

## Top Ten Storytelling Tips for Parents/Guardians

- 1) Find a quiet spot where there are no distractions.
- 2) As you read, sing and repeat rhymes to add interest.
- 3) As well as reading the story, talk about the pictures.
- 4) Give your child time to respond – don't rush through the story.
- 5) It's good to read favourite books again and again (repetition helps children understand and remember language).
- 6) Don't just save books for bedtime – read in the bath, on a bus or even at the supermarket!
- 7) Show your child that you enjoy reading too – books, newspapers, magazines etc. Your example is very important.
- 8) Books on tape and CD are available from the library – another great way to share stories.
- 9) Get the whole family involved - encourage others to read to your child- grandparents, babysitters, older brothers and sisters etc.
- 10) Start off with short stories and rhymes - as children grow older they'll enjoy listening to and joining in with longer stories.

**Remember it's never too early to start sharing books with your child.**

Research has shown that children who are read to, do much better with reading and numbers when they go to school.