



The Bookworm



From your
local library
and Idaho's Read
to Me program

Narrative Skills

Narrative Skills are the ability to describe things and events and tell stories. Helping your child develop these skills when she is young will help her understand what she hears and later, what she reads. An example of a narrative skill is a child's ability to tell what happens at a birthday party or on a trip to the zoo.

Books That Build Narrative Skills:

- Books with a repeated phrase
- Books that repeat part of the story
- Books that tell a tale that builds on itself
- Books where the events happen in an order

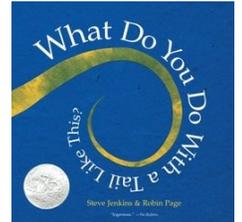
What can parents do to help build narrative skills?

- Encourage your child to say the repeated phrase together.
- Re-read books so that your child can become familiar with the story, making it easier to retell the story.
- Have your child retell the story.
- Encourage your child to tell you something from her own experience related to what happened in the book.
- Use puppets or props to tell the story to help your child remember it; have your child use props to help retell the story.
- Encourage your child to talk about the pictures in the book even if what she says is not in the story. Ask open-ended questions, ones that cannot be answered with yes or no.
- Talk about the pictures in the book and let your child tell you his thoughts and experiences.
- Have your child draw pictures and ask her to tell you about it.

Book of the Month

What Do You Do With A Tail Like This?, by Steve Jenkins

A nose for digging? Ears for seeing? Your child will explore the many amazing things animals can do with their ears, eyes, mouths, noses, feet, and tails in this beautifully illustrated guessing book.



More books to help your child tell stories:

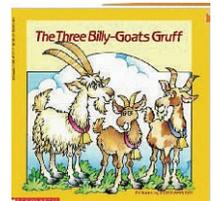
Early Talkers (Birth to 2 years)



Overboard, by Sarah Weeks
Guess How Much I Love You? by Sam McBratney
It's Spring, by Samantha Berger and Pamela Chanko

Talkers (3 to 5 years)

The Three Billy Goats Gruff, pictures by Ellen Appleby
Mama, Do You Love Me? and *Papa, Do You Love Me?* by Barbara Joose
iLibro!/Book! by Kristine O'Connell George



Pre-readers (Grades K-1)



The Little Red Hen, by Paul Galdone
Make Way For Ducklings, by Robert McCloskey
Where The Wild Things Are, by Maurice Sendak
I'm the Best Artist in the Ocean, by Kevin Sherry

More fun with *What Do You Do With A Tail Like This?...*

Talk about it...When driving to the store or doing errands, take time to tell stories. Ask your child to give you a sentence, and then make up a short story using their idea. With older children, you can provide the first sentence and have them tell you a story.

Science connection... Visit the library and check out an information book on animals.

Read about these animals with your child and talk about their different body parts and what they do or how they help the animal survive.



Order up!...Help your child learn order: use "first, next, last" or "beginning, middle, ending" depending on the age of your child. Place three objects on a table and talk about which is first, middle, or last.

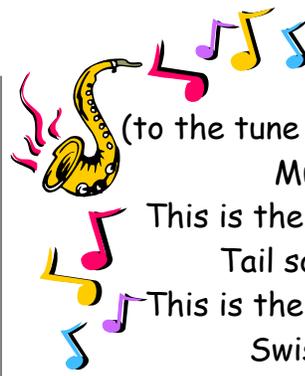


Picture this...Have your child choose a picture from a favorite book and tell you what is happening in the picture. Ask them open-ended questions to get more details and information.

Rhyme

Blow Wind Blow

Blow wind, blow
And go, mill, go:
That the miller
May grind his corn;
That the baker may take it,
And into rolls make it
And bring us some
Hot in the morn.
(Repeat one or two times more.)



Song Elephant

(to the tune of "Here we go 'round the Mulberry Bush")

This is the elephant's tail so thin,
Tail so thin, tail so thin,

This is the elephant's tail so thin,
Swish, swish, swish.

These are the elephant's feet so huge,
Feet so huge, feet so huge,

These are the elephant's feet so huge,
Stomp, stomp, stomp.

This is the elephant's nose so long,
Nose so long, nose so long,

This is the elephant's nose so long,
Blow, blow, blow.

These are the animals all around,
All around, all around,

These are the animals all around,
Run, run, run!



by Iram Khan

What your library can do for you...

Don't have a library card? You can still visit your library for storytimes or to read with your child. Or you can ask your librarian about how to apply for your own card today!

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