

# Words that *Cook!* Parenting with children's books™

DVD Viewing & Workshop Guide

Show 9:  
The Art of Storytelling

[www.WordsThatCook.org](http://www.WordsThatCook.org)

## About Words That Cook, LLC

Words That Cook, LLC is an award-winning educational media company producing and delivering innovative literacy resources that empower parents and educators to inspire and motivate children. Our products and services include educational television programming and DVDs, Web resources, accredited courseware and training, and family literacy publications.

## About Words that *Cook!* Parenting with children's books™

Originating as a 13-part series broadcast on select PBS affiliates and on public access cable stations nationwide, *Words that Cook! Parenting with children's books* is the winner of the *International Reading Association 2005 Broadcast Media Award for Television* and is now available in DVD format.

This series celebrates the joy of reading, the art of writing, the wonder of storytelling and the magic of wordplay through a combination of interviews and live action spiced up with animated fun.

Professionals, experts, parents and children model and discuss enjoyable and practical techniques for enriching literacy experiences. Designed for educators and parents of children ages 0-12, each DVD includes an original 30-minute episode, comprised of five or six related segments, plus bonus guest material and messages from the executive producers.

## About this Viewing & Workshop Guide

This guide is designed to help you get the most out of the DVD, whether you are nurturing family literacy in your home, center or school.

With the guide, you can review the many family literacy suggestions presented throughout the show, read summaries of recommended books and engage in suggested activities.

If you are a professional planning workshops for others, you'll find helpful show overview and summary information as well as appropriate discussion prompts for both parent workshops and professional staff development.

The grade levels specified for each DVD chapter and extra indicate the grades to which the topics and modeled strategies apply. When children are featured, the *italicized* grade level indicates the range into which those children fall. If other grade levels are also listed, the topics and modeled strategies are appropriate for these grades as well.

By watching, discussing and using the strategies modeled in the show, we hope you and your family, or the families you serve, will be empowered to create dynamic and exciting reading and writing experiences for children.

## Summary of Show 9: The Art of Storytelling

Stories can be found all around us and within us. The guests on this show demonstrate how to tell stories that spring from artwork, book and movie characters, recalled childhood experiences and folk tales. They also show how easily you can enhance storytelling with gestures, voices, facial expressions and even other languages.

### Show 9 Outline

#### Show Intro (length – 1:26)

In the Words that *Cook!* virtual art studio, hosts Monty Haas and Martine Bernard introduce the theme of this show: *The Art of Storytelling*.

**Book(s):** *The Dot* by Peter H. Reynolds

#### Chapter 1: Collaborative Art, Storytelling and Writing (length – 4:48)

**Guest(s):** Peter H. Reynolds, FableVision Founder and Children’s Book Author/Illustrator

**Location:** The Blue Bunny Shop and FableVision Studio

**Grade Level(s):** Pre-Kindergarten; *Kindergarten – Grade 2*; *Grades 3 – 6*

**Topic(s):** blank books as an invitation to create; children and adults working collaboratively on creative writing projects; transcribing children’s dictated stories; starting stories with pictures; parents sharing stories of their childhood experiences; turning oral stories into written stories; making storytelling an interactive experience; using character voices; role-playing stories; introducing and enhancing stories with real-life activities

**Modeled Strategies:** demonstrating artistic techniques; reading aloud with groups of children; making stories interactive; role-playing stories; incorporating art activities into reading aloud; encouraging children with praise

#### **Recipes for Success™:**

Invite children to create with blank books

Try collaborative stories and art

Use cuttings from magazines to illustrate stories

Consider starting stories with pictures

Keep story messages simple

Tell stories about yourself as a child

Use old photographs as inspiration

Write down the stories you tell

Have fun with stories – use voices and role-play

Extend story themes with real-life activities

## Chapter 2: Fostering Storytelling (length – 1:49)

**Guest(s):** Bill Doucette, Dad

**Location:** The Blue Bunny Shop

**Grade Level(s):** Pre-Kindergarten; *Kindergarten – Grade 2*; Grades 3 – 6

**Topic(s):** creating games and art projects based on stories; using puppets in storytelling; enjoying reading aloud and storytelling

**Recipes for Success:**

Create games based on stories

Use favorite childhood interests to foster storytelling

Don't forget, having fun is contagious

## Chapter 3: Books and Cooking Activities (length – 2:16)

**Guest(s):** Elizabeth Hetzler, Mom

**Location:** The Blue Bunny Shop

**Grade Level(s):** Pre-Kindergarten; Kindergarten – Grade 2; *Grades 3 – 6*

**Topic(s):** establishing a family tradition of reading aloud; expanding stories with related follow-up activities; combining books, related activities and imagination; learning academic and life skills through cooking

