

Children's
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Board**MEDIA RELEASE****For immediate release****CHILDREN'S MUSEUM SINGAPORE UNVEILS PLAY + MAKE: A CELEBRATION OF SINGAPORE'S FOOD HERITAGE THROUGH PLAY AND CREATIVITY**

Singapore, 16 July 2025 — As part of SG60 celebrations, the Children's Museum Singapore (CMSG) is unveiling a new maker's space — a creative environment for children to learn about Singapore's rich food heritage through hands-on activities. From 20 July 2025 until 31 March 2026, **PLAY + MAKE** is set to transform the Discovery Room at CMSG into a vibrant space that complements CMSG's existing special exhibition, *Into the Hawkerverse*.

2 Ms Asmah Alias, Museum Director of CMSG and Director of Galleries, Exhibitions and Museums (GEM), HeritageSG said: "Food is such a meaningful part of our daily lives, and for our little ones, their earliest memories and connections are formed with food at the centre of it all. With the launch of this new space, we hope for our young visitors to learn more about this important aspect of our heritage and spark a deeper appreciation on how food brings people, cultures, and generations together."



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Design and development of *PLAY + MAKE*

3 To develop *PLAY + MAKE*, CMSG worked with students from Star Learners Preschool and CMSG's community of *Little Ambassadors*¹, in line with its pioneering child-centric, co-creative curation approach. Through a series of focus group discussions that provided valuable insights into the interests and creative processes of young minds, CMSG identified ways to fully immerse visitors into the space – by incorporating tactile materials, scents, and sensory play into its design.

4 Besides working with children, CMSG also worked with local makers from brands such as *Reckless Ericka*, *Tuckshop*, and *Artisan Bricks*, to understand the maker's mindset by finding out more about their sources of inspiration, tools of the trade, and creative journeys. These insights guided the development of some features within the space, which aim to encourage children to step into the shoes of a maker, sparking their imagination and creativity.



3D render of the Maker's Cabinet

5 These collaborations have culminated in the creation of the ***Maker's Cabinet***, the key highlight for *PLAY + MAKE*. The display showcases various items used in crafts such as pottery, basketry (rattan), and tailoring. These include a black pearl durian-inspired dress by *Reckless Ericka*, shoes inspired by *Hokkien Mee* and *Nasi Lemak* made by *Tuckshop*, and a LEGO *Tingkat* by *Artisan Bricks*.

¹ *Little Ambassadors* are volunteers aged 7–12 years old who take on meaningful roles in the development of various programmes, exhibitions, and activities dedicated for children at CMSG. They also front social media videos and publicity efforts, and participate in focus group discussions that help shape the direction and content of exhibitions.



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**Black Pearl
Durian-Inspired Dress**
Made by Reckless Ericka



**Shoes Inspired by Hawker
Dishes**
Made by Tuckshop



LEGO Tingkat
Made by Artisan Bricks

For the list of object highlights on display in the *Maker's Cabinet*, please refer to [Annex A](#).

6 Within *PLAY + MAKE*, visitors are able to:

- Assemble their own outfit on a mannequin, inspired by fashion designers
- Feel the textures and observe the patterns on different fabric types
- Stage their own stories, fostering creativity and imagination
- Design their own *kamcheng*, inspired by a real *kamcheng*
- Make different types of *kueh* and throw a *kueh* tea party, embracing Singapore's love for food traditions
- Learn about different materials related to local food heritage: wood, metal and rattan

7 Visitors are also able to:

- Create paper dolls, exploring fashion and design – from July to September 2025
- Design their own crockery, merging functionality with artistic expression – from October to December 2025
- Weave patterns, honouring craft heritage – from January to March 2026

8 As part of CMSG's efforts to support the well-being of both children and parents, it has co-developed a parental guide with therapists from BRB Kids, a Singapore-based mental wellness service, that will be available at *PLAY + MAKE* for visitors to browse and engage with during their visit. This guide is designed to support meaningful engagement and conversations between parents and their children through making and bonding activities. It



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encourages hands-on exploration, storytelling, object-based learning and play, supported by prompts that build language, emotional awareness, and problem-solving skills.

Specially curated programming

9 Alongside *PLAY + MAKE*, CMSG will also introduce specially curated programmes from September 2025 onwards. Families can expect a variety of free drop-in programmes such as storytelling and craft activities, as well as paid workshops. For paid programmes, CMSG is excited to present a novel excursion experience that brings participants on a facilitated learning journey within *PLAY + MAKE*, followed by a bus ride to the makers' own spaces for curated workshops and tours.

