen Saldaña.
- ✓ Read the poems you intend to share ahead of time to familiarize yourself with their meter and rhythm.
- ✓ Use this blurb to help with pre-event promotion:

In *Finding Treasure: A Collection of Collections*, a young child goes on a hunt to find the perfect collection to bring to school for a class assignment. She seeks inspiration from family and friends, and her quest is told through eighteen lively poems. To celebrate poetry and the hobby of collecting, we will share poems from this picture book collection and completing hands-on, collecting-related activities. Come discover the joy of poetry and collecting!

- ✓ Print out the provided event poster to advertise your event. Add your date, time, and location.
- ✓ Arrange a display of nonfiction books about collecting for participants to explore after the story time.
- ✓ Post facts from “A Collection of Collection Facts” (included below) around the room for participants to peruse before the program.
- ✓ Offer a “collection” of fresh vegetable and fruits kebobs as a snack.



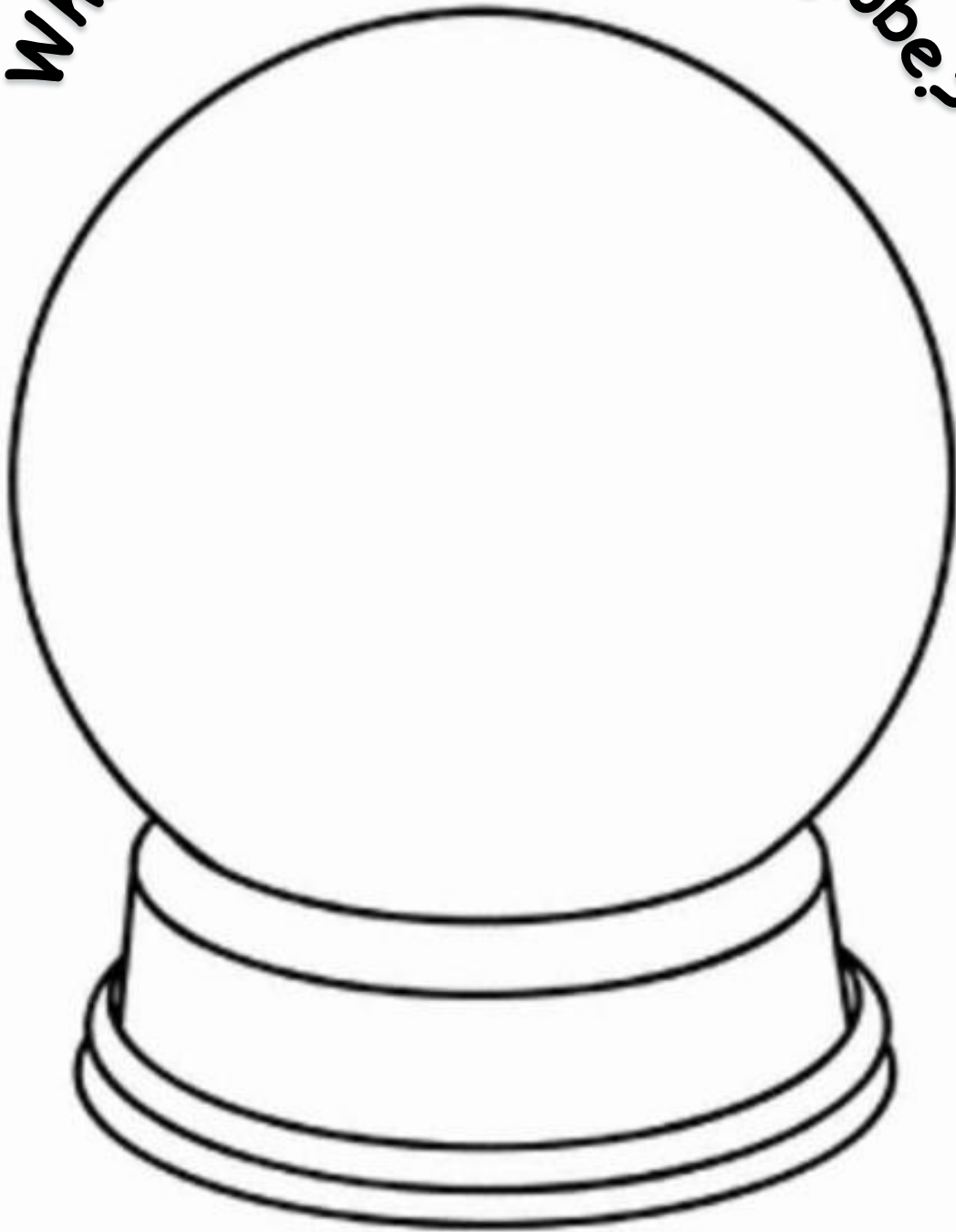
## Event Activities:

