

Facilitating Language During Storytime

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BENEFITS OF READING

Rewarding and relaxing

Educational

Attention span increases

Develops language comprehension

Improves vocabulary & concepts

Nurtures parent/child relationship

Gives child personal attention

Goals

- Pleasurable and enjoyable for child (and parent).
- Bonding time, relax before bed, part of bedtime routine (but not restricted to only bedtime).
- Learning opportunity but not obvious to the child or he will not look forward to book time.
 - The child should be learning without realizing it.
- No pressure! Child should not be forced to sit and “pay attention” but rather be excited to listen to a story or look at picture books.



Choosing a Book

- Select 2 (or more) books that are appropriate for your child and allow your child to choose one.
- The book should be the appropriate length for:
 - The child's attention span
 - The time that you have with the child
 - Age level
 - Comprehension level.
 - You may choose to read a book with more pictures and fewer words.
 - You can adjust the complexity and length of the sentences/paragraphs by paraphrasing.
- Same book **AGAIN??**
 - The child may choose the same book over and over. Kids are comfortable with familiarity-what's predictable. They feel in control and excited when they know what's on the next page. (They'll know when you skip a page.)



Content

- Avoid peppering the child with a lot of questions. Instead, elicit with: (Your intonation can prompt a response.)
 - “I see a _____. ” The child may point to what you named.
 - “I can’t find the dog!”
 - “I wonder where the car is.”
 - “I don’t see the cat.”
 - “I wonder what the boy will do next.” (higher-level)



Questions to Ask

Sample Questions	Non-Verbal Responses	Verbal Response
Who is in the tub?	Points	girl
What is this? (point to tub)	Points	tub/bath
What is in the tub (point to bubbly water)	Points	water/ bubbles
Where are the bubbles?	Points	In the tub



QUESTIONS	RESPONSE
What is the nurse doing?	Putting a bandaid on the boy's knee
What is on the lady's head?	A hat
Where is the bandaid?	On his knee
Who is wearing a hat?	The nurse
Why is the girl crying?	Because she hurt her knee
How do you know the girl is sad?	Because she's crying
When do you go to sleep? (point to the bed	At night



Book Recommendations

High

- Developing Language with longer sentences and vocabulary
- No David!; Pete the Cat; Curious George; Clifford; Chicka Chicka Boom Boom

Medium

- Short sentences with high frequency sight words
- The Three Bears; Llama Llama; Lost; Dear Zoo

Easy

- Repetition and Rhyme
- Brown Bear Brown Bear; Where's Spot; Go Dog Go; Goodnight Moon



Wordless Books



You can:

- Make up the story based on the pictures
- Have the child make up the story
- Ask questions about the pictures

Recommendations for Books without Words :

- A Ball For Daisy
- Pancakes For Breakfast
- A Boy, A Dog, A Frog
- Goodnight Gorilla