



Storytime Tips For Adults

Parent/Caregiver participation is essential to storytime success! Please join in the activities to encourage children to participate and show that storytime is fun for everyone.

Put food and toys away. If bottles, blankets, or other not-to-be-parted with items are necessary, let us know and we will work with them.

The first ten minutes of Bright Beginnings are set aside for play for babies and interaction with other parents/caregivers. **After “clean up” time, please focus your attention on the stories and songs.**

If your child is crying loudly, distracting the group, or losing control in another sense, **please feel free to step out and “regroup.”** Talk to the librarian if you are unsure or concerned about your child’s behavior.

Relax! Babies are not expected to be able to sit still and/or participate in each activity. Our goal is to have fun with rhymes, songs, books, and other language-building play.



What Happens At Storytime?

Bright Beginnings encourages language and visual development in babies with songs, music, stories, rhymes, fingerplays, and movement activities.

As you arrive for storytime, please find the nametags for yourself and the child(ren) and put them on. Nametags can be found on a table inside the Lloyd Room.

The first ten minutes of Bright Beginnings are socialization time. Babies engage in an interactive activity, playing with soft blocks, puppets, and board books.

To signal that storytime will begin, the librarian introduces a teddy bear baby and sings the opening song, *Teddy Bear Says Peek-a-Boo*.

Bouncing rhymes, a short story, a flannel board, and other literature-based activities follow. Booklets of songs and rhymes used in Bright Beginnings will be provided so that adults may follow along.

Storytime ends with the rhyme *Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear* presented by the librarian and teddy bear baby. Children may say goodbye to the teddy bear baby at this time.



Songs to Know (from your friend, bear)

Teddy Bear Says Peek-a-Boo

to the tune of London Bridge

Teddy Bear says peek-a-boo
Peek-a-boo
Peek-a-boo
Teddy Bear says peek-a-boo
I see you

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear turn around
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear touch the ground
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear show your shoe
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear I love you
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear give a jump a try
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear it’s time to say bye-bye





Why Share Books With Your Baby?



Reading provides an outlet for parent and baby to spend time together and bond in a loving way.



Babies respond positively to their parents' voices and may begin to imitate the parent.



Reading to a baby begins the process of nurturing a love for books and reading.



Early experiences with books are linked to a child's later success in learning to read.



Reading provides a baby with rich language experiences.



A baby understands simple words by 8-9 months of age.



A baby is attracted to different sounds and gradually attaches meaning to the sounds.



Books provide visual stimulation and help develop vision by giving baby objects on which to focus.



Reading to a baby stimulates brain development.



Sharing books helps develop listening and language skills.

Choose Books for Baby...



...made of cloth or board (heavy cardboard) with rounded corners.

...with bright primary colors or that have strong contrast between light and dark.

...with large, simple pictures and not too much detail.

...featuring photographs of babies and real objects

...that depict objects familiar to babies, one object per page. After naming the object, talk about it in a sentence.

...that show faces, including those of various ages and ethnic groups.

...with different textures to touch.

...that are interactive and allow babies to insert fingers into holes or lift flaps.

...featuring rhyme, repetitive phrases, and that have rhythmic text. Babies love rhyme!

...featuring animal noises and other sounds. Be as enthusiastic and silly as you like when reading aloud



A storytime for the 0-17 month-old child and his/her caregiver



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