



# Birmingham

Cannon Hill Park Story Trail



# Welcome

This trail is aimed at children aged 2 to 5 and their families and carers.

Follow the map and the story of Uncle Josh, Mia, Kai and Tufty the dog to explore your park. What can you see and do? Can you tick off each activity?

Remember to stay safe, keep your distance from other families and sanitise your hands.

Read the story aloud to your little explorers and have fun chatting and playing along the route.

You may want to bring some blank paper and pencils so your little ones can make the most out of the trail – we would love to see photos of your little ones carrying out the activities!

This walk will take up to **45 mins**, depending on your pace.

**Tufty**



**Mia**



**Uncle Josh**



**Kai**

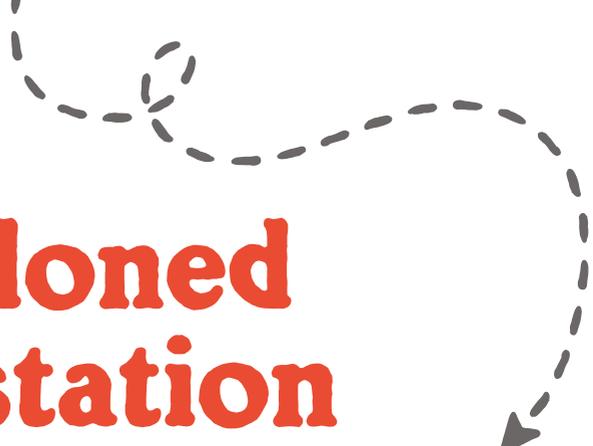


# Cannon Hill Park Story Trail



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# Abandoned train station

Mia and Kai were in the park with their Uncle Josh and his little scruffy dog, Tufty.

**‘Choo choo!’**

said Kai, pointing to a white and grey building.

‘There are no trains here, Kai!’ said Mia.

Uncle Josh laughed. ‘No but that does look like a station,’ he said.

‘Choo choo,’ repeated Kai.

They all lined up behind Kai and walked along pretending to be a train.

*Yap yap yap!* Tufty barked and ran off the path. Uncle Josh laughed and called him back. ‘Tufty thinks our train is slow. He likes to go fast,’ he said.

Tufty bounded back to them and Mia crouched down to ruffled his ears. ‘Do you like to run fast?’

*Yap yap yap!* Tufty wagged his tail happily.

‘And we were too slow. That’s an opposite. Like we are low down and the trees are high up,’ said Mia.

Tufty jumped and ran off.

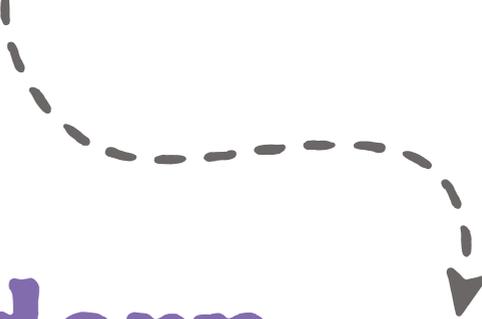
**‘Uh-oh,’**

said Mia. ‘Tufty is going fast again – we’d better catch up!’

**What other opposites can you see in the park?**

Can you see something that is wet and something that is dry? Can you touch something that is rough and something that is smooth? Note it down using your paper and pencil.





# Modern sculpture

## **‘Shiny!’**

said Kai as they reached the modern sculpture. He hopped down each of the steps.

Uncle Josh read the sign. ‘It’s supposed to remind us of water.’

## **‘It swooshes like a wave,’**

said Mia. She put her arms out and ran like a river around the sculpture.

‘Shall we go and see the real water?’ asked Uncle Josh.

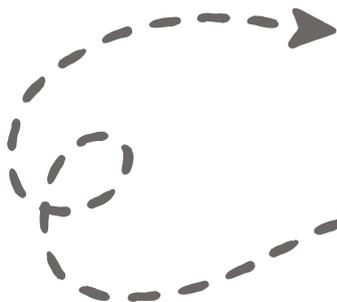
## ***Yap yap yap!***

Tufty looked cross.

‘Shh, don’t tell him,’ giggled Mia.

### **Can you swirl like water?**

What other ways can you move? Jumping like a frog? Flying like a bird?





# The bridge

'Hmm,' said Mia as they got to the red brick bridge.

'What's wrong?' asked Uncle Josh.

'This bridge is so big I think there must be a monster living under it, but I can't see one,' said Mia.

'No monster,' said Kai. 'Trees.'

Mia giggled. 'Lots of trees,' she said.

'How many trees are there?' asked Uncle Josh

'Three?' asked Kai.

**'At least a million,'** said Mia.

How many trees can you count around the bridge?



# Wall mosaics in covered picnic table alcoves

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What else can you see on the wall mosaics? Use your paper and pencil to draw your own magical unicorn!



‘Now, I’ve heard,’ said Uncle Josh, ‘that there are unicorns hiding here.’

Mia and Kai raced over to the picnic tables to take a look.

‘Here, here!’ they shouted, excitedly. Sure enough, on the wall was a picture of a white unicorn.

Uncle Josh said well done and they all sat down.

**‘This is the Birmingham unicorn,’**

said Mia.

‘Once upon a time, there were monsters in the park! And they walked all over everywhere and they ate all the flowers and they drank all the water in the lake. But the unicorn stood up to them and told them, this is a park for everyone. If you eat all the flowers no one else will be able to enjoy them. And the monsters agreed to keep the park nice and tidy from then on.’

‘That’s quite a story,’ said Uncle Josh.

‘Thank you,’ said Mia.

‘I think I know where they’ve left some flowers...’ said Uncle Josh.



# Garden tea rooms

What was your favourite thing you saw in the park today – the water sculpture?



The bridge? The unicorn?

*Yap yap yap!* Tufty tried to run over the flower beds, but Uncle Josh pulled his lead back gently.

‘No, Tufty,’ said Mia. ‘Just like the monsters, you’re not allowed to eat the flowers.’

‘Or the unicorn will be cross,’ said Uncle Josh.

Mia nodded.

**‘Exactly!’**



## Well done, you made it to the end of the Story Trail!

We would love to have your feedback. Please click here to answer some questions and be in with the chance of winning a prize!

Click here to complete this short survey

You can find more fun activities to add to your routine at [wordsforlife.org.uk](http://wordsforlife.org.uk) and [hungrylittleminds.campaign.gov.uk](http://hungrylittleminds.campaign.gov.uk)

You can also join the online conversation using the hashtag **#HLMStoryTrails**



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National Literacy Trust

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