**Book(s):** *Pretend Soup and Other Real Recipes: A Cookbook for Preschoolers & Up* and *The New Enchanted Broccoli Forest* by Mollie Katzen

**Recipes for Success:**

Read together and discuss stories from day one

When food is part of a story, try extending the story with cooking

Remember, fun activities can help children learn vital skills

## Chapter 4: Art as a Springboard to Story (length – 1:52)

**Guest(s):** Laurie Joy Haas, Words that Cook! Executive Producer, with Honey the Cookie-Bookie Bear™

**Location:** The Words that Cook! Virtual Den

**Grade Level(s):** Pre-Kindergarten; Kindergarten – Grade 2

**Topic(s):** telling stories through pictures; discussing children's artwork; captioning children's drawings with their descriptions or explanations; asking questions to show interest and keep stories going

**Modeled Strategies:** asking questions to show interest and keep stories going; respecting children's input

**Recipes for Success:**

Let children tell stories through pictures

Discuss pictures and use children's words for captions

Ask questions to keep stories going

## Chapter 5: Spontaneous Family Storytelling (length – 4:20)

**Guest(s):** Luis Gonzalez and his 7-year-old daughter

**Location:** Wellesley Free Library

**Grade Level(s):** Pre-Kindergarten; *Kindergarten – Grade 2*; Grades 3 – 6

**Topic(s):** originating and telling stories in one's first language; incorporating humor into storytelling; repeating favorite original stories; establishing bedtime routine of storytelling and reading aloud; making up stories based on familiar characters; using storytelling to teach lessons; ideas for getting started with storytelling; making storytelling an interactive experience; asking for and respecting children's input

**Modeled Strategies:** parents engaging with children in playtime and oral communication; doing lapsit storytelling; making up stories based on familiar characters; asking questions when storytelling; relating stories to real life; making storytelling an interactive experience; asking for and respecting children's input; enjoying storytelling

### **Recipes for Success:**

Integrate your first language into storytelling

Tell stories when children are relaxed and comfortable

Try using characters children know as story starters

Consider incorporating lessons into stories

Let children build stories with you

## Chapter 6: The Magic of Storytelling (length – 6:03)

**Guest(s):** Bonnie Greenberg, M.S., Professional Storyteller

**Location:** SMOC Child Care/Head Start Center

**Grade Level(s):** Pre-Kindergarten; *Kindergarten – Grade 2*; Grades 3 – 6

**Topic(s):** answering questions with stories and having children repeat them; vital role grandparents can play in children's literacy development; using repetition in storytelling to encourage participation; putting information in story form to increase retention; storytelling as "theater of the face"; group storytelling games; books with storytelling resources and exercises; creating a ritual around storytelling

**Modeled Strategies:** incorporating gestures, character voices, facial expressions, humor, song and more into storytelling; making storytelling an interactive experience; enunciating and making eye contact when storytelling; enjoying storytelling

**Book(s):** *Bringing the Story Home: The Complete Guide to Storytelling for Parents* by Lisa Lipkin

### **Recipes for Success:**

Try repeating phrases and gestures in stories

Vary facial expressions, voices, pace and volume

Provide opportunities for children to participate

Try group storytelling games

Look for books with storytelling ideas and exercises

Create a ritual around storytelling

## Show Recap/Close (length – 2:45)

Hosts Monty Haas and Martine Bernard review selected Recipes for Success and present the Recommended Book List.

## Extra 1: A Word from Our Producers (length – 3:15)

**Guest(s):** Monty Haas and Laurie Joy Haas, Words that Cook! Executive Producers

**Topic(s):** overview of show content and guests; using art as a springboard to writing; using blank books; parental involvement in writing, reading, storytelling and related activities; storytelling in one's first language

## Extra 2: More Peter H. Reynolds – “How Teachers Can Inspire” (length – 3:55)

**Guest(s):** Peter H. Reynolds, FableVision Founder and Children's Book Author/Illustrator

**Grade Level(s):** All Levels

**Topic(s):** story of a teacher who motivated Peter by encouraging him to connect art and math; the importance of teachers noticing, celebrating and challenging students to use their abilities to their full potential

