



Children's  
Museum  
Singapore



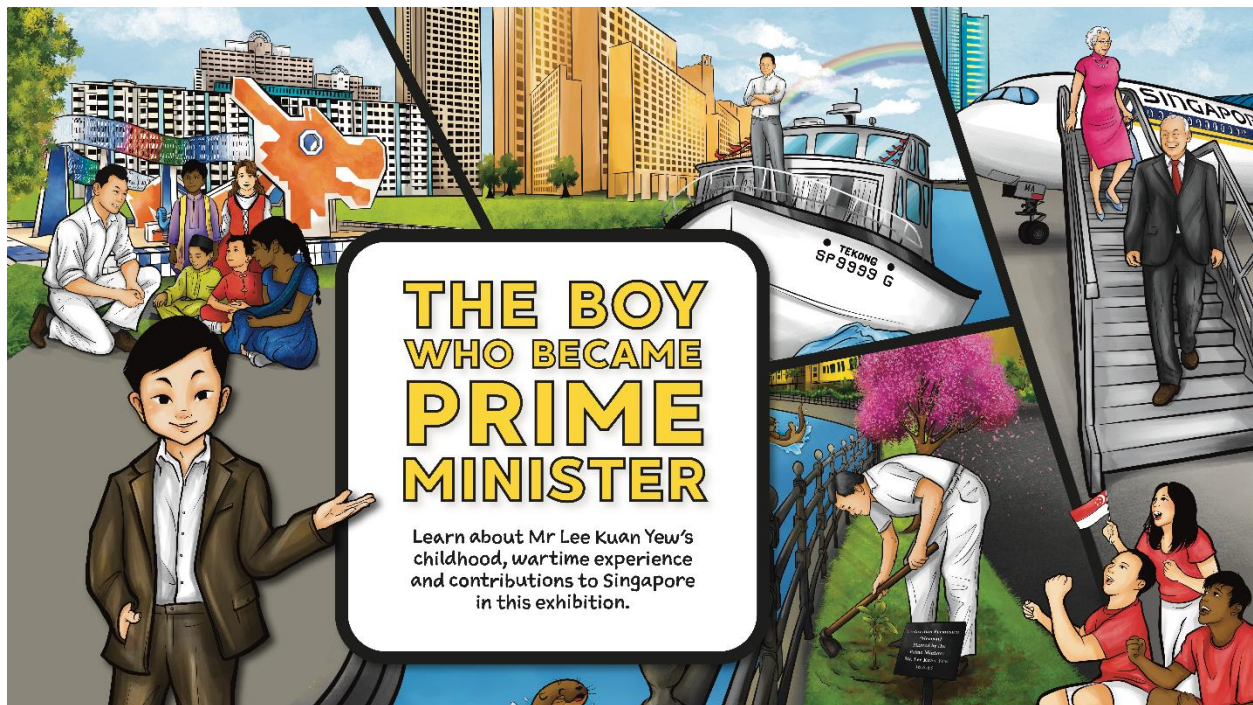
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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**For immediate release**

### **CHILDREN'S MUSEUM SINGAPORE LAUNCHES "LKY100 – THE BOY WHO BECAME PRIME MINISTER" EXHIBITION**

*Young visitors will discover a different side of Singapore's founding Prime Minister's story through murals, artefacts and programmes.*



*LKY100 – The Boy Who Became Prime Minister Exhibition Poster*

*"For the young, let me tell you, the sky has turned brighter. There's a glorious rainbow that beckons those with the spirit of adventure, and there are rich findings at the end of that rainbow. To the young and the not-so-old, I say, look at that horizon, follow that rainbow."*

*– Mr Lee Kuan Yew, 1996*

**Singapore, 18 August 2023** –What were founding Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew's growing up years like, and what did he have to overcome in order to become a man who helped build Singapore into a thriving cosmopolitan city? In commemoration of the 100th anniversary of Mr Lee's birth, Children's Museum Singapore (CMSG) has launched its latest exhibition – ***LKY100 – The Boy Who Became Prime Minister*** – which traces the late Mr Lee's story from his childhood to his career as a statesman, and examines the values he espoused and the legacy he left behind. The exhibition runs from 19 August 2023 to 14 January 2024.

