

# Sharing stories together

Children love spending time looking at books with adults. It makes a big difference to their futures to **spend 10 minutes a day sharing a story**. There are no right or wrong ways to read out loud but sometimes it can be tricky to know where to begin. Here are a few tips and ideas to get you started:



- **I wonder...**

Ask open questions about how characters are feeling or what might happen next or why things are in the illustration.

- **Bring the book to life...**

Make faces, use voices, include actions – have fun together!

- **That reminds me of...**

Make personal connections.

- **What have you seen there?**

Follow their interests.

- **That's made me feel...**

Let your child know how the events of the story have affected you.

- **Oo look at that!**

Let them know what you have noticed.

- **Again, again...**

Re-reading is a great source of comfort for children – and a chance to spot things that you didn't see first time round. Challenge yourself to spot something new each time.



This guide is based on the work of The Open University. For further tips and advice on how to enjoy sharing and reading stories together, visit their website [here](https://ourfp.org/supporting-rah/book-chat-reading-with-your-child/) for helpful videos and resources.



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