

Storytelling Techniques & Activities



Mr. Wiggle & Mr. Waggle

This is the story of Mr. Wiggle and Mr. Waggle.
Mr. Wiggle lived on the East side of town,
And Mr. Waggle lived on the West side of town.
One day, Mr. Wiggle decided to visit his best friend Mr. Waggle.
So, he opened the door
And he came outside, boop!
And he closed the door.

He went up the hill and down the hill
Up the hill and down the hill
Up the hill and down the hill
Until he got to Mr. Waggle's house.
He knocked on the door.
Knock, knock, knock "Mr. Waggle?! Can you come out and play?"
No Mr. Waggle!

So he went up the hill and down the hill
Up the hill and down the hill
Up the hill and down the hill
Until he got to his house.
He opened the door
And he went inside, boop!
And he closed the gate.

Later, Mr. Waggle decided he would go visit Mr. Wiggle. (repeat the same story for Mr. Waggle)
Well, pretty soon Mr. Wiggle decided to go see Mr. Waggle.
So, they opened their doors!
And they came outside, boop!
And they closed their doors!
And they went up the hill and down the hill
Up the hill and down the hill
Up the hill and down the hill
Until all of a sudden they saw each other!
They said, "Hi Mr. Waggle," and "Hi Mr. Wiggle"
And they talked and talked and talked until it was time to say "Goodbye".
And they went up the hill and down the hill
Up the hill and down the hill
Up the hill and down the hill
Until they got to their homes!
They opened their doors!
They went inside, boop!
And they closed their doors.
Now, you know the story of Mr. Wiggle and Mr. Waggle.
The End.

Storytelling Tips

Discover the right story to tell:

look for stories that are age-appropriate, find stories that you love and believe in, check picture books written for different age levels, collect stories from family, friends, and community create your own stories.

Learn the story:

by reading it several times, by breaking it into a beginning, middle, and end.

Retell the story many times:

listen to yourself telling the story, tape-record your version, practice telling the story to family and friends.

Speak naturally:

use your normal speaking voice, use sound effects- such as unusual voice and story sounds, sparingly. Use simple, natural gestures- add gestures when they add to the story, but don't overuse them.

Polish the story:

by telling it, retelling it, and retelling it.

Introducing a book:

"The title of the book is____"

"The author of the book is____" - then ask the children "what does the author do?"

"The illustrator is____" then ask the children "what does the illustrator do?"

If this is a first reading, do a picture walk and let the children tell you what they think the book is about.

Then read the book and discuss if what they had predicted about the book was correct.

Lastly, make the books accessible to the children in the Library Center.

Puppets

Puppets:

Pick one that visits on certain days or at storytime.

Voice:

Create a voice for your puppet.

Etiquette:

Puppets should not be allowed to fight!

House:

Give your puppet a place to live.

Props

Use props for your story, such as “The Old Lady That Swallowed A Fly” or “The Very Hungry Caterpillar” etc.

Activities

Extend the story by incorporating activities that go along with the story, such as:

“Harold And The Purple Crayon”

science: mix colors blue and red to make purple.

art: use purple crayon to create, ____”(child’s name) And The Purple Crayon”

dramatic play: add purple items to play with.

lunch time: use purple plates, cups, napkins, etc.

Our Favorite Book List

“Everybody Poops” by Taro Gomi

“What Color Is Your Underwear” by Sam Lloyd

“The Very Hungry Caterpillar” by Eric Carle

“Walter The Farting Dog” by William Kotzwinkle and Glenn Murray

“Little Blue And Little Yellow” by Leo Lionni

“Five Little Monkeys” by Eileen Christelow

“Stand Back” Said The Elephant, “I’m Going To Sneeze” by Patricia Thomas

“The Napping House” by Audrey Wood