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2 The exhibition seeks to deepen young visitors' understanding of the Singapore story through the lens of Mr Lee's life and values, and foster a sense of pride at how far we have come. Along with his better-known achievements, visitors will also discover a more relatable side of Mr Lee, who grew up in the 1920s playing with *gasing*, marbles and fighting fish. In doing so, the exhibition also aims to show that young people can have big dreams and can make a difference in their communities and nation.

3 Mrs Wai Yin Pryke, Museum Director, CMSG, said: "We hope the exhibition will reveal a more relatable side to Mr Lee Kuan Yew – as a young boy growing up – to our children, and in the process inspire them by showing how he went on to achieve extraordinary things. We hope they will be encouraged to dream big and 'follow that rainbow', as Mr Lee famously once said."

### **Capturing the legacy of Mr Lee Kuan Yew for the next generation**

4 As part of the exhibition's curatorial process, CMSG organised focus group discussions with our community of Little Ambassadors – which comprise children of different age groups – and their parents. The purpose of these discussions was to gather their views about Mr Lee Kuan Yew and what they would like to learn about him, and resulted in the exhibition focusing on exploring Mr Lee's childhood, and expounding on his values and legacy in a light, easily-digestible way.

5 The exhibition is located in CMSG's Discovery Room. It welcomes visitors with the *Cabinet of Curiosity*, where an array of artefacts tell stories of different periods in Mr Lee's life. These include a Telok Kurau East School (now Telok Kurau Primary School) admission register bearing his English name "Lee Harry", from when he studied there from 1930 to 1935. A tennis racket presented to Mr Lee in 1973 will also show his penchant for leading a healthy lifestyle, demonstrated by his active participation in sports such as tennis, cricket and swimming during his schooling years. More artefact highlights can be found in **Annex A**.



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*LKY100 – The Boy Who Became Prime Minister Quotes Mirror*

6 Young visitors can also enjoy mural walls which juxtapose milestones in Mr Lee's life and career against Singapore's development, and also contemplate and pose with some of Mr Lee's famous sayings in a "quotes mirror".

7 To complement *LKY100 – The Boy Who Became Prime Minister*, CMSG will present a series of programmes which include interactive storytelling sessions, hands-on craft workshops, and a unique mystery box challenge. For more details on the programmes, please refer to **Annex B**.

8 In addition, an *LKY100 – The Boy Who Became Prime Minister* teaser exhibition with accompanying storytelling sessions will travel to selected public libraries across the island from September 2023 to January 2024. The travelling teaser exhibition will also feature artworks submitted by young creators who participated in CMSG's *Singapore Dreaming* competition. The artworks depict the children's hopes and dreams for Singapore in a comic format and selected entries will be printed on Yeo's Soymilk vending machines in their school networks this August. Visitors to CMSG this August will also get a limited-edition packet of Yeo's Heritage Brew

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Chrysanthemum Tea that commemorates the 100th anniversary of Mr Lee's birth, while stocks last. The list of travelling exhibition locations can be found in **Annex C**.

9 Please refer to the following annexes for more information:

- [Annex A](#): Artefact highlights
- [Annex B](#): List of Programmes
- [Annex C](#): List of Locations for Travelling Teaser Exhibition
- [Annex D](#): Opening Hours and Ticketing Information
- Webpage: <https://www.nhb.gov.sg/childrensmuseum>

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### **About the National Heritage Board**

The National Heritage Board (NHB) was formed on 1 August 1993. As the custodian of Singapore's heritage, NHB is responsible for telling the Singapore story, sharing the Singaporean experience, and imparting our Singapore spirit.