## Extra 3: More Peter H. Reynolds – “Talking & Drawing Together” (length – 1:21)

**Guest(s):** Peter H. Reynolds, FableVision Founder and Children's Book Author/Illustrator

**Grade Level(s):** Pre-Kindergarten; Kindergarten – Grade 2; Grades 3 – 6

**Topic(s):** turning off the television; family mealtime conversation; parents and children engaging in art together; overcoming fears about making “mistakes” in art; finding opportunities in “mistakes”

## Extra 4: More Peter H. Reynolds – “Breaking the Rules” (length – 1:45)

**Guest(s):** Peter H. Reynolds, FableVision Founder and Children's Book Author/Illustrator

**Grade Level(s):** Pre-Kindergarten; Kindergarten – Grade 2; Grades 3 – 6

**Topic(s):** not being intimidated by the “rules” of art; overcoming being “artistically challenged”; being careful about messages conveyed to children; art doesn't have to be perfect; honoring children's and parent's art

## Extra 5: More Bill Doucette – “Fostering Imagination through Books” (length – 2:48)

**Guest(s):** Bill Doucette, Dad

**Grade Level(s):** Pre-Kindergarten; Kindergarten – Grade 2; Grades 3 – 6

**Topic(s):** jumping into the child's world to foster imagination; discussing books; establishing bedtime routine of reading aloud; observing children's reactions when reading aloud and noting what excites them; choosing books and stories that reflect children's artwork; discussing concepts from books during other activities

**Book(s):** *Ish* by Peter H. Reynolds

## Extra 6: More Bonnie Greenberg – “The Little Apple Tree” (length – 6:22)

**Guest(s):** Bonnie Greenberg, M.S., Professional Storyteller

**Grade Level(s):** Pre-Kindergarten; *Kindergarten – Grade 2*; Grades 3 – 6

**Topic(s):** introducing and telling a folk tale: “The Little Apple Tree”

**Modeled Strategies:** introducing a story; incorporating gestures, character voices, facial expressions, humor and more into storytelling; enunciating and making eye contact when storytelling; pausing during storytelling to let audience supply words or phrases; asking questions of audience when storytelling; having audience contribute sound effects when storytelling; encouraging children with praise; providing concrete examples of concepts being discussed

## Extra 7: More Bonnie Greenberg – “Twiddle-Dum Thumb” (length – 3:04)

**Guest(s):** Bonnie Greenberg, M.S., Professional Storyteller

**Grade Level(s):** All Levels

**Topic(s):** having basic story structure “in the palm of your hand”; “Twiddle-Dum Thumb”; the “Thinking Pinky”; extending storytelling with reflection, discussion and follow-up activities

## Extra 8: More Bonnie Greenberg – “Storytelling Sources” (length – 1:11)

**Guest(s):** Bonnie Greenberg, M.S., Professional Storyteller

**Grade Level(s):** All Levels

**Topic(s):** exploring the library; section 398.2 – folktales from around the world; adapting folktales and picture books for storytelling

## Show 9 Recommended Book List

### For Ages 0 to 3:

#### Do Your Ears Hang Low?

Illustrated by Caroline Jayne Church

Two adorable puppies with long, floppy ears become friends and romp about together, bringing to life the words of this classic children's tune. Caroline Jayne Church's illustrations reflect the joy and playfulness of the little pups with a child's spirit. The center foldout pages add an extra element of pleasure. At the close of the book, you will find an illustrated fingerplay of the song demonstrating motions you and your children can do. With expressive adjectives like low and high, verbs like wobble and wrinkle, children will increase vocabulary in an enjoyable way.

## **Give the Dog a Bone**

Written and Illustrated by Steven Kellogg

Young children are sure to delight in this fanciful reworking of a century-old song as it subtly teaches counting skills with great humor and imagination. After the traditional first verse, Steven Kellogg takes the tune in a whole new direction with the inclusion of hens, chicks, bees and even raptors. You will also find comical commentary from the human and animal characters, all drawn with great detail and bright colors. At the beginning of each verse, attention is drawn to the highlighted number through its numeral character and the appropriate number of bones. At the close of the book, Kellogg provides a note about the song (suggesting accompanying actions and motions), lists the 13 different dog breeds represented and encourages readers to "Count all the dogs!"

