## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Contact:** Diane Hutsell, Executive Director McMinn County Living Heritage Museum 423-745-0329 www.livingheritagemuseum.com dhutsell@birch.net

## Museum Presents Toddler Time: What Do You Do At A Museum?

**January 18, 2010-Athens-** Have you or your kids ever wondered what goes on at a museum? Where do you get all that "old stuff?" "What was is used for?" How do you keep track of it all? Join us as we explore these questions and more! Kids between the ages of 2-6 are invited to the McMinn County Living Heritage Museum January 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> at 10 am to find out! Kids will get the opportunity for a "hands on" looks at some of the Museum's artifacts as they play detective and examine each artifact. Miniature curate gloves will be provided and each child will get their own magnifying glass to take home with them.

With our new Toddler Time the McMinn County Living Heritage Museum is working to offer quality experiences that welcome families and entertain, educate and amuse at low or no cost. Toddler Time programs vary throughout the year but always relate back to art or history and may include a story, art project, craft, or tour of a part of the Museum. These hour long programs are for toddlers and a parent, grandparent or friend to play and explore at the Living Heritage Museum using the Museum's artifacts and a craft project to stimulate their natural curiosity, imagination and creativity.

Each hands-on Toddler Time program gives children the opportunity to develop positive childhood experiences that have been shown to have an enduring effect on a child's future learning ability in school and throughout life. Researchers have found children who participate in high-quality early childhood programs gain skills normally associated with greater brain development, such as problem solving and language, math, and literacy skills. Museum experiences also help parents and caregivers become informed about their child's development and actively engaged in their child's learning.

Call 423-745-0329 for more information or sign up your child today!

###