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BIG BOX EXHIBITS

FROM THE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM, BOSTON

"What If You Couldn't...?"

"WHAT IF YOU COULDN'T...?"
AN EXHIBIT ABOUT SPECIAL NEEDS.

Developed by The Boston Children's Museum with funds from the National Endowment for the Arts, this participatory exhibit creates an environment in which the non-disabled public can learn about handicapping conditions and explore some of their own feelings. The exhibit attempts to promote an improved understanding of, and a better attitude toward people with disabilities.

The exhibit space is divided into six areas of exploration: visual impairments, auditory impairments, physical handicaps, learning disabilities, emotional disturbances and mental retardation. Each area provides information and simulation experiences with devices and appliances to test. Special text and graphics are written and designed for both children and adults.

All devices and testing materials are provided and include such things as wheelchairs, prosthetic devices, a Perkins Braille, a TTY, a series of tapes simulating gradations of



Photo: Richard Howard

In one of the modules about physical disabilities, visitors may try out a wheelchair on different surfaces: carpet, crushed stone, "bumpy" tile and a ramp.

hearing loss, a series of lenses simulating 20/80, 20/200 and 20/400 vision, and a blind walk with textured walls.

Set-up instructions and installation suggestions are provided along with educational packets, suggesting activities, reading materials, films and speakers.

SPECIFICATIONS:

- SIZE: 150 sq. meters (1500 sq. ft.)
- ESTIMATED WEIGHT: 1650 Kg (3600 lbs.)
- CRATES: 7, plus miscellaneous blanket wrapped sections
- SECURITY: Moderate
- FEE: \$1500/6 week period



Illustration: Signe Hanson