



Story Time Tips:

Story Time is a great preparation for school. It gets your little ones used to listening, sitting still and following directions. It introduces children to

Love of reading: Attending story time and checking out books is creating and exploring a whole new world of learning!

interacting with their peers and creating friendships.

Below are some tips to help your child participate in story time:

- **Prepare your children:** Let your children know that you will be listening to the librarian read the story to you and many other children and caregivers. Sometimes a large group of strangers can intimidate our little ones.
- **Help your children sit still:** Children are naturally energetic and can have a hard time sitting still, especially if there are active children around them. With practice, they can learn to sit still during the story. A toy from home can help keep them calm during story time. If your child needs to leave the story time room for a few minutes to regroup, that is okay.
- **Listening:** Some days are just off days for children. If your child has difficulty listening and is becoming more of an attention focus than the librarian, please feel free to step out of the story time room. Come back in when your child is more calm and don't feel bad if you need to leave the story time session. *Please return and try again.* Your child will learn what is expected during story time.
- **Arrive early:** Try to come at least 5 minutes before story time begins to help your child feel more comfortable. Walking in and seeing a group of strangers may create some uneasiness and be a stress factor. Use the restroom before story time begins.
- **Stay quiet:** Wanting adult conversation? The adult next you may be an enticing conversationalist, but you can't expect your children to stay quiet if you are not. Model respectful listening skills and save the conversations for when story time is over.
- **Participate:** If it's time to sit, everyone sits. If it's time to stand, everyone stands. Participate in the songs, movement and activities with your children. Your child will follow your lead.
- **Cell phones:** Please silence your phone and refrain from texting. If needed, feel free to step outside the story time room to make/take calls.
- **Library card:** Get a library card, explore the library, check out book...reading and visiting the library will become a part of your child's routine that you both look forward to. Getting a library card is easy—bring your driver's license, and if the address is not current on your license - bring proof of your address.
- **Make friends:** Visit after story time. Your child will make their first friend and you will meet new people.