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## **A Hands-On Museum for Children**

Stephanie Townsend

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APPROVAL

We, the undersigned members of the examination committee, certify that we have examined the student and that she has met all requirements for the degree Masters of Arts with a major in Education and a minor in Early Childhood Education; further we have examined her and have determined that she has demonstrated a satisfactory knowledge of her field of specialization and that the project report is satisfactory in scope and quality for the degree Master of Arts.

Approved by:

Robert F. Shultz Chairman

Previously signed by Kenneth Smith.

Spencer K. Thompson  
Clyde H. Sprague Graduate Council Representative

8/31/76  
Date

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THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS OF THE PERMIAN BASIN

A HANDS-ON MUSEUM FOR CHILDREN

by

STEPHANIE TOWNSEND, B.S.

Report Of A Master's Project

Submitted to the Faculty of Pedagogical Studies

in Partial Fulfillment of Requirements

For the Degree

Master of Arts

The University of Texas of the Permian Basin

Summer 1976

**U.T. Permian Basin Library**

### Abstract

This paper concerns itself with the preparation for the development of a children's hands-on museum. Included is a definition of such a museum, a rationale for this type of museum, organizational considerations of a community museum, four exhibits intended to stimulate and guide children's cognitive processes, and a brief summation. The rationale for this children's museum is derived primarily from Piaget's theory of cognitive developmental psychology. Thus, the exhibits are exemplars of Piagetian curriculum. The organization section emphasizes Guthe's philosophy concerning museum organization.