

## Different Ways to Tell Your Child Stories

M K Singh 08/02/21

Once upon a time, we all grew up listening to stories from our parents, grandparents, aunts, and uncles. Sometimes powerful, sometimes meaningless, sometimes moral-based and sometimes just hilarious! Remember how much you enjoyed these stories?



### Why do we need to tell stories to children?

Storytelling plays a very important role in the cognitive development of young children. It helps improve key learning areas like memory and language skills. It sparks curiosity, which increases the child's imaginative skills and it gives the child new perceptions to the world around them every single time.

### The Adult's Role in Storytelling

- Respect storytelling as both an art and a science. Make sure you're emotionally expressive and excited while you're reading the story.
- Use actions and exhibit a positive and happy body language too. Read quotes by different characters in different voices and make your child laugh!
- Pick your moments to tell them these stories. It can be during bedtime, while travelling, while spending time out with your child.

## What kind of stories can you tell children?

### **a) Go Back In Time:**

Start off by thinking about the stories you heard while growing up. Turn up your nostalgia and pass that feeling on to your child. Think about why stories such as your favourites have been told and re-told over and over again and what it is that makes them such classics.



### **b) Personal Experience:**

This can mean experiences you've had in the past that you want to pass on to your child, as well as experiences which you've heard about from your friends and family.

Stories of your ancestors are something that will really enrich your child with his/her familial history.

Tell them about their grandparents and their great-grandparents. These are stories that children are always greatly interested in.

### **c) Books You Loved as a Child:**

You can also think about the kind of stories you loved hearing as a child, be it about animals, Christmas, pirates or fairy tales. Pick out these stories for your child and read them to your child, because chances are that you share a few of those interests.

## **d) Picture Books**

If your child isn't much of a reader, pick books that have pictures on them and simply tell the story by explaining the pictures. This will capture your child's interest, while not having to pay too much attention to the words, as the pictures will be telling them most of the story.

## **e) Interactive storytelling:**

If your child has a favourite story, every time you tell it, make sure you stop at certain points and ask your child to fill in where you stopped. This makes your child exercise their memory. If it's a new story, you can stop somewhere and ask your child to make up the story from that point and continue it in the way they would like to. This will let their creativity flow.

## **What are the children learning?**

I enjoy exploring events and characters in stories and other texts and I use what I learn to invent my own, sharing these with others in imaginative ways.

**LIT 0-09b / LIT 0-31a**

*To help me understand stories and other texts, I ask questions and link what I am learning with what I already know.*

**LIT 0-07a / LIT 0-16a / ENG 0-17a**

*I enjoy exploring events and characters in stories and other texts, sharing my thoughts in different ways.*

**LIT 0-19a**