### **For Ages 3 to 6:**

## **I Know a Shy Fellow Who Swallowed a Cello**

Written by Barbara S. Garriel

Illustrated by John O'Brien

This entertaining and fantastical adaptation of the folk rhyme and song, *There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly*, will generate laughter and glee for children and parents alike. As one shy fellow proceeds to swallow not just a cello, but also a harp, a sax, a fiddle and four other musical instruments, the suspense builds. What will happen to this man whose belly can hardly hold much more? The climax is both exciting and funny as musicians and one lone cat anxiously await the return of their instruments. Repetition is built into and expands with each verse, encouraging children to join in the fun and echo the cyclical refrain. John O'Brien's illustrations add an irresistible flair of wit and wackiness.

## **Tell Me One Thing, Dad**

Written by Tom Pow

Illustrated by Ian Andrew

When Dad's bedtime story doesn't quite put Molly to sleep, she extends her time awake with a game they have clearly played before. Molly asks Dad to tell her just one thing about each of a variety of animals (including one she makes up). Dad follows her lead, confirming he knows which animal she's talking about before revealing the most important thing he knows about it. As it turns out, that one most important thing is the same for all of the animals and for Dad himself. All the while, Molly learns about the animals and about her father's love. Through this charming and endearing story, Tom Pow shows us just how easily we can initiate special time with children and make sure they understand how much we love them.

### **For Ages 6 to 9:**

## **Into the Forest**

Written and Illustrated by Anthony Browne

A boy awakens with a fright one night and finds his father gone the next morning. Mom doesn't seem to know where Dad is or when he'll return. She asks her son to deliver a cake to his sick grandmother, but warns him not to go into the forest. Wanting to make the trip quickly, in case his father comes back, the boy takes the forbidden shortcut. Along the way, he encounters characters, scenery and clothing reminiscent of fairy tales. The forest grows darker and colder. Will the boy make it safely to Grandma's house? And if he does, who or what will he find waiting there?

This modern story plays with familiar themes and characters in an ingenious way. If you and your children closely explore the forest, you will find hidden elements that provide clues to the identities of the characters the boy meets. Can you guess who the characters are and what stories are being referenced?

## **The Story Tree: Tales to Read Aloud**

Retold by Hugh Lupton

Illustrated by Sophie Fatus

The retellings of the seven tales in this collection are enchanting and impart simple, universal life lessons that children can carry with them for years to come. The quirky and humorous illustrations by Sophie Fatus immediately engage the reader and draw you into this world of folklore. The stories hail from a variety of cultures, including Indian, African American and Jewish, but parents and young readers might notice similarities to stories from other traditions and peoples. One of the great implicit lessons of this book is the fact that there is more that connects us than separates us across cultural and racial lines. The rhythm and repetition in the tales, along with the messages they convey, provide endless opportunities for participation, role-playing, discussion and more.

## **You Read to Me, I'll Read to You: Very Short Fairy Tales to Read Together**

Written by Mary Ann Hoberman

Illustrated by Michael Emberley

Intended for reading aloud in pairs, this book is a fantastic interactive storytelling tool. There are concise, rhyming versions of eight well-known fairy tales, as well as an introduction to set the stage and an ending rhyme to celebrate the experience and anticipate more reading aloud together. The tales – ranging from *The Princess and the Pea* to *The Three Little Pigs* – are presented in new and amusing depictions, and the lines of text are ordered and color-coded for two voices to read aloud separately or in unison. Michael Emberley's illustrations add a comical and fanciful flavor. Each tale ends with some form of the same refrain: "You read to me! I'll read to you!"

## **For Ages 9 to 12:**

### **All the World's a Stage**

Written by Rebecca Piatt Davidson

Illustrated by Anita Lobel

Told in the style of *The House That Jack Built*, this is an inspired book for acquainting children with the world of William Shakespeare. It begins with an introduction to young William and his muse. A gathering then builds as we meet characters from *Hamlet*, *The Tempest*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and six other plays. Anita Lobel's lush, rich paintings include brilliant costumes and scenery. The characters we've met and those we are being introduced to stand with William and his muse on the left page. On the right page, a composite scene from each play is depicted along with the title and a quote from the work. At the end of the book, Rebecca Piatt Davidson provides a brief biography of Shakespeare, and Lobel includes a note about her illustrations. Additionally, the composite scene from each play appears again with a concise synopsis and a numbered guide to the characters.

### **America, My New Home**

Poems by Monica Gunning

Illustrated by Ken Condon

A little girl finds herself in a new country far from her Jamaican home. As she struggles with a range of emotions – from excitement to fear – she finds a way to let out her feelings: She writes poetry. Settling into life in America, she encounters for the first time such wonders as skyscrapers and city lights, the nation's capital, a symphony concert, a library and the changing seasons. By the time winter and her first snow arrive, she has come to accept America as her new home, "...a land where hope glows, a beacon / guiding ocean-deep dreamers / from storm surfs to shore."

