

# WVLS StoryWalk® Library: Experts & Exchange...for Libraries!



(MCPL: Trail Tales)



(MCPL: Brockmeyer Park)



(Antigo: The Mitten)

## Table of Contents

1. [Copyright](#) Considerations
2. [Book Choice](#)
3. [Book Permissions](#)
4. [Mounting Methods](#)
5. **[StoryWalk™ Exchange Sheet](#)**
6. [StoryWalk® Libraries in WVLS](#)
7. [Assessment](#)

## 1. Copyright: StoryWalk®

- a. Described here: <https://letsmovelibraries.org/storywalk/>
- b. **Important legal information** The StoryWalk® concept was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and was developed with the help of Rachel Senechal, Kellogg-Hubbard Library. Make sure to credit them in your StoryWalk®! Think of it as a creative commons license. You're free to use the idea however you wish, but just give credit! Go to the official webpage of the StoryWalk(R) movement to learn more.
- c. **Copyright information** The pages you use can not be altered in any way, the pages can not be scanned or reproduced without permission. You can add supplementary information around the pages, but you can not alter them. If you want to alter the pages of the books, be sure to seek permissions from the publisher.
  - i. [StoryWalk® Talk](#). ALSC, September 2020
  - ii. [Scouts Can Help Make Your StoryWalk® Grow](#). Programming Librarian 2019
  - iii. [Vermont, North County Library System, State of Vermont](#).
- d. Purchasing tips!
  - i. Purchase paperback copies as they are easier to disassemble

- ii. Purchase USED books for smaller budgets.

## 2. Book Choice

- a. [Book List](#) from Kellogg-Hubbard Library, the origination library!
- b. Addresses Setting of StoryWalk
  - i. Antigo chose [Bear Came Along](#) by Richard T. Morris illustrated by LeUyen Pham as the book talks about animals that can be seen by the river next to the Antigo StoryWalk.
  - ii. Antigo, [The Mitten](#) by Jim Aylesworth illustrated by Barbara McClintock
- c. Bilingual
  - i. Krista Blomberg chose a bilingual book to mimic the new space in the Rib Lake Public Library out in the community.

## 3. Book Permissions

- a. [StoryWalk FAQ](#) handout from Kellogg-Hubbard Library, the origination library!
- b. Email Author and Publisher Directly
  - i. Rhinelander: Email author and publisher directly through their websites. NONE of those they have contacted have said no.
    - 1. Harper Collins
    - 2. Little Brown and Company
  - ii. Tomahawk: Email the author and illustrator directly. Illustrator sent a digital version of the Dragon in [Dragon Was Terrible!](#) To reproduce and use.

## 4. Mounting/Maintenance Methods

- a. [StoryWalk FAQ](#) handout from Kellogg-Hubbard Library, the origination library!
- b. Rhinelander: Denise Chojnacki
  - i. Downtown Story Stroll with Business participation:
    - 1. We get publisher or author permission and scan the pages of the book. We then arrange them in 11X17 spreads in Canva. They are printed on weatherproof paper and hung in the windows of the participating downtown businesses.
  - ii. Permanent Story Stroll: We use the same procedure for our permanent stroll in the local park only on posts in snap frames.
- c. Rib Lake: Krista Blomberg
  - i. [Iron realtor for sale sign holders](#)
  - ii. Laminate pages and use Gorilla Glue brand to adhere laminated pages to realtor signage.
- d. Stetsonville: Carla Huston
  - i. Cold laminated pages zip-tied to fence posts.
  - ii. Kid height.
- e. Antigo: Steph Cherrywell
  - i. Laminated pages then zip-tied to light posts along river

- ii. City department made wooden mounts
- f. MCPL: Marathon County Parks Dept / Taylor Weinfurter
  - i. Wooden stands held down with sandbags
  - ii. Laminated and zip-tied to trees along ski trails

## 5. **StoryWalk™ Exchange Sheet:** Exchange Story Walk sets!

- a. Add your information and book titles for ready-made StoryWalk titles your library can share.

