



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **32 FOOT GRAY WHALE MIGRATES TO IMAGINE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM**

*In honor of America Recycles Day Imagine Children's Museum Welcomes a giant plastic whale among other special guests*

**Everett, Washington** – A 32 foot replica of a gray whale made entirely out of plastic bags is on display at Imagine Children's Museum, where fun, hands-on learning is in store for visitors on America Recycles Day, November 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### **ABOUT AMERICA RECYCLES DAY AT THE MUSEUM**

In honor of America Recycles Day (November 15<sup>th</sup>) Imagine Children's Museum will have loads of hands-on fun for visitors.

Thurston County Solid Waste Division educator Carrie Zeigler, designer of the Plastic Whale Project, will be here to talk about this dynamic community-artwork-with-a-conscience. The project brought together more than 900 people from all walks of life to create a 32 foot replica of a gray whale made entirely out of plastic bags and other waste commonly found in our oceans. It is made out of 9,000 plastic bags, by 18 schools, and 900 children and adults at the Washington State Recycling Association 2014 Conference.

Museum visitors will have the chance to try Ziegler's method and create their own sea creatures made from plastic bags.

Republic Services will also be on site with a "mini MuRF." Ever wonder what happens to household recycling after it leaves your curb? Kids will get a peek behind the scenes and be able to try their hands at the conveyor belt and sorting process with a real, moving conveyor belt and experts from Republic Services.

Singer/songwriter Dave Nellis will be at the Museum performing intermittently from 11:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. Nellis' songs feature themes of environmental awareness and care with music that is fun for the whole family.

### **ABOUT THE PLASTIC WHALE PROJECT**

The Washington State Recycling Association recognized the Plastic Whale Project for its unique use of art for preventing waste. The whale was designed by Thurston County Solid Waste Division educator Carrie Zeigler. Zeigler, helped by local school children, created a giant whale sculpture from plastic bags and other plastic waste. More than 100,000 people have viewed the whale in person. The giant whale is available for viewing in the Museum's Lodge from now until November 21<sup>st</sup>.

### **ABOUT IMAGINE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM**

Imagine Children's Museum is a non-profit community organization committed to making children's lives better by creating a place where they can playfully learn. Children, ages one through twelve, visit the Museum accompanied by their parent, grandparent, friend, neighbor, teacher or guardian. More than twenty hands-on enriching exhibits provide opportunities for children to discover, explore, create and imagine. Fun, interactive activities such as i-Engineers and Tuesday Tales are also offered. Since opening its doors in 2004, Imagine Children's Museum has served more than one million children and adults, including over 236,000 in 2011. *Sunset* magazine highlighted Imagine Children's Museum as a "fantastic children's museum" and it is rated a 5-Star Pick by *Lila Guide*. ICM was selected as the "Best Museum for Kids" in the Puget Sound region by Nickelodeon's *ParentsConnect.com* for the past three years. King 5 *Evening Magazine* voters have chosen ICM as one of the top three "Most fun Places for Kids" in Western Washington and the "Best Children's Entertainment." The Museum is located on the corner of Wall and Hoyt Streets in downtown Everett. For hours and admission information, visit [www.ImagineCM.org](http://www.ImagineCM.org) or call 425-258-1006.

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If you'd like more information about this topic please contact Christy at (425) 258-1006, Ext. 1015, or [community@ImagineCM.org](mailto:community@ImagineCM.org).