Although especially wonderful for aspiring poets and recent immigrants, *America, My New Home* is an important book for all children. It provides a fresh perspective on the U.S. and on many things we might take for granted. It also reveals how difficult it can be to find one's place in a new setting, and hopefully encourages compassion and understanding.

## **William Shakespeare's Twelfth Night**

Retold by Bruce Coville

Illustrated by Tim Raglin

Young Viola survives a shipwreck to find herself alone in a strange land. In need of work, she disguises herself as a man named Cesario and joins the court of Duke Orsino. Orsino loves the maiden Olivia, but Olivia does not return his favor. Viola falls in love with Orsino, but is repeatedly sent as a messenger of his love for Olivia. Thinking her a man, Olivia falls for "Cesario." To further confuse the situation, Olivia's twin Sebastian surfaces after being thought killed in the wreck. Olivia mistakes Sebastian for "Cesario," and the two are married. What will happen when it is revealed that Sebastian is not "Cesario," that Viola loves Orsino and that Viola is actually a woman?

In his retelling, Bruce Coville stays true to the spirit, plot and subplots of the original play. He interweaves his own elegant prose with Shakespeare's words to convey the hilarity of this love triangle (or rectangle or pentagon). Tim Raglin's pen-and-ink illustrations are meticulous and appropriately humorous. This delightful adaptation is sure to captivate young readers as they venture into the world of Shakespeare. As Coville says, "this is not meant as a replacement for the original, but as an appetizer for the greater feast still to come."

### **For Parents:**

#### **More Ready-to-Tell Tales from Around the World**

Edited by David Holt and Bill Mooney

This anthology features 45 multicultural stories in "ready-to-tell" formats that have been adapted and selected by professional storytellers. The tales are drawn from African, Asian, European, North American and South American cultures and are organized into thematic categories like Comic Tales, Served With a Twist and Wheel of Fortune. The origin of each tale and the recommended audience age are noted, along with a brief introduction by the contributing storyteller. Explicit tips for telling the tales are also included. Although the stories can be told exactly as they are presented, the editors encourage you to tell the tales in your own words infused with your individual personality. At the close of the book is an index of the tales by cultural origin as well as an index by recommended audience age.

The "prequel" anthology edited by Holt and Mooney is *Ready-to-Tell Tales: Sure-Fire Stories from America's Favorite Storytellers*. This collection also features more than 40 tales from a wide variety of cultures contributed by renowned storytellers.

#### **More Story S-T-R-E-T-C-H-E-R-S: More Activities to Expand Children's Favorite Books**

Written by Shirley C. Raines and Robert J. Canady

In this ingenious and inspiring book you will find storyline descriptions and suggestions for presentations of 90 children's books (both classics and new favorites) along with suggested extension activities for each book. While written primarily for parents and teachers of children in second grade or below, the activities are appropriate and adaptable for older children as well. The books and creative activities are organized into 18 theme groups such as Families; Colors and Poems, Chants, Rhythms and Rhymes. Within each theme, four or five related books are recommended. For each book, there is a summary, a circle time presentation for classrooms (can be applied to reading aloud at home) and "stretchers" that involve activities across various curricula, ranging from art to cooking to math and more. A closing index lists all authors and illustrators, titles, activities and terms referenced. By using the ideas in this book, you will enhance reading with your children "with active hands-on learning which connects 'child and story and curriculum'" in ways that are meaningful and vital to their development.

There are four other books in the *Story S-T-R-E-T-C-H-E-R-S* series, each featuring different children's books. One volume focuses on infants and toddlers, while two focus on the primary grades.

## The Storyteller's Start-Up Book: Finding, Learning, Performing and Using Folktales

Written by Margaret Read MacDonald

Margaret Read MacDonald is a children's librarian who tells stories to thousands of children each year. She has also done storytelling workshops throughout the U.S. and in Europe and New Zealand. Her book combines tips, techniques and resources that promote enhanced storytelling experiences. She outlines nine steps – from selection to evaluation – for learning a story in just one hour. A chapter on performance tips details how to set the stage; engage the audience; use pacing, body movement and gestures and learn to relax. Playing with stories through audience participation, use of music and expansion with follow-up activities is also explained. Each chapter ends with a bibliography of other resources on the topic. Margaret Read MacDonald also provides resources for finding stories and accounts for the value of storytelling. The book closes with 12 tried and tested stories, each followed by information about the story's origin and evolution, and some with specific tips for telling.

