

Minis Magnified

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RAGGEDY SHOP

Location: The hallway between Exploring the World and the Enchanted Realm

Picture a shop for the young and young at heart, a place for the imagination of children to wander into the adventures of their parents' and grandparents' youth. The *Raggedy Shop*, created by Pat Arnell, is a double-sided room box featuring the show-room floor and backroom of a Raggedy Ann and Andy toy store. It's a place of wonder and nostalgia, an opportunity to pass along a beloved piece of Americana.

Among the most popular characters of the 20th century, Raggedy Ann made her first appearance in 1915 when creator cartoonist-illustrator-author Johnny Gruelle designed a floppy rag doll to entertain his daughter. She was introduced to the public in the 1918 book *Raggedy Ann Stories* and a few years later, Raggedy Andy was introduced in a sequel story. Many subsequent books were published and the characters made their way into other media over the years, including: comic strips, films, musical animated features, and television specials. Raggedy Ann was recently voted No. 3 of the Top 100 Dolls of All Time in *Doll Reader Magazine*. She was inducted into the National Toy Hall of Fame in 2002 and Raggedy Andy joined her in 2007.



Walking into the *Raggedy Shop*, you will see the loveable rag duo on multiple shelves, in a variety of styles and on numerous objects: from wall hangings and

clothes, to a dollhouse and Andy-in-the-box – there are even patterns and supplies to make your own dolls! Raggedy Ann and her brother Andy have the ability to turn everyday life into magical fantasy and this is as true in the shop as it is in their stories. For in the backroom of the *Raggedy Shop*, Raggedy Ann has come to life and is hosting a tea party. Here you will find two young girls and several types of toys at play. The room is decorated with a Raggedy Ann and Andy rug, tablecloth, chairs and portraits, and the girls' two tea sets are decorated with the dolls' faces and fashioned in the shape of the dolls themselves.

The Raggedy Shop is not the only Raggedy Ann and Andy miniature on display at The Mini-Time Machine. In a rare doll-sighting, a 1940's version of Raggedy Ann and Andy are presented along with a shadow box of Raggedy Ann, with rag doll



friends. There is also the *Raggedy Ann Room in a Can*, which depicts Raggedy Ann and Andy enjoying a tasty treat, and *Small Teapot with Scene*, where Raggedy Ann spends time with friends inside a teapot and Raggedy Andy plays outside. With a keen eye, you will also find Raggedy Ann and Andy making an appearance in several other miniatures in the Enchanted Realm and Exploring the World galleries. Look for them in the *Good Ship Lollipop*, *Country Store*, and *Heaven to Seven*. You might even find a pair of poodles dressed as Raggedy Ann and Andy for Halloween in *Cauldron Coven*.