Glossary

A glossary is a list of new or difficult words. This is a very special glossary. This is the glossary for my Stories about the America on the Move exhibit at the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of American History in Washington, D.C. It lists important words and what they mean when used in my Stories.

Actual ‘________’: In my Museum Stories, if something is actual it means that it is the exact item or thing. For example, the America on the Move exhibit has old actual train engines. There is also an old actual school bus, and many other actual vehicles and things. In a museum, actual things are often very old. Many people think old actual things are very interesting, because those items were new many years ago and used by people.

First-hand information: ‘First-hand' information of a place or event comes from a person who is actually there. I have ‘first-hand' information about riding in a car, or eating at McDonalds®.
The **America on the Move exhibit** has many first-hand experiences of Americans who lived long ago. My Museum Stories are written by Carol Gray. She went to the America on the Move exhibit to write down first-hand information for me. That way, I will know more about what to expect when I visit the exhibit. Many people think that first-hand information is very interesting.

**Model:** A model is a copy of something. Models are usually smaller than the “actual thing” (see actual ‘_____’ in this glossary). For example, in the **America on the Move** exhibit, there is a model of a train that is much smaller than an actual train. To help people see what is inside, a part of the train wall is left open. Leaving the wall open lets me see what the inside of the train’s dining car looks like.
**Museum:** A museum is a place where beautiful or interesting things are kept. People visit museums to learn about history, art, or science. Often, things in a museum are an important part of a factual story. The things in the **America on the Move** exhibit helps people understand the factual Story about people who lived in the United States many years before me.

**Stand-in:** A stand-in is often a person who takes someone’s place. For example, in filming a movie, a ‘stand-in’ may be used in place of an actor. This gives the director time to check lighting, etc. before the actor arrives. A stand-in may be used in Congress, when a seat is vacated by a senator or representative. In the America on the Move exhibit, the statues are stand-ins for people and animals that lived many years ago.
Tell (a Story): Tell often means to give information to a person or persons by talking, as in the sentence, “Let me tell you a joke.” In many of the stories about the America on the Move exhibit, Tell means to share information using written words, pictures, or objects, as in the sentence, “Museum displays tell the story of people who lived long ago.”