



Los Angeles Conservancy

Kids' Guide to Broadway

Activities for Kids and Parents

Activity 1

Paint a Postcard

Have your child create a painting of a favorite building on Broadway.

- ❖ Look at some old postcards together at [A Visit to Old Los Angeles](http://www.csulb.edu/~odinthor/socal7.html) [<http://www.csulb.edu/~odinthor/socal7.html>]. Have your child look closely for ways that these postcards look different from modern-day postcards: how are the colors different? How do the photos themselves seem different? Have your child choose one building from the Broadway tour that he or she would like to show on a postcard.
- ❖ Use a 4" x 6" index card. Have your child sketch the building in pencil and then go over the outlines using waterproof marker. Then have your child add color to the drawing using watercolor paints. Encourage your child to work slowly and to include details from the streetscape in order to give the building a realistic setting.
- ❖ Have your child write a short note on the back of the postcard and send it to a friend. If he or she can't bear to part with the masterpiece, then address the card to home and mail it to yourself!



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Activity 2

Design Your Dream Room

Let your child's imagination run wild and help him or her design a dream room on Broadway.

- ❖ Ask your child to imagine which building on Broadway would be fun to live in. Talk about how living on Broadway would be similar or different to where you live now. What would be the advantages? What new and interesting things would you be able to see or buy?
- ❖ Look at the [pictures of Broadway homes](#) (below) together. Talk about the elements that make these homes unusual or appealing.
- ❖ Help your child design a dream room in an imaginary Broadway home. Print out the [graph paper](#) (below). Encourage your child to come up with an exciting room arrangement and draw in furniture that might be fun to have in a dream room using pencils, colored pencils, or markers.

Name _____

Kids' Guide to Broadway Design Your Dream Room Room Design Page

Use this paper to plan out and draw your dream room with pencils, colored pencils, or markers. You can include couches, chairs, a television, or any other furniture that might be fun to have in a dream room.

Each square = 1 square foot

[illegible]

[illegible]











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Activity 3

Set Up a Scavenger Hunt

Take a closer look at Broadway: go back for another visit with your child, and try a scavenger hunt!

- ❖ Print out the scavenger hunt list (below) and see how many items you can find as you walk down Broadway.
- ❖ When you have finished the scavenger hunt, ask your child to think of other items you could add to the list. What other interesting objects could people hunt for on Broadway?
- ❖ Challenge your child to devise a scavenger hunt for your own community.

Name _____

Kids' Guide to Broadway Scavenger Hunt

How many of these items can you find on Broadway? Good luck!

_____ a tortilla from the Grand Central Market

_____ a napkin from Clifton's Brookdale Cafeteria

_____ a sketch of the elevator in the Bradbury Building

_____ an autograph from a storekeeper on Broadway

_____ a menu from a place to eat on Broadway

_____ the name of a CD for sale in a music store on Broadway

_____ a sketch of one of the terracotta figures on the exterior of
the Million Dollar Theater

_____ a list of three unusual items that you saw for sale on
Broadway

_____ a business card from one store or business on Broadway

_____ a sketch of an unusual building sign on Broadway



Los Angeles Conservancy Kids' Guide to Broadway Activities for Kids and Parents *Activity 5*

Create in Clay

Encourage your budding sculptors to create their own terra-cotta imitations with this hands-on activity.

- ❖ Take a closer look at the Million Dollar Theater (below) by examining some detailed photographs of this building's amazing exterior. Encourage your child to point out all the different objects and characters that can be seen. Ask your child to imagine what it might have been like to design and create the exterior.
- ❖ You can share with your child that the inside of this building is ornately decorated, as well – the characters and designs are based on a 19th century fairy tale, called “The King of the Golden River,” by John Ruskin. Check out your local library and share this wonderful story with your child. It is a Cinderella-style story in which a young man, named Gluck, is abused by his nasty older brothers. One day the brothers insult South West Wind, who blows their house to bits; so they force Gluck to melt down his prized possession, a gold tankard with a man's face carved into it. The tankard turns out to hold the spirit of the King of the Golden River. The King tells Gluck that the first person to cast three drops of holy water into the Golden River will have good fortune forever. But if that person casts unholy water into the river, he will be turned to stone. Gluck's two brothers find out about this: they each make the journey and are turned to stone. Gluck makes the journey himself but on the way gives his last drops of holy water to a dog, and child, and an old man dying of thirst. Gluck meets the King once more, and the King gives Gluck three drops of dew from a lily; Gluck casts these into the water, and they bring him good fortune forever.
- ❖ Have your child create a million-dollar masterpiece out of clay. Use an empty shoebox as the base of your imaginary building, and cover the outside with a thin layer of modeling clay. Then have your child use more modeling clay to sculpt patterns and figures. Challenge your child to come up with a theme for the building's exterior in the same way that the Million Dollar Theater has the “Wild West” theme.





