



Home Takeout Storytime



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Greetings, Caregivers! You are your child's first teacher. Help your little one get ready to learn how to read by talking, singing, reading, writing, and playing together. Have fun!

Talk

Sorting and grouping items can be a great activity for kids. Giving objects a name and category allows children to put meaning and context to the world around them. Sorting and grouping also helps kids build vocabulary and practice mathematical foundations. Add to the fun by finding a variety of sorting containers such as egg cartons or plastic containers with lids.

Sing

Using music can make everyday routines like cleaning up, bath time, or getting dressed more enjoyable. Transitioning between activities can be particularly difficult for children. A simple song provides structure in a fun and enjoyable way. "Clean up, clean up, everybody, everywhere. Clean up, clean up everybody do your share!"

Read

As you read books to your child, run your finger under the printed words. This simple action helps kids learn that the words you're saying come from the text on the page and helps draw their their attention to words as well as the pictures. Noticing text is one of the first steps in learning how to read. Look for repeated phrases or large bold text to practice this technique.

Write

Our world is filled with common signs, symbols, and logos. You may notice that kids will learn to recognize stop signs and the McDonald golden arches long before they can read. Point out these types of text as you shop, drive, and walk together, giving meaning to them. "The green man means we can cross the street!" Learning to notice these shapes and and decipher what they mean is called print awareness, an important pre-reading skill.

Play

Creativity and inventiveness are important skills that help children be ready to learn. Using common materials in different ways is an easy way to encourage your child to use their imagination. It's also an easy way to recycle various household items such as toilet paper rolls, boxes and paper bags! Egg cartons for doll furniture? Absolutely.



Books

Available to read on Hoopla!

The Napping House
by Audrey Wood
hoopladigital.com/title/12092434

A House in the Sky
by Steve Jenkins, Robbin Gourley
hoopladigital.com/title/12194237

Homes Around the World
by Dona Herweck Rice
hoopladigital.com/title/12080675

House of Dolls
by Francesca Lia Block
Barbara McClintock
hoopladigital.com/title/13631662

The Little House
Read-Aloud
by Virginia Lee Burton
hoopladigital.com/title/12101243

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imagineiflibraries.org/shopper



Songs

Make up your own verses with your child!

DIY Lullaby Trick

Need a mindless lullaby for those cherished 4am meltdowns? Just sing the chorus of a popular song! Here's one of Ellie's favorites, adapted from John Denver:

Country roads, take me home
To the place I belong
Sweet Montana, mountain mama
Take me home, country roads



Ten in the Bed

There were 10 in the bed
(hold up 10 fingers)
And the little one said
Roll over, roll over
(roll hands)
So they all rolled over and one fell out!
(tip to the side)

There were 9 in the bed...

There were none in the bed
And the little one said, "Goodnight!"



Boing Boing Squeak

Bounce your child on your lap, tip them to the side, and lift them up on the "Squeak!"

Boing! Boing! Squeak!
Boing! Boing! Squeak!
A bouncing mouse is in my house
He's been here for a week.

He bounces in the kitchen, (lean to one side)
He bounces in the den, (lean to the other side)
He bounces in the living room,
Look! There he goes again!

Boing! Boing! Squeak
Boing! Boing! Squeak
A bouncing mouse is in my house.
He's been here for a week.



Here Is a Nest

Here is a nest for a robin
(cup both hands)
Here is a hive for a bee,
(fists together)
Here is a hole for a bunny,
(finger and thumb make a circle)
And here is a house for me!
(fingertips together over head make a roof)

Home "Chores"

Children often love helping with chores around the house. Invite your child to help sort and match socks. Tie up a piece of sturdy twine or string for a laundry line and add clothes pins for hanging matched socks. Have a junk drawer that needs organizing? Use small boxes or egg cartons for sorting items like paper clips and pennies.

Incorporate math into their play by asking questions like: How many blue socks are there? Do we have more rubber bands or twisty ties? Can you line up the pencils from biggest to smallest? Can you sort the Tupperware lids into circles and rectangles?

Tea Party

Invite your favorite stuffed animals to a tea party. Decorate the table or go picnic style on a blanket and enjoy the finest teas and pastries your child has to offer. Don't forget to sing "I'm a Little Tea Pot" and stick out your pinky!

Little Helper

Include your child in household chores like sweeping the floor, stirring a bowl of pancake batter, and shoveling snow. Kids want nothing more than to emulate their grown ups!



Make a Puppet

Can you make a selfie puppet? Glue a paper oval to the bottom of your bag for a head and invite your child to look in the mirror before adding eyes, a nose, mouth and maybe some yarn for hair.



Jim West Puppets

Playtime

Delight in dramatic play and make your house a home with your child.

Virtual Early Literacy Class

Join ImaginELF's Becca and Ellie for an Early Literacy Class filmed at the Conrad Mansion!
tinyurl.com/ConradStories

Tiny Dollhouse

Grown ups and kids can work together to create a tiny dollhouse using a small cardboard box and household items for furniture. What will you use for a tiny bed? Add tiny toys and let the storytelling begin!

