



Story Telling



Some things you could do at home to extend your child's learning:

- Share a book of traditional fairy tales with your child or retell some of the stories you enjoyed as a child. Reading with your child not only is a way of bonding and sharing your own childhood experiences, but it can help them to read and spell later on when they start school.
- Invite your child to choose one of the stories to listen to. If the story is fairly short, you can introduce them to one of your childhood favourites afterwards. Keeping the story telling session fairly brief (no longer than about 10-15 minutes) will help to hold your child's interest and stop him/her becoming restless.
- Play a game with your child by holding the book upside down and pretending to read it back to front. Does your child know which way books are read in English? Look together at the front cover. Can your child guess what the story is going to be about? Talk about the author (your child may be able to explain this is the person who wrote the story) and the illustrator (the person who drew the pictures). Your child may have enjoyed other books by the same author. Talk about these together.
- Encourage your child to turn the pages and talk about the pictures. Who can they see? What do they think is happening? Can your child guess what might happen next?
- Use different voices to act out the story and bring it to life. Encourage your child to join in with some of the actions.
- Invite your child to retell the story in his/her own words. What were the most important things which happened in the story?
- Visit your local library and share some books there. It doesn't cost anything to join or borrow books.
- Check <https://www.ercultureandleisure.org/bookbug> to find out when local story telling sessions are held. Take your child along and join in the fun and games.
- Encourage your child to fill in the missing words in well known stories or repeated phrases.
- Point to some of the words as you read them, particularly familiar words or those which are repeated throughout the story.
- Make up a story with your child. This could be about something which happened to your child or it might be about a pretend character, such as one of their toys. Help them to make it into a book by providing materials for your child to draw the pictures. You can write the words and your child may want to copy some of these.
- Encourage your child to care for their books and toys and to tidy these away when they are finished.
- Some useful tips for reading with your child can be found at <https://www.scottishbooktrust.com/reading-and-stories/why-read-to-babies-and-young-children>

