

# ChicagoHistoryMuseum

## Story Time

### READ:

Have you ever noticed how the word history, has the word STORY in it? Stories are how we understand the past. Historians research a time, place, or event and then they write about what they learn in non-fiction books. Some authors do the same kind of research, but then write a fictional (made up) story about the past. Both kinds of writing help us imagine other times and places and learn history. Today, you will enjoy a short story together called “Best of the Fair,” which is all about the World’s Fair of 1893. The World’s Fair was held on the South side of Chicago in Jackson Park. The fair was a place people could visit to learn about the newest inventions, see shows and have fun. The fair had over 200 buildings to visit, each one like a museum on topics from transportation, to fish, to farming. It was also the very first time anyone rode a Ferris Wheel.

### DO:

Read or Listen to “Best of the Fair” <http://chicagohistoryresources.org/greatchicagostories/worldsfair/story.html>

- **Talk** about the story together. What was your favorite part? What did the characters see at the Fair? What questions do you have?
- **Make** a puppet of your favorite character. You can use a paper bag, an old sock or even a wooden kitchen spoon! Use materials you have at home to make the face and clothes for your puppet.
- **Tell** the story in your own words using your completed puppet, or make a up a new part of the story. Have your family be your audience or record it to send to family and friends.

**Approx. Time:** 30—45 minutes

### Materials:

- ⇒ Paper bag, old sock, wooden spoon (ask first)
- ⇒ Construction paper, yarn, other craft materials
- ⇒ Glue/Tape
- ⇒ Markers, crayons, or colored pencils



Kukla, Fran, Ollie, and their friends were popular 1950s TV show. ICHi-069817

### SHARE:

- **Send** the recording to family and friends if you made one.
- **Post** pictures of your puppet and recording on Twitter or Instagram with the hashtag #CHMatHomeFamilies.