Storytime in the Commons presents PBS KIDS content, characters and family-friendly themes that focus on learning and character building.

Storytime in the Commons is a free family event series hosted by the Nine Network of Public Media in the Public Media Commons. It brings the evidenced-based PBS KIDS® learning model to life each summer with appearances by beloved characters and activities that reinforce a love of learning.

The series was launched in 2016 to attract new families and bring other families back year after year.
**BE MY NEIGHBOR DAY**

Every year, we end the series with a special day dedicated to Mister Rogers and the positive messages his show promotes. Be My Neighbor Day was presented by Fred Rogers Productions and PNC Grow Up Great.

Mister Rogers believed “we are all neighbors” and the September 2019 Storytime explored what it means to be kind to your neighbors, a lesson both young and old can appreciate. Close to 700 people attended Be My Neighbor Day and enjoyed stories, meeting Daniel Tiger and Katerina Kittycat, playing games, and other theme-related activities.

The five 2019 Storytime in the Commons events were themed to enhance the learning opportunities for children:

- Space Oddity
- Creative Genius
- Water Waves and Fitness
- World Explorer (with stories in English, Spanish, and Bosnian)
- Be My Neighbor Day

Activities included reading, meeting and taking photos with PBS KIDS characters, games that help children grow, the St. Louis Children’s Hospital Healthy Kids corner and the PNC Grow Up Great career station.

87% of survey respondents rated the event **EXCELLENT** or **VERY GOOD**.

91% of survey respondents said Storytime made reading **FUN** and **EXCITING** for their children.

2019 event survey

“You can never have too many events and outlets for kids to come and create and have fun and learn.”

— Marquis Terrel
Local artist appearing at Storytime
Parents rank PBS KIDS as the most-trusted destination for children to watch TV and the best use of families’ screen time, beating out Disney Channel, Disney Junior, Universal Kids, Nickelodeon, Nick Jr., and Cartoon Network.

(Source: Marketing & Research Resources, Inc., January 2019)
THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS FOR THEIR SUPPORT.

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Storytime in the Commons is part of the Nine’s early education work.

The kids in our region all deserve the opportunity to succeed in school and in life. Nine Network and PBS KIDS are providing the tools and resources to improve the early education outcomes of our most valuable asset.