



Story Power - Bring it home

Getting started: Share a story!

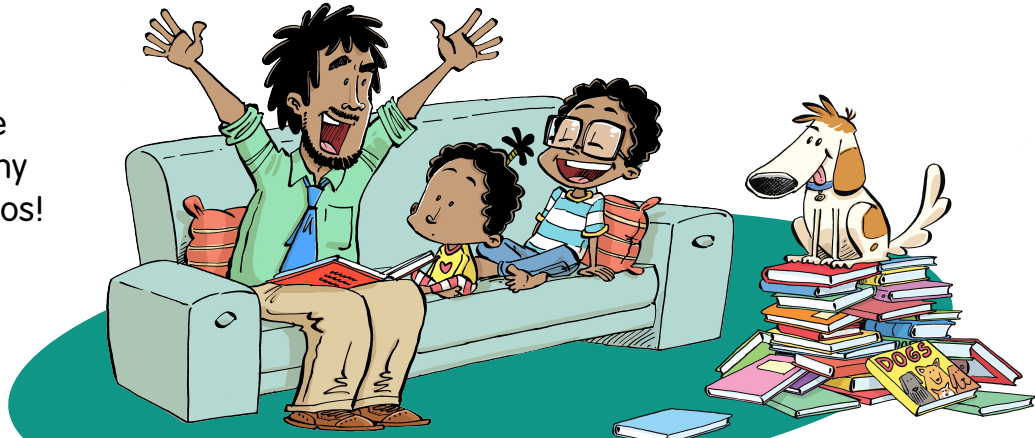
The most important thing to do when you read to children is to enjoy yourself because if you do, they will learn that reading is a pleasurable activity. There are no correct or incorrect ways to read to children, but here are some of our tips for sharing books together.

When?

1. Share stories at times when your children find it easy to settle down, like after bath time or just before they go to sleep at night.
2. Younger children or children who are tired often find it difficult to concentrate for long periods of time, so don't read for too long.

Where?

1. Find a quiet, comfortable place to read. Turn off any computers, TVs and radios!



TELL US YOUR STORY

How have books and stories shaped your life and your children's lives? Have they helped you to explain a difficult situation to your child? Or has discovering a favourite story encouraged your children to read and helped improve their reading at school? Tell us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/nalibaliSA) or Twitter (www.twitter.com/nalibaliSA) using the hashtag #StoryPower and we could feature how stories have made an impact on your life in the Nalibali reading-for-enjoyment supplement or on our website.

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How?

1. Sit close to each other so that you can both easily see the pictures and words on the page.
2. Start by reading the name of the author (and illustrator) so children appreciate that books are created by people just like them!
3. Read with as much expression as you can – your children will appreciate it!
4. Find ways to draw them into the story as you read. For example, ask them what they think might happen next, discuss one of the pictures or ask them to turn the pages for you.
5. Deepen their understanding by asking, “What does that remind you of?”, “Why do you think she did that?” and “What would you have done?” Questions like these help to connect stories to children’s lives and help them to discover how stories work.
6. If your children ask you to read a story again ... and again, do it! They will discover new things about the story each time. As they get to know the stories better, invite them to read along with you.
7. Once your children can read, don’t stop reading to them! Choose books that are more difficult and complex than the ones they can read on their own. When you are reading chapter books together, read one or two chapters every day or find another place to stop that will make your children want to come back for more tomorrow!



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