

Making Story Time Special

- Read the book before introducing it to the children so you become familiar with the characters and events, and aware of any possible objectionable incidents in the story.
- Choose a good time to read. It is good to have a regular story time in which both you and the children can look forward to.
- Find a good spot for the story, a comfortable quiet place where you will not be distracted and where you can capture the children's imagination and draw them into the story.
- Make certain the children can see the pictures while you read and have time to comment on them.
- Maintain eye contact. Watch the children as you are reading to them to see if they are bored, excited, or frightened. You may need to liven up the story or calm it down depending on their reaction to the story.
- Pay attention to the way you sound. Change the pitch of your voice when you read, especially when speaking as different characters. Give life to important words. For example, sound scared for the word scared, or tired for the word tired. Change the pace of the reading to suit the mood you are trying to build.