

# Sharing Stories

Good early language development leads to success in later life. Sharing stories builds language by introducing new words, teaches lessons about right and wrong and encourages a love of reading books. When children participate in stories, they learn about the world and develop listening, thinking and concentration skills.

**This supports later reading and school success.**

★ **Share stories often** (both reading and telling)

★ **Ask questions about the story and talk about the pictures.**



★ **Encourage conversations about the story.**

★ **Share stories in an exciting way** (using your voice, facial expressions and actions).

### BEFORE THE STORY



- ★ Get comfortable.
- ★ Let children choose the story or book (if possible).
- ★ Talk about the cover with children before reading.

### DURING THE STORY



- ★ Show that you are interested in the story and that it is special to you.
- ★ Ask questions about what children are thinking.
- ★ Remind children of the meanings of new or big words.

### AFTER THE STORY



- ★ Ask children what they liked about the story.
- ★ Encourage children to talk about the story in their own words.
- ★ Look at some of the pages again.



## USE YOUR IMAGINATION!

If you don't have any books, you can still share stories.

- ★ Use your own imagination to make up stories.
- ★ Use pictures and things you see in nature.
- ★ Get ideas from the children.
- ★ Use dolls or puppets to act out stories of your own.