At-home storytime is an effective way to promote language and literacy skills and help encourage a lifelong love of reading and learning.

Below are recommended books for children about museums. These storybooks provide entertaining tales about class trips to museums, interesting excursions with artifacts, the development of groundbreaking museums and the creative learning process of children.

**A Funny Thing Happened at the Museum** by Benjamin Chaud and Davide Cali  
*Year:* 2017  
*Book Synopsis:* There’s more to this museum than meets the eye! Notoriously (and delightfully) unreliable narrator Henry is late to a museum where his class is spending the day. But he has a plan: he’ll just catch up in one of the exhibits. That’s not possible in these halls. With volcanoes erupting, dinosaurs charging, and secret stairwells lurking, reuniting with his classmates becomes a quest of outrageous proportions. Young readers will revel in this entertaining book’s over-the-top antics.

**The Museum** by Susan Verde  
*Year:* 2013  
*Book Synopsis:* As a little girl tours and twirls through the halls of the art museum, she finds herself on an exciting adventure. Each piece of art evokes something new inside of her: silliness, curiosity, joy and ultimately, inspiration. When confronted with an empty white canvas, she is energized to create and express herself. This book playfully captures the many emotions experienced through the power of art, and each child’s unique creative process.

**How The Dinosaur Got To The Museum** by Jessie Hartland  
*Year:* 2011  
*Book Synopsis:* This storybook focuses on the fascinating 145-million-year journey of a dinosaur: a Diplodocus Longus, from its discovery in 1923 in Utah to its arrival in the hallowed halls of the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C.

**My Museum** by Joanne Liu  
*Year:* 2017  
*Book Synopsis:* A young boy learns that art is all around us in this captivating picture book about a day at the museum. While other visitors are busy trying to find their way through the museum’s galleries, or fighting for room to view a masterpiece, the boy examines the gallery upside down from a bench, plays with his shadow and makes friends with the custodian. This whimsical book reminds readers that sometimes the best kind of art is the kind you make yourself.

**You Can’t Take A Balloon Into The Metropolitan Museum** by Jacqueline Preiss Weitzman & Robin Preiss Glasser  
*Year:* 1998  
*Book Synopsis:* While she’s in the Metropolitan Museum with her grandmother, a little girl leaves her prized yellow balloon tied to a railing outside. But its string becomes untied, and the balloon embarks on an uproarious journey through New York City. With an ever-increasing cast of wacky urban characters in tow, it soars past a host of landmarks. Eighteen famous paintings and sculptures are reproduced in this delightful, wordless book that explores the magical relationship between art and life.
How to Build a Museum: Smithsonian’s National Museum of African American History and Culture by Tonya Bolden

Year: 2016

Book Synopsis: The Smithsonian’s National Museum of African American History and Culture is truly groundbreaking! This children’s book follows the fascinating chronicle of how all of these ideas, ambitions, and actual objects came together in one incredible museum to highlight the rich, diverse, complicated and important experiences of African Americans in the United States. The book also includes behind-the-scenes photos of “how to build a museum” that holds everything from an entire segregated railroad car to a tiny West African amulet worn to ward off slave traders.

The Museum Book: A Guide to Strange and Wonderful Collections by Jan Mark

Year: 2014

Book Synopsis: Why do people collect things? With vivid examples from all around the world, this book puts museums — and the many artifacts lovingly stored there — on display in a whole new light. This ode to museums mighty and minuscule will draw curious viewers of all ages.