NHB's mission is to preserve and celebrate the shared heritage of our diverse communities, for the purpose of education, nation-building and cultural understanding. It manages the national museums and heritage institutions, and sets policies relating to heritage sites, monuments, and the national collection. Through the national collection, NHB curates' heritage programmes and presents exhibitions to connect the past, present, and future generations of Singaporeans. NHB is a statutory board under the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth. Please visit [www.nhb.gov.sg](http://www.nhb.gov.sg) for more information.

### **About Children's Museum Singapore**

Children's Museum Singapore is the first museum in Singapore dedicated to children 12 years old and below. The museum believes in sparking wonder and the power of play in a safe environment. CMSG aspires to be a place of wonder and joyful learning for all children to engage with Singapore and the world.




Families with young children can look forward to interactive exhibits, anchored in rich storytelling, complemented by engaging programmes and initiatives. Children will have hands-on opportunities to learn about Singapore's heritage through play.

CMSG organises educational programmes throughout the year to cater to children of different age groups and abilities. These programmes are created in collaboration with educators to ensure that they are developmentally appropriate for children. CMSG is housed in a historical double-storey colonial building that was formerly part of Anglo-Chinese School in 1906. The building housed the Methodist Book Room in the 1970s and 1980s, before being converted to become the Singapore Philatelic Museum in 1995.

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**ANNEX A**

**ARTEFACT HIGHLIGHTS**

Object	Description
	<p><b>Tennis Racket presented to Mr Lee Kuan Yew</b> 1973 <i>Collection of the National Museum of Singapore</i> <i>Donated by President's Office</i></p> <p>Mr Lee Kuan Yew was health conscious and led a healthy lifestyle. Even when he was a young boy in school, he used to swim, cycle, and play tennis, and other games. A wooden tennis racket presented to Mr Lee will be on display.</p>
	<p><b>Mrs Lee Kuan Yew's Barrister Wig</b> 1949 <i>Collection of the National Museum of Singapore</i></p> <p>Black robes and white wigs worn in British courtrooms are iconic symbols of the law. On display at the exhibition is Mdm Kwa Geok Choo's barrister wig. Mdm Kwa was a lawyer and the wife of founding Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew and the mother of current Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong.</p>
	<p><b>Mr Lee Kuan Yew's Pelikan Ballpoint Pen and Fountain Pen</b> 1950s to 2000s <i>Collection of National Museum of Singapore.</i> <i>Gift of Lee Hsien Loong</i></p> <p>As the Prime Minister, Mr Lee Kuan Yew had to write and sign many documents. He once kept this ballpoint pen and fountain pen in the drawer of his office desk.</p>



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**Shoe and Shoe moulds from Lee Hoi Wah Shoes**

1980s to 1990s

*Collection of Lee Hoi Wah*

Mr Lee was a man of simple tastes, and it showed in the way he dressed. He would order the same pair of formal shoes made of soft black leather from Lee Hoi Wah. The first moulds of Mr Lee's feet are still in the store and are on loan for the exhibition.

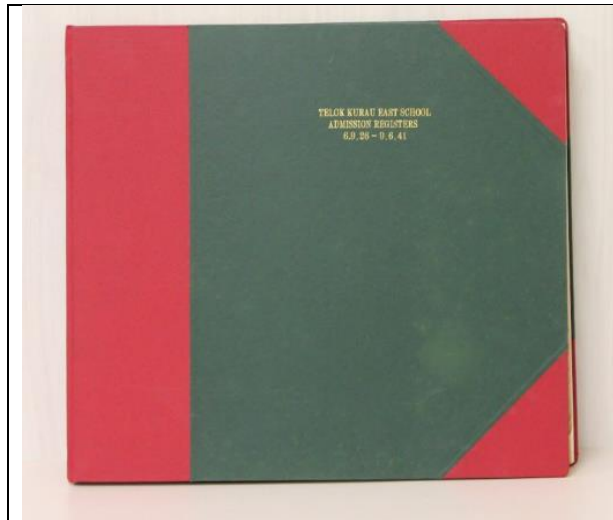
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### School Registry of Telok Kurau East School (now Telok Kurau Primary School)

1926 to 1941

*Collection of Telok Kurau Primary School*

A Telok Kurau East School admission register bearing Mr Lee's English name, "Lee Harry." He attended the school from 1930 to 1935.

