

Doncaster

Lakeside 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 **1 hour** depending on your pace.

Tufty



Mia



Uncle Josh



Kai



Lakeside Story Trail



- 1** Gliwice way lakeside entrance
- 2** Stone bird sculpture at base of hill
- 3** The amphitheatre
- 4** Echoey bridge
- 5** Flying bird statue
- 6** Fish sculpture bench

Gliwice way lakeside entrance

1

Did you see any orange monster today?



Use your pencil and paper to note down the other colours you can see around the lake. Look all around you.

Mia held her little brother, Kai's, hand as they walked along the lakeside with their Uncle Josh and his dog Tufty. 'Now, be careful,' she said, 'there are monsters in the lake.'

'Monsters?' asked Kai.

'Are you sure?' asked Uncle Josh.

'Yes! Look – feathered monsters,' Mia pointed to the water's edge.

Yap yap yap!

barked Tufty.

Kai peered down to the lake. There were swans, ducks and geese, but no monsters.

'Quack quack?' asked Kai.

'Yes, they look like ducks, but that's their monster disguise!' said Mia. 'Look, that one's brown and that one has a strange, monster green neck!'

'What other colours can you see?' asked Uncle Josh.

'Green,' said Kai, pointing to a tree.

'Lots of green!' said Mia. 'Let's go on a colour hunt!'





Stone bird sculpture at base of hill

Kai happily pointed out all the dark and light green trees around the lake. Then suddenly, Tufty barked and pulled on his lead. Uncle Josh said, 'I think Tufty's found another bird monster.'

In front of them was an enormous grey stone bird with strange boxes around it.

'It's a fossil!' said Mia. 'This must be the dinosaur of the bird monsters in the lake.'

'Well... exactly,' said Uncle Josh.

'Up?' asked Kai, and Uncle Josh helped him up onto one of the fossil stone boxes.

'So high,' Kai said.

Can you stand as still as a statue?



Ask your guardian to take a photo of you, you could try flapping like a bird monster!

3

The amphitheatre

They carried on around the lake path, until they got to a big set of round, grass steps.

'This is a gigantic dinosaur footprint,' said Mia.

'I think they use it as an amphitheatre now,' said Uncle Josh, reading a sign.

'Is that like a stage?' asked Mia. She raced over to stand right in the middle and raised her arms high.

'Ta-daaa!'

Kai sat down and started clapping.

'What would you like me to sing?' asked Mia.

Uncle Josh sat next to Kai and thought for a minute.

'Do you know any songs about dinosaurs, or birds?'

'I do!' Mia cleared her throat and began to sing.

Do you know any songs about dinosaurs or other animals?

Can you sing a song in the amphitheatre?



Echoey bridge

Can you make an echo under the bridge?



How LOUD can you make your echo?

A little further round the lake, they stopped under a bridge.

‘Echo!’ called Mia, and waited to hear her echo bounce back at her.

‘More lake,’ said Kai, pointing to the very straight pool of water on the other side of the bridge. They walked around it until they got to a bench and sat down for a rest.

‘Yes, this is the monster dinosaur fish training ground,’

said Mia.

‘Once upon a time, the fish argued over who was the best fish in the lake. The orange fish said they were the best, but the blue and the purple fish thought they were the best! So they held swimming races to find out who was the fastest.’

‘Who won?’

asked Uncle Josh.

‘They tied,’ said Mia. ‘Now they practise swimming together here. They go up and down and up and down.’

‘That sounds tiring,’ said Uncle Josh.

‘It’s ok, they go on holiday to the lake,’ said Mia.



Use your paper and pencils to draw a picture of the fish which will be in the lake.

Fish sculpture bench

Did you see any
monster dinosaur fish
or birds at the park?



What else did
you see?

'Ta-da!' said Mia.
'That's the winning fish!'

She ran over to a beautiful
carved fish bench.

'The real fish?' asked Uncle Josh.

'No, it's the trophy for the races,'
said Mia.

'Race, race!' said Kai.

Yap yap yap! said Tufty.

Uncle Josh crouched down. 'OK
team, let's race. Ready, steady...'

'GO!' shouted Kai and Mia, running
away, leaving Uncle Josh to catch up.



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 and 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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Doncaster Council

