



**Media Advisory**  
**For Immediate Release**

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**Little Kids Carrier Exhibit Officially Commissioned “USS Kiddie Hawk”  
at the National Naval Aviation Museum**  
*Two children submit the winning name*

**Pensacola, Fla.**—August 24, 2009—And the winner is...USS *Kiddie Hawk*! As part of the new little kids carrier exhibit grand opening promotion, a naming contest was offered throughout the month of July at the National Naval Aviation Museum. Two entries had the winning name: Jonah Krueger, age 2 1/2, son of Melissa and Matt Krueger of Pensacola and Alex Kolarik, age 8, son of Nicole and Tom Kolarik of Snellville, Georgia.

The USS *Kiddie Hawk* is located in the west wing of the Museum next to the Flight Deck Store. Modeled to look like the “island” of an aircraft carrier deck, the USS *Kiddie Hawk* features many items that are found on a real carrier. Children can enjoy playing with the fireman’s pole, rope ladders, binoculars, periscopes and a Captain’s wheel. Kids can also have fun with interactive devices such as buttons to push for ship sounds, an intercom system set up in three different locations and flags with a pulley system. Mock control panels and plasma screens with “views” from the ship give kids the sense that they are on a real aircraft carrier. The exhibit also features two slides, regular and tubed. For safety, rubber mats surround the floor of the island, and handicap access is available on the bottom floor.

Jonah enjoyed playing on the USS *Kiddie Hawk* and visiting the Museum. He also loves the Blue Angels, which he affectionately calls the “blue airplanes.” Alex has been coming to the Museum since he was just two years old. As a young child, he used to call the Museum the “Airplane Store.” Alex visited the museum with his grandfather, a 22-year veteran Naval fighter pilot, shortly after the little kids carrier exhibit opened. He had so much fun playing on the USS *Kiddie Hawk* that he insisted on coming back the next day!

Both Jonah and Alex received a flight jacket from the Museum’s Flight Deck Store.

The National Naval Aviation Museum features FREE admission and a full slate of events throughout the year. For a complete list of Museum events, exhibits and attractions, visit [NavalAviationMuseum.org](http://NavalAviationMuseum.org) or call the Naval Aviation Museum Foundation at (850) 453-2389 or (800) 327-5002.

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**About the National Naval Aviation Museum**

The National Naval Aviation Museum features nearly 300,000 square feet of displays and is one of the world’s largest aviation museums. Located aboard Pensacola Naval Air Station, the facility boasts more than 150 beautifully restored aircraft representing Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard aviation and is Florida’s most-visited museum. Among the countless things to touch, see and experience are thrilling Top Gun Air Combat flight simulators, a variety of special exhibits as well as the drama and power of amazing IMAX® films. The Cubi Bar Café offers a unique dining experience, and the Flight Deck Store is the perfect place to find a memento of the spirit of Naval aviation. Museum admission is free. The National Naval Aviation Museum is open daily from 9 a.m.–5 p.m., except Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year’s Day. For more information, visit [NavalAviationMuseum.org](http://NavalAviationMuseum.org).

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