## 6. StoryWalk® Libraries in WVLS

- a. [Antigo](#)
- b. [Rib Lake](#)
- c. [Merrill](#)
- d. [MCPL](#)
- e. [Tomahawk](#)
- f. [Rhineland](#)
- g. [Stetsonville](#)
- h. [Minocqua](#)
- i. [Ogema](#)
- j. Ladysmith

## Antigo: Steph Cherrywell

We recently installed one along a local trail with the help of the city Parks and Rec department - the materials were a little pricey (around 600 dollars) but we've gotten a lot of positive feedback about it, and it works especially well as a library program that doesn't require in-person contact and works even if your library is closed. I recently switched the story out from Bear Came Among by Richard Morris (the path is right next to a river and wetlands, so it works great) to The Mitten by Jim Aylesworth for the winter. And I now have a whole set of arranged and laminated pages for Bear Came Along that I won't be reusing again any time soon. I thought maybe if anyone else had a Story Walk, they might be interested in borrowing the pages for their own use - and I figured maybe there were some other people with old stories out there they might also be willing to pass along. **If there's enough people, we could set up an exchange!**

**In response to the question about the size of the spreads, the ones for Bear Came Along are a bit under 18 inches by a bit under 12 inches; The Mitten is a little smaller but still fits well into the holders.**

## Rib Lake: Krista Blomberg

The Rib Lake Library put one up this June and it was also a hit for us :-) that title was "Gazpacho for Nacho" and it is a bilingual book- bilingual as in it mixes up English and Spanish words and then provides a glossary at the end as well as a recipe for gazpacho. We are on our second book right now, The Animals Winter Sleep by Lynda Graham-Barber. Our spreads are 11 x 17in./ 5ml heat laminated. And seemed to really hold up when I took them off. Let me know if you have any other questions. **I am wondering what the size of your spreads are?**

## Rhineland: Denise Chojnacki

We have done very well with ours in our **downtown business windows**. The businesses love the idea especially our holiday story. Depending on the size and condition, we would be happy to share ours. We are in our 5th or 6th cycle.

We get publisher or author permission and scan the pages of the book. We then arrange them in 11X17 spreads in Canva. They are printed on weatherproof paper and hung in the windows of the participating downtown businesses.

We will be doing the same procedure for our **permanent stroll** in the local park only on posts in snap frames. We are finishing a permanent experience in Hodag Park made possible through a grant and permission from the city obtained.

## Tomahawk Public Library: Annette Miller

I've only done one indoor Storywalk for a Halloween program a couple of years ago. What I have done outdoors is put ten laminated pictures of "Dragon" from the story "Dragon was Terrible" by Kelly DiPucchio around the city last summer for kids and families to search for, and then I put twelve laminated paper pumpkins along the Tomahawk Riverwalk for them to look for during the month of October. I received a lot of positive feedback from people about these two outdoor activities.

Warm wishes,  
Annette

A Poetry Walk is also on my list of things to try (maybe in April - National Poetry Month). I thought it might be interesting to add to the StoryWalk discussion.

<http://vtstateparks.blogspot.com/2016/06/a-walk-with-words-poetry-walk-at.html> I am a forever fan of poetry and I think tying it together with the outdoors is just really cool.

## Stetsonville: Carla Huston

**The Stetsonville Elementary School was a path around their playground that was created in honor of a teacher that passed away unexpectedly.** I've put up 3 different stories that the public have used, and teacher's also use them at recess. I cobbled together supplies I had or could purchase cheaply, so it wasn't the hardiest of materials. I'm putting together a budget for a better design to request a grant from a local business. Hopefully that will come through! Otherwise, my brain is still turning to figure out a better method.

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## MCPL-Wausau: Taylor Weinfurter

Since the Marathon County Parks Department is another county agency, we partnered with them on what we have dubbed "Trail Tales." We've done about 6 books total now with the Parks Department. We are doing a snow-themed one at the Nine Mile cross-country ski area this winter. We did "Bear Snores On" by Karma Wilson last year and skiers loved it!

See articles in WVLS newsletters

- <https://mailchi.mp/d150ed23f96d/wvls-september20-newsletter-5044338>
- <https://mailchi.mp/6d0b832a9c8e/wvls-march20-newsletter-4804393>



For the stands, our Parks Department got thrifty and re-used material from old bleachers to create stands for the book pages. See some images below. They are not the most "beautiful," but they get the job done and are sturdy! We found it best to attach the laminated pages to the stands by using velcro (see the first image below). They are held down by sand bags, which the Parks Department has on hand. We've done more residential parks in the area as to avoid any damage by people. Our summer Trail Tale pages got a lot of sun, so unfortunately the pages were VERY faded by the end. I tossed a few of the books because of this.



The library has been in charge of selecting the books, ordering the books, mounting and laminating. I would guess it runs about \$60 each time with 3 copies of the books (need two for mounting and a third for any page damages), cardstock, and lamination supplies.