### Snow Globe Scene

- ✓ Print out copies of the snow globe template included with this kit.
- ✓ Arrange bins with crayons, colored pencils, or markers.
- ✓ Read “Sissy’s Snow Globe” from *Finding Treasure*.
- ✓ Ask participants to raise their hands if they have a snow globe or have ever seen one. Invite volunteers to share what scene was inside the globe.
- ✓ Share the snow globe template with participants. Invite the children to draw their own snow globe scene inside the large globe.



What's inside your snow globe?



\*This activity is intended to be used in with the poem "Sissy's Snow Globe" from *Finding Treasure: A Collection of Collections* by Michelle Schaub, illustrated by Carmen Saldaña.



## Button Box Bookmark

### Materials:

assorted felt flowers and stars (choose self-stick versions if available)

12-in lengths of  $\frac{3}{4}$  to 1-in ribbon (or cardstock of the same dimensions)

assorted buttons arranged in a “button box”

bottles of tacky craft glue (Elmer’s Craft Bond Tacky Glue works well)



### Directions:



- ✓ Arrange materials in designated craft area ahead of time.
- ✓ Gather participants in a separate story area. Ask “Can anyone find buttons on the clothing they are wearing?” Explain that some people collect buttons. We will be reading a poem about someone who saves buttons from old clothing in a button box. Do they know anyone who has a button box?
- ✓ Many different types of buttons will be named in the poem. Ask participants to picture each type of button named as you read the poem.
- ✓ Read the poem “My Mother’s Button Box.”
- ✓ The narrator of the poem cannot choose a favorite button. Ask volunteers “Which button named in the poem would be your favorite?”



- ✓ Explain that sometimes people make crafts out of the buttons they collect. Today they will have the chance to make a button book mark.
- ✓ Move to the craft area. Have each participant choose one ribbon, one felt flower or star, and 3-4 buttons.

### Tell Participants To:

- ✓ Put a drop of glue\* at the top of the ribbon and press down their flower or star. (If the flowers/stars are self-adhesive, direct participants to remove the backing and press the shape down.)
- ✓ Put another drop of glue in the middle of the flower/star. Press one button on top of the glue drop.
- ✓ Put a couple more drops of glue at the bottom of the ribbon. Press 2-3 more buttons down. (This will give the bookmark a little counterweight.)
- ✓ When the bookmark is fully dry\*\*, participants can stick it in their favorite book!



\*Very young children may need adult help with the glue.

\*\* Treat bookmarks gently until they are fully dried. (Tacky glue takes about 35 minutes to dry.)



## Milk Carton Birdhouse

### Materials:

- ½ gallon milk cartons (Or 8 oz to make mini bird houses)**
- scissors**
- rolls of masking tape**
- crayons**
- 5 or 6-in tree branch or craft dowel sticks (use 4-in for mini bird houses)**
- twine (cut into 12-in lengths)**

### Pre-Activity Prep:

- ✓ Collect and wash enough milk cartons for participants.
- ✓ Cut a 1-in hole in the middle of each carton's front. (Adjust size for 8 oz cartons.)
- ✓ Punch one small hole about an inch below the larger hole. (A stick will be inserted here to form the birdhouse's perch.)
- ✓ Punch another small hole in the middle of the lid's lip. (Twine will be inserted here in order for the bird house to hang.)



### Day of Activity:

- ✓ Read the poem “Roger’s Roosts” to participants.
- ✓ Ask participants why they think Roger collects bird houses. (Most likely he loves birds and wants to attract different birds to his yard.) Ask “Does anyone here like birds? Which kind? Does anyone have a birdhouse near their home?”
- ✓ Explain that today they will be creating their own birdhouse.
- ✓ Pass out a carton, roll of tape, stick, and length of twine to each participant.
- ✓ Place bins of crayons within easy reach.



