



Sharing Stories is for Everyone!

Share family stories:

All families have stories. Share a favorite story with your child. Once you've told it several times, ask him to tell the story to you. This activity helps build his listening and language skills—essential steps in learning to read.

Why share family stories?

Children love to hear stories about familiar people, places, and things. These kinds of stories also help children understand the relationship between sounds and objects.

Ask your child to share her favorite family story:

In the car, waiting at the bus stop, in line at the grocery store—all of these places are perfect for sharing stories. It's a good way to keep your child busy, and learning at the same time. This activity helps her build language and vocabulary skills—basics for learning to read.

Why have my child tell me something I already know?

Your child gets practice in telling stories with a beginning, middle, and an end. This helps him understand the order in which stories are told in books and on television.

Create your own poster using family photographs:

Select 3 or 5 family photographs and tape them to a large piece of paper. (The inside of a large brown paper bag is fine.) Work together to share or create a new story using the photographs. Help your child write words or short sentences describing the story underneath the pictures. Share this poster with your child several months after it was created and see what details can be added!

Why should we take the time to do this?

Children are authors! This gives them an easy way to illustrate a story, and they can create a new story, or relay the events that the photographs capture. This gives them beginning tools to relate sounds to words.