The stands are definitely the most expensive part, but maybe your community's Parks Department or high school tech ed class could get involved and create something for a minimal price?!

I can take an inventory and get back to you on what book titles we have kept.

Thanks,  
Taylor Weinfurter  
Youth Services Librarian  
Marathon County Public Library - Wausau Headquarters | 300 N. First St., WI 54403  
taylor.weinfurter@co.marathon.wi.us | 715-261-7220 (direct) / 715-261-7200 (general)  
www.mcpl.us / info@mcpl.us | Facebook | Twitter

## Merrill: Andrea Bennett

I just wanted to chime in and let you know what we've done here in Merrill. The company, Curious City, put out a free downloadable storywalk. **We sent this to Reindel in Merrill and they printed it on yard signs.** It looks like it's still available on their website if anyone wants to check it out.

Here's the link:

<https://www.curiouscitydpw.com/storywalk/>

This is the only storywalk we have done so far. We placed it at a local park and then shared it with a local school. It was well received and we had positive feedback. It's really hard to know how many kids we reached. We are open and willing to collaborate with other libraries if the opportunity came up. Our budget is \$500-\$600 and we are not looking to commit to permanent placement of the stories. Planning to revisit the idea of putting another one up Spring/Summer.



# Minocqua: Erica Dischinger

We have partnered with our local Winter Park the past few years for a story walk along the cross country ski trail. They choose a story, we find and purchase two copies of it, then take it to the high school to be cut apart and laminated. The Winter Park staff then picks it up from us and installs it. I believe they simply hole punch the corners and string it up around trees that are along the path (it looks like they might also use clips according to the picture I found). I'm not sure what they do with the stories once they come down. They have not come back to us in the past. I could ask if they have kept them if anyone is interested in using them (if we do the story trade). This is up all winter.

I have also done a Halloween story walk the past two years now. I've simply chosen a book, purchased two copies and taken them to the high school to be cut apart and laminated. I then taped them to foam board and numbered them. When I did the story walk indoors the first year, I simply propped the foam boards up on chairs throughout the library with tape on the floor marking the path. This year, we did the story walk outside along the sidewalk. I propped the foam boards on chairs again, but taped them to the chairs so they wouldn't blow away in the wind. Both times, this was a special one-day-only event.

This past summer, I did a story walk throughout our downtown. Again, I chose a book, purchased two copies and taken them to the high school to be cut apart and laminated. I then walked around our downtown asking businesses if they'd like to participate. When I got enough businesses to cover the amount of pages I had, I created a route and posted a flyer with the businesses in order at the starting point of the story walk. I numbered the page spreads to match the flyer. I attached the pages on the inside of the store front windows using sticky dots from Walmart. I left the story up all summer.

Here are the stories I've used so far:

Winter Park - The Mitten, The Stranger in the Woods, Over and Under the Snow and Winter Bees

Halloween - Five Little Monkeys Trick or Treat

Summer - The Three Little Superpigs

Like I said, I don't have the Winter Park ones at my library, but I could probably hunt them down if anyone wanted to use them. The Halloween one is attached to foam board. The Three Little Superpigs are simply laminated and numbered and could easily be exchanged.

**I haven't done anything in regards to copyright when it comes to the stories. All of the info I've seen (on the Facebook Programming Librarian site, etc.) has said that once you purchase the book, it is your property to share how you like (if it's in person and not online). It's similar to reading a book at story time in person.** I did make sure to call my events "Story Paths" though, because I believe "Story Walk" is a copyrighted term, similar to "Zumba" or "Music Garden".

Erica Dischinger  
Youth Services Coordinator  
Minocqua Public Library  
715-356-4437

# Ogema: Mary Hebda

Mary works with the local school and selects books to put into page protectors zip-tied to the school's playground fence.

## Assessment Advice

1. [StoryWalk FAQ](#) handout from Kellogg-Hubbard Library, the origination library!
2. QR Code: Rib Lake
  - a. Created a QR code for viewers to scan. Attached a quick questionnaire. NO ONE HAS SCANNED :(
3. Notebook for collecting names for a drawing: Stetsonville
  - a. Notebook was stolen :(
4. Take a picture with the signage and tag the library on social media: Stetsonville
  - a. NO one has done so
5. Viewers wrote letters of appreciation to library: Antigo
  - a. Steph received letters at the library
6. Weatherproof box with notebook: Waupaca Public Library