### Suggested Literacy Activities

Check out local listings for professional storytelling events and attend as a class or as a family. Libraries, bookstores and community organizations typically sponsor such events, often in connection with cultural celebrations and holidays. Consider consulting your local children's librarian, checking event listings in your local paper or "Googling" the phrase 'storytelling events' and the name of your state and/or city to find listings online.

Remember, storytelling isn't just for professionals! Whether you're a parent, teacher, grandparent, babysitter or some other type of caregiver, you can tell stories to engage children, to create a lasting connection with stories and to impact children's literacy development at all levels.

To get started, try telling stories spontaneously. Make the telling a collaborative adventure. For now, the flow of the story and enhancements like gestures are not as important, so feel free to pause and ask children for their input to keep the story going. Try to interject character voices, facial expressions and more when comfortable. Whenever a telling goes particularly well, write it down.

To explore online resources for multicultural storytelling, visit Absolutely Whootie Stories to Grow By ([www.storiestogrowby.com](http://www.storiestogrowby.com)) and click on Folk & Fairy Tales from Around the World that Help Kids Grow. Also, in the Story Library section of [www.storyarts.org](http://www.storyarts.org), check out the links for Stories in a Nutshell – very brief multicultural folk tales – and Aesop's ABC – more than 25 selected fables. And don't forget to use your local library as a resource. Explore section 398.2 to find folk tales from all over the world. Sample stories from different cultures and authors.

Read *Ish* by Peter H. Reynolds with children ages 4 and up. Discuss the "Ish" concept broadly – applying it to art, writing and other imaginative pursuits in a way that encourages children to create freely without getting hung up on any preconceived notion of perfection or realism. Experience shows us that often by the third and fourth grade, children begin to downgrade their artistic and creative talents and they carry this into adulthood. While often categorized as a book for children ages 4 to 8, consider using *Ish* with children in middle school (and even sharing it with other adults) so everyone learns to respect their own and others' creativity.

Pick up some blank books at a local bookstore or art store. Be sure to choose those that have blank covers as well as blank internal pages. Use these books to inspire preschool, school age and middle school children to originate stories. Try a variety of approaches to generate story ideas, like: talking about a recent experience, outing or trip; having children recall a favorite memory or a classroom or family story; discussing familiar characters from books or movies and having children put characters into new situations. Once children come up with basic story ideas, let them start with pictures if that is their inclination and if it seems to help them develop their stories. They can even create the book cover image first, or save that for last – whatever works for them. With older children, suggest that they can sketch out story ideas on scrap paper first if that’s helpful. With pre-writers, ask them to dictate the text or captions and transcribe their words into the books for them. With children of any age, if they get stuck, discuss what they’ve written so far and ask questions that prompt them to continue. Consider creating your own storybook to set an example of storytelling and writing. Be sure to honor the resulting storybooks by creating a special place and/or event through which the books can be shared.

## Additional Words That Cook Resources

Words That Cook develops resources for professionals and parents that help to motivate and inspire children to learn and to love reading, writing, storytelling and wordplay. At our Web site ([www.WordsThatCook.org](http://www.WordsThatCook.org)) under Free Resources, you will find valuable information derived from the television series, including activity and additional reading ideas connected to each recommended book. Also at the Marketplace of our site, you can learn more about our other literacy-related products and services.

## For Professionals

### Discussion prompts and group activity ideas for teacher/staff workshops

Discuss various techniques for engaging children in storytelling and which techniques would work best in your classroom.

Select and discuss some of the modeled strategies and Recipes for Success.

Separate into small groups of participants. Give each group a different picture book, or ask each group to choose a familiar story. Have each group create a game for classroom use based on the book or story. Share the games with the whole group.

### Discussion prompts and group activity ideas for parent workshops

Discuss the different types of stories parents can tell about their own childhood experiences and what benefits might come from such storytelling. Ask participants if they are willing to share an example.

Select and discuss some of the modeled strategies and Recipes for Success.

Either in small groups or as a whole, distribute a variety of picture books and have each group come up with ideas for introducing, enhancing and/or expanding their books with related activities. Share the activity ideas with the whole group.

*When working with ESL/ELL families, help them to understand the value of learning and applying literacy strategies in their primary language. Encourage them to also apply strategies in English if it is comfortable and if the adult has developed the English language skills to sufficiently challenge their child.*

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