Admission Number	Date of Admission	Full Name	Nationality	Date of Birth Year Month	Previous Schools, Addresses	Name of Father or Guardian
401	28-1-30	Lee Keng Boon	Chinese	1920 12 10		Dr. Lee Keng Boon
402		Ngiam Ahim	Chinese	1920 8 27		S. Ngiam
403		Lee Ahn Kien	Chinese	1920 10 17		Lee Ahn Kien
404		Lee Ahn Kien	Chinese	1920 1 10		Lee Ahn Kien
405		Lee Eng Kien	Chinese	1920 2 10		Lee Eng Kien
406		Lee Ahn Kien	Chinese	1920 3 20		Lee Ahn Kien (1920-3)
407	X	Lee Harry	Chinese	1920 9 25		Lee Ahn Kien
408		Mohamed Yusoff	Malay	1920 10 20		Mohamed
409		S. Ahim	Chinese	1920 10 20		S. Ahim
410		Lee Ahn Kien	Chinese	1920 11 27		Lee Ahn Kien
411		Lee Ahn Kien	Chinese	1920 12 10		Lee Ahn Kien
412		Lee Ahn Kien	Chinese	1920 1 10		Lee Ahn Kien
413		Lee Ahn Kien	Chinese	1920 2 10		Lee Ahn Kien
414		Lee Ahn Kien	Chinese	1920 3 20		Lee Ahn Kien
415		Lee Ahn Kien	Chinese	1920 4 10		Lee Ahn Kien
416		Lee Ahn Kien	Chinese	1920 5 10		Lee Ahn Kien
417		Lee Ahn Kien	Chinese	1920 6 10		Lee Ahn Kien
418		Lee Ahn Kien	Chinese	1920 7 10		Lee Ahn Kien
419		Lee Ahn Kien	Chinese	1920 8 10		Lee Ahn Kien
420		Lee Ahn Kien	Chinese	1920 9 10		Lee Ahn Kien

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**ANNEX B**

**LIST OF PROGRAMMES**

**Storytelling at Public Libraries**

To complement the travelling exhibition, Children's Museum Singapore (in collaboration with the Language Councils) will present a series of engaging storytelling sessions about Mr Lee Kuan Yew and nation-building themes. Session details are listed below:

- Jurong Regional Library  
Date: 16 September 2023  
Time slots: 1:00pm - 1:30pm & 3:00pm - 3:30pm
- Punggol Regional Library  
Date: 21 October 2023  
Time slots: 11:00am - 11:30am & 1:00pm - 1:30pm
- Ang Mo Kio Public Library  
Date: 18 November 2023  
Time slots: 11:00am - 11:30am & 1:00pm - 1:30pm
- Woodlands Regional Library  
Date: 23 December 2023  
Time slots: 1:00pm - 1:30pm & 3:00pm - 3:30pm
- Bedok Public Library  
Date: 13 January 2023  
Time slot: 3:00pm - 3:30pm



**I Can Be a Little Innovator**  
*Glue-making Workshop*

Dates: 16 September & 21 October 2023  
Time slots: 11:00am – 12:00pm & 2:00pm – 3:00pm

Ages: 4 – 6 years old

Fee: \$15 per child, with 1 free accompanying adult.

