

PNC Women in Business Webcast Series Transcript

Story Time with PNC Great Readers

**September 15, 2020
4 p.m. ET**

Moderator: Hello, I'm Sally McCrady, Chair and President of the PNC Foundation. I'm so happy to welcome you to this special PNC Virtual Women in Business Week broadcast. PNC's philanthropy is focused on a program we call Grow Up Great; a multiyear \$500 million initiative in early childhood education. Research has shown that the first five years of life are critical to long-term achievement in school and in life. Investments in early education are also investments in our future workforce and an economic development tool. Now at a time when many early learning and childcare centers are closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it's more important than ever that we help parents and caregivers engage with their children in a way that fosters learning and development.

Our PNC Great Reader Series was developed for this very reason. We asked more than 30 community partners from across PNC's market to read aloud to their favorite children's books and post it on video. Each reader brings their own personality to the story; some even include their family members or other special characters. We're pleased to be able to share three of these readings with you today. If you and your children love these as much as I do, I'd encourage you to listen to more on our website, PNCGrowUpGreat.com. You can also find a variety of other free resources to help kids in your life grow up great.

Thank you and please sit back, relax and enjoy our great readers.

Edward Lee: Hi, my name is Chef Edward Lee and this is my daughter Arden and we're going to read one of her favorite books. Should I Share My Ice Cream by Mo Willems. Ice Cream! Get your cold ice cream for a hot day! Oh, boy! Ice Cream! One ice cream, please. Here you go! Oh, boy, oh boy, I love ice cream! Wait, Piggie loves ice cream, too. Piggie is my best friend. Should I share my ice cream with her? Should I share my awesome, yummy, sweet, super, great, tasty, nice, cool ice cream? Hmm -- Mmm -- Maybe Piggie does not like this flavor. Share the flavor Piggie does not like would be wrong. I will eat the ice cream!

Wait, Piggie will like this flavor, it is very yummy. I will share my ice cream. It will not be easy. Hey, Piggie is no here. She does not know I have ice cream. I will eat the ice cream! Where is Piggie? It's starting to melt, right?

What if she is sad somewhere? I must find her. When I do, I will say, would you like some of my ice cream? Then she will say, thank you, that would cheer me up. Then I will give her my ice cream to share. Yum! Then my best friend will be happy. I will do it, I will share my -- ice cream. Are you ready for this? Let's do it together. Nooooooooooooo! Now Piggie cannot have any of my ice cream. Now I cannot have any of my ice cream. I blew it. There's Piggie. Hey, you look sad, would you like some of my ice cream? Thank you, that cheer me up. That was my plan. Oh well, this works too.

The end.

Claudette Robinson:

Hello everyone. I'm Claudette Robinson, First Lady of Motown and an original miracle. Thanks for joining me for a little story time with my new book, Claudette's Miracle Motown Adventure written by, Claudette Robinson and A.K. Morris. Little Claudette lived in Motown. It was a kingdom filled with music so sweet. People sang up on the rooftops and danced in the street. Little Claudette loved to sing. In fact, it was her favorite thing.

There was never a day without music and song until an angry witch came along. She flew into Motown on her broom bringing dark shadows, sadness and gloom. She swept away the music, chased the laughter away and turned every color to dark ugly grey.

Now Claudette had to stay inside everyday because children couldn't go outside to play. There was no one on the playground and no friends in the park. All the streets in Motown were silent and dark. One day when Claudette woke up bored, she thought of a place she hadn't explored. She went up to the attic in order to find something that would pass the time. From the cobwebby ceiling to the dusty attic floor, shadows hid some odd things she hadn't seen before, like the strange box she found behind the door. She opened the box and gasped in surprise at the strange site that greeted her eyes. Four little fellows no bigger than elves bowed to Claudette then introduced themselves. I'm Smokey, I'm Bobby, I'm Ronnie, I'm Pete, call us miracles my dear, we make music so sweet.

There is magic in each song. We need a girl in our group. Would you like to sing along? Yes, yes, yes, Claudette replied with a grin. The boys started to [croon], Claudette joined right in. As their music filled the air the attic filled with light. Grey walls became bright colors, Claudette clapped in delight. She grabbed the box of miracles and shouted down the stairs. Mommy, daddy, I found miracles to chase away our cares.

Her parents thought what Claudette said was strange until they saw how the miracles could make things change. They lit up the backyard when they sang in harmony. They sang color back to every flower and tree. Daddy said, Claudette, this a marvelous thing. I know King Barry will want to hear you sing. Once you since back the sunshine and bring back the light, he may ask you to kneel and make you a knight.

So they marched to the castle all along the way. The miracles sang all the darkness away. When the townspeople heard their melodies, they burst out of their homes and shouted with glee. But the walls of the castle were so thick you see, they blocked out the noise and the gayety. Inside the thrown room it was still gloom and doom, the witch sat in the corner holding her broom.

The queen was unhappy, King Barry wore a frown, the jester was weeping the tears of a clown. My king, Claudette shouted, I bring good news. I bring miracles to chase away your blues. When Claudette and the miracles started to sing, even the shadows were listening. Soon the whole castle was filled with light, the shadows crept away and the witch took flight.

Oh joy, cried King Barry and his royal way, Claudette and her miracles have saved the day. From this day forth she will wear a crown and we'll call her the First Lady of Motown. Thanks for listening everyone. Please be safe and God bless you with

his daily miracles. The book Claudette's Miraculous Motown Adventure is available on Amazon.com and ClaudetteRobinson.com. Thank you.

- Carrie Tollefson: Hi everybody, I'm Olympian Carrie Tollefson and welcome to storytelling time. I brought my kiddos.
- Ruby: Hi, I'm Ruby.
- Everett: Hi, I'm Everett.
- Greer: Hi, I'm Greer.
- Carrie Tollefson: And we also brought our favorite book called The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle. Here we go. Ready Greer? In the light of the moon a little egg lay on a leaf. There it is.
- Everett: One Sunday morning the warm sun came up and popped out of the egg came a tiny very hungry caterpillar.
- Carrie Tollefson: There it is.
- Ruby: He started to look for some food.
- Carrie Tollefson: On Monday he ate through one apple but he was still hungry. On Tuesday he ate through two pears. But he was still hungry. On Wednesday he ate through three plums, but he was still hungry. On Thursday he ate through four strawberries, but he was still hungry. And on Friday he ate through five oranges, but he was still hungry. Now what happens?
- Everett: On Saturday he ate through one piece of chocolate cake, one ice cream cone, one pickle, one slice of Swiss cheese, one slide of salami, one lollipop, one piece of cherry pie, one sausage, one cupcake and one slice of watermelon. That night he had a stomach ache.
- Carrie Tollefson: Look at all that that he ate. Okay. The next day was Sunday again. The caterpillar ate through one nice green leaf and after that he felt much better. Oh, look at that caterpillar on that big leaf.
- Ruby: Now he wasn't hungry anymore and he wasn't a littler caterpillar anymore. He was a big fat caterpillar.
- Carrie Tollefson: Look at that!
- Everett: He built a small house called a cocoon around himself. He stayed inside for more than two weeks. He nibbled a whole in the cocoon, pushed his way out and he --
- Carrie Tollefson: Look at that.
- Greer: He was beautiful.
- Carrie Tollefson: And he was a beautiful butterfly. The end. Thank you so much for joining us at storytelling time. Our family always has one thing that we like to say. What it is you guys?

Unidentified Participant: Make sure to get after it!

Carrie Tollefson: Thanks for joining us.

Everett: Bye.

Greer: Bye.