10 Designed to deepen engagement through play and creativity, these sessions will offer children more opportunities to explore Singapore's food heritage in fun and meaningful ways. More details will be shared at a later date. Highlights include:

- *Bubu and the Big Catch* storytelling and craft workshop by Orang Laut
- Snow-skin mooncake workshop by Tong Heng Delicacies
- *Sauce Discovery Tour* by Nanyang Sauce Academy

Beyond *PLAY + MAKE*

11 Outside of the space, CMSG is excited to present a workshop for schools in celebration of our nation's 60th birthday, *SG60 Into the Hawkerverse Special: Be a Changemaker*, at the Children's Museum Singapore. This will be piloted with NAFA Arts School on 29 July, and with White Sands Primary School on 30 July. It will be open to more schools from 12 August 2025 onwards. This workshop brings students on a creative journey to revive Ah Huat's hawker business through design and roleplay. The workshop is aligned with the Ministry of Education's Social Studies curriculum and the Nurturing Early Learners framework and aims to support learning across preschool and primary levels by providing an engaging and immersive educational experience.

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3D render of the travelling exhibition

12 CMSG will also be organising the *PLAY + MAKE Travelling Exhibition*, bringing Singapore's food heritage to children across the nation, from August 2025 to January 2026. Storytelling sessions will be held at various libraries across the island, featuring tales that inspire children to think outside the box and explore creativity through the lens of food, culture, and creativity. The full list of travelling exhibition dates and details are in [Annex B](#).

13 For more information, please refer to the following:

- [Annex A](#): Object Highlights for *Maker's Cabinet*
- [Annex B](#): Travelling Exhibition Venues and Storytelling Details

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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 will organise 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.

About HeritageSG

HeritageSG (HSG) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the National Heritage Board (NHB), a statutory board under Singapore's Ministry of Culture, Community, and Youth (MCCY). Established to strengthen sector capabilities and unlock new synergies across the museum and heritage ecosystem, HSG brings greater agility and responsiveness to the evolving needs of Singapore's heritage sector.

As the creative force behind flagship events – including Children's Season, the Singapore HeritageFest, and Singapore Night Festival – HSG brings Singapore's rich heritage to life for diverse audiences through immersive experiences and innovative storytelling.

HeritageSG manages key heritage institutions such as the Children's Museum Singapore, Changi Chapel and Museum, and Reflections at Bukit Chandu, and leads initiatives spanning archaeological research, travelling exhibitions, and interactive digital experiences. By collaborating with partners across the ecosystem and blending tradition with technology, HSG strengthens heritage touchpoints and fosters meaningful encounters that contribute to our shared national identity and pride.

Find out more at <https://www.heritage.sg/>

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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, safeguards and promotes intangible cultural heritage, 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 for more information.



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ANNEX A

Maker's Cabinet: Object Highlights

Object(s)



Miniature Soy Sauce Vats and Tray
Donated by Nanyang Sauce Factory



Pots with Rattan Weave
Made by Ng Si Ying



**Black Pearl Durian-Inspired Dress and
Chili Crab-Inspired Mask**
Made by Reckless Ericka



LEGO Tingkat
Made by Artisan Bricks

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Shoes Inspired by Hawker Dishes
Made by Tuckshop



Nasi Lemak and Fried Hokkien Mee
Made by Heartfelt Makan



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ANNEX B

List of Travelling Exhibition Venues and Storytelling Details

Travelling exhibition period	Exhibition venue	Storytelling Details
1 August – 29 August 2025	Jurong Regional Library	–
1 September – 30 September 2025	Ang Mo Kio Public Library	27 September 2025, Saturday 3pm – 3.30pm Programme Zone, Level 1 Ang Mo Kio Public Library
1 October – 30 October 2025	Bedok Public Library	–
31 October – 1 December 2025	Woodlands Regional Library	1 November 2025, Saturday 3pm – 3.30pm Everest Room, Level 4 Woodlands Regional Library
2 December – 30 December 2025	Jurong West Public Library	–
2 January – 30 January 2026	Punggol Regional Library	9 Jan 2026, Friday 3pm – 3.30pm Stories Come Alive Room, Level 1 Punggol Regional Library