



Storytime Tips For Adults



Please arrive on time so that you will be able to participate in all of the activities. Late arrivals can disturb the program already in progress and may be disconcerting to your child.



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.



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.



Please focus your attention on the stories and songs. We know you may have lots to share with the other parents/caregivers, but your close attention to the librarian will help your child enjoy storytime even more.



If your child is crying loudly, distracting the group, or losing control in another sense, **please feel free to step out and “regroup.”** Do not feel discouraged if your child does not wish to stay or seems not to be interested.



At this age every child is unique in their attention span. A child who will sit with you for hours at home reading books may become distracted at storytime by the other children and new surroundings. Don't worry, no child has ever flunked Toddler Time!



Siblings are welcome in the story room, but remember that storytime activities are designed for you and your toddler to share. Consider whether siblings will be distracting to you or other participants.



It's okay if your child is shy about participating in activities or does not want to respond to the librarian. Children who appear to be disinterested are still listening and may surprise you at home by singing the songs or imitating the fingerplays.



Bring your child to the library several times before storytime begins so that they will become acquainted with the Youth Services Department and staff. Children who visit in advance tend to be less apprehensive and more attentive.



If your child wants to cuddle on your lap during storytime that's great! It can provide comfort and security and allows the adult to emphasize things that occur during the storytime.



Songs to Know

Open, Shut Them



Open, shut them
Open, shut them
Give a little clap clap clap
Open, shut them
Open, shut them
Put them in your lap lap lap
Creep them, creep them
Slowly creep them
Right up to your chin
Open up your little mouth
But do not let them in!

Goodbye Thumbkin



Goodbye Thumbkin
Goodbye Thumbkin
Goodbye Thumbkin
It's time to say goodbye.

(repeat four times, replacing “thumbkin” with pointer, tall man, ring man and pinkie)



What Happens At Storytime?

Toddler Time follows a regular routine each week. Children begin to feel more comfortable if they know what to expect. Here are things that will be a part of every storytime.

Name tags help the librarian give personal attention to your child. They will be located on the table outside the Lloyd Room. Please wear your name tag and encourage your child to wear theirs. If your child does not wish to wear a name tag, please hold it or wear it yourself.

George Junior the monkey puppet is our Toddler Time greeter. He says hello to each child at the beginning of storytime. He also collects name tags and hugs when storytime ends.

Stories are a vital part of our storytime. They may include short books read aloud, a participation story, and a big book.

Blast Off is a very popular body stretching activity that always needs to be repeated!

Songs and fingerplays are interspersed throughout the storytime.

...more on back

The **Monkey Mitt** activity gives the child another opportunity to experience songs and rhymes visually. Each week there is something new to stick on the monkey mitt with Velcro backing and a fingerplay or song to go with it. Each child will have the opportunity to touch a monkey mitt piece.

Flannelboard activities are a favorite of many participants. Rhymes and songs are depicted with fabric pieces which attach to a large flannel covered board. Depending on the attention span of the group, each child will usually have the opportunity to touch a piece and place it on the board.



Please talk to the librarian if you are unsure or concerned about your child in Toddler Time. We welcome comments and suggestions.



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Toddler Time

A storytime for the 24-36 month-old child and his/her caregiver