Venue: Discovery Room, Children's Museum Singapore (Level 2)

Learn how to make your own batch of glue and find out about the science behind the process! Discover a lesser-known fact about Mr Lee Kuan Yew's life and learn that a little innovation can work wonders, even in the hardest of times. This workshop is a collaboration with KidsSTOP™, Science Centre Singapore.

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### **Sam's Little Red Box**

*Dramatised Storytelling, Performance and Craft Workshop*

**Dates:**

- 16 & 17 September 2023
- 21 & 22 October 2023
- 25, 26 & 30 November 2023
- 1 & 2 December 2023

Time: 4:00pm – 5:00pm

Ages: 5 – 12 years old

Fee: \$18 per child, with 1 free accompanying adult.

Venue: Discovery Room, Children's Museum Singapore (Level 2)

Take a peek into Sam's little red box and discover stories of how one man's dreams and vision shaped Singapore. Join Sam in envisioning your very own Singapore of the future by creating a diorama that represents your dreams for our nation!

*Sam's Little Red Box* is a dramatised storytelling performance and craft session created by Zip Zap Zoom Collective to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Mr Lee Kuan Yew's birth.



### **Little Red Dot – Mystery Box Challenge**

*Craft Workshop*

**Dates:**

- 17 September 2023
- 22 October 2023
- 25, 26 & 30 November 2023
- 1 & 2 December 2023

Time: 2:00pm – 3:00pm

Ages: 5 – 12 years old

Fee: \$12 per child, with 1 free accompanying adult.

Venue: Discovery Room, Children's Museum Singapore (Level 2)

Celebrate the beauty of Singapore, also known as the little red dot, and unleash your creativity in this Mystery Box Challenge! Create your very own masterpiece, inspired by the exhibition "The Boy Who Became Prime Minister", with a mystery box of loose craft materials supported by Preschool Market. Redeem a token after completing your challenge!

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### **Little Me, Big Dreams – Exploration Trail** *Self-Guided Booklet*

**Dates:**

- 17 September 2023
- 22 October 2023
- 25, 26 & 30 November 2023
- 1 & 2 December 2023

**Time:** 11:00am – 12:45pm

**Ages:** 5 – 12 years old

**Fee:** \$8 per child, with 1 free accompanying adult

**Venue:** Discovery Room, Children's Museum Singapore (Level 2)

Embark on an exciting journey with Children's Museum Singapore mascot WonderBot to learn about the remarkable life and achievements of our first Prime Minister, Mr Lee Kuan Yew! Unleash your imagination, be inspired by his legacy, and explore the endless possibilities of your own dreams. Embark on this self-guided adventure and redeem a token after completing the missions!

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**ANNEX C****LIST OF LOCATIONS FOR TRAVELLING TEASER EXHIBITION**

Venue	Period
Jurong Regional Library	September 2023
Punggol Regional Library	October 2023
Ang Mo Kio Public Library	November 2023
Woodlands Regional Library	December 2023
Bedok Public Library	January 2024

**ANNEX D****OPENING HOURS AND TICKETING INFORMATION**Opening Hours

Tuesday - Sunday (closed on Monday)

Timeslots (the museum operates on a timeslot basis):

- 9:00am entry
- 11:00am entry
- 2:00pm entry
- 4:00pm entry

Each visit timeslot is for 1 hour 45 minutes.

The museum is closed between 12:45pm – 2:00pm daily for cleaning.

Ticketing

Admission is free for Singapore citizens and permanent residents (pink and blue NRIC).

Admission fees apply for tourists and foreign residents – \$10 per child and \$15 per adult.

Adult visitors are allowed in the museum only when accompanying a child (aged 12 years and below).

To ensure a comfortable visitor experience, advanced online ticket reservations at <https://www.nhb.gov.sg/childrensmuseum> are required.

All entrance tickets include admission to the Permanent Galleries and the Special Galleries.

The exhibition will be unavailable to visitors when there are programmes held in the room. Exhibition closures will be listed on CMSG's website.

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