## Milk Carton Birdhouse (cont.)

### Tell Participants To:

- ✓ Tear strips of tape and cover the entire outside of the carton in a random pattern. (It may take two layers of tape strips to cover the carton's original design.)
- ✓ Insert stick into the hole below the large opening. (The stick may need to be reinforced with extra masking tape to stay in place.)



- ✓ Decorate the bird house by rubbing crayons against the masking tape. (To make the bird house look rustic, use earth tones. To make it look lively, choose bright colors.)

- ✓ Thread the twine through the top of the birdhouse and tie it in a loop.
- ✓ Hang the birdhouse from a tree and watch to see which "fine feathered friends" come to roost in it!



# Story Time:

Calling

all



collectors!!

We will be sharing the book *Finding Treasure: A Collection of Collections* by Michelle Schaub, illustrated by Carmen Saldaña.(Charlesbridge, 2019)



## A Collection of Collection Facts

### Collectors can be record holders.



The largest collection of teddy bears includes over 8,000 bears. For other collections that hold the record for being the largest of their kind visit: <http://www.guinnessworldrecords.com/records/showcase/dedication-and-collections>

The longest toy train collection has 8 miles of track. 100 trains can run on these tracks at one time. Watch this collection chug round and round at <https://northlandz.com>



### Collectable treasures can be GIANT.



Most snow globes are small enough to fit on a dresser top, but the largest snow globe can fit real people inside. It is made out of 120,000 Lego bricks and contains models of famous London's landmarks, including Ben Ben and The London Eye. Learn more at <https://gizmodo.com/i-wanna-live-in-the-worlds-largest-lego-snow-globe-1464497250>

### Or tiny.

Mrs. James Ward Thorne designed and commissioned a collection of miniature rooms to depict particular periods in history. Each room is decorated with tiny, highly detailed replicas of items like furniture, curtains, and even miniature bowls of fruit. The rooms are on display at the Art Institute of Chicago: <https://www.artic.edu/departments/PC-15/thorne-miniature-rooms>

### Buttons are everywhere!

Buttons are made from all types of materials, including plastic, metal, leather, pearl, sea shell, horn, bone, coconut, bamboo, paper, wood, coal, chalk, and glass. The earliest known button, discovered in the Indus Valley of Pakistan, is over 5,000 years old. It is made out of shell.

[http://www.slate.com/articles/life/design/2012/06/button\\_history\\_a\\_visual\\_tour\\_of\\_button\\_design\\_through\\_the\\_ages\\_.html](http://www.slate.com/articles/life/design/2012/06/button_history_a_visual_tour_of_button_design_through_the_ages_.html)



## Sometimes a nickel is worth more than a nickel.

Coin collectors keep their eyes open wide for 1913 Liberty Head Nickels. Only five of these coins exist. One of them sold for \$5 million dollars in 2007!



## Stamp collecting goes back to BLACK...

Penny Black, that is. The Penny Black, issued on May 1, 1840 in Great Britain, was the first postage stamp ever made. Before that, packages were mailed without postage and the person receiving the package had to pay for its delivery.

<http://mentalfloss.com/article/20249/11-stamp-stories-worth-retelling>



## Mistakes make great collector items.

One popular baseball card to collect is the 1957 Topps Hank Aaron card. It includes a blunder that baseball history buffs will readily spot. The printing company accidentally reversed the image of Aaron, the great home-run hitter, on the card. Aaron looks like he's batting left-handed when really, he was right-handed.

<https://www.dacardworld.com/blog/product-releases/ten-baseball-card-blunders/>

## Collectors can go a little bananas.

One collector, Becky Martz, must really find bananas aPEALing. She saves stickers from the fruit and has over 20,000 in her collection so far. See Becky's sticker collection at:

<http://www.beckymartz.com>

## You can enjoy collections while you dine.



Visit the Collection Café at the Chihuly Garden and Glass Museum in Seattle, and you can admire a plethora of interesting collections. Items, including a collection of accordions, keys, and cameras, are displayed within the tables, on the walls, and hanging from the ceiling.

<https://www.chihulygardenandglass.com/visit/collections-cafe>