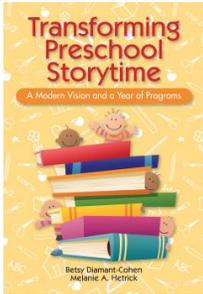


# Transforming Preschool Storytime

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*A new approach to storytime incorporates recent theories on developmental learning and how children's brains work. According to this research, the best way to make new connections in the brain is by building on something already known. A child who loves a book will listen to it repeatedly, maintaining interest. Using a selected book in a number of consecutive preschool storytimes by presenting it differently each time can help children learn new skill sets. Employing repetition with variety expands the story experience, helping children to connect and engage with the story on a higher level through activities specifically designed to address multiple intelligences. The child's experience with that book then becomes much richer.*

## 1. What is a typical preschool storytime?

- 30 minute program for children from ages 3-5
- Used as a platform for introducing children to new books
- Often built around themes, which results in different materials being used each week
- Frequently have repeating starting and ending rituals

## 2. What are different ways that children learn?

- Using the five senses
- Using multiple intelligences
- By applying life skills
- Through scaffolding

## 3. What is the value of repetition?

- Librarian becomes facilitator rather than performer
- Familiarity creates fondness
- Learning is easier when the material is familiar

## 4. How can a book be repeated in different ways?

- Show illustrations, but "tell" the story rather than reading it
- Have the children act out the story
- Create an art project that is related to the story
- "Interview" characters from the book
- Retell the story from different character's point of view
- Dance sections of the story
- Do a science experiment or magic trick related to the story
- Build a "set" where they story can take place
- Use puppets or flannel board characters to retell the story

## 5. Activity

- Choose a book
- Talk about ways in which it can be used
- Write down 6 ways to present it
- List the corresponding skills that each activity helps to develop

# Activity

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Author: \_\_\_\_\_ Illustrator: \_\_\_\_\_

## Describe 6 ways to present the book:

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Choose a school Readiness Skill:

- Approach to learning
- General knowledge
- Physical development & Health
- Personal & Social Development
- Language & Literacy

### Choose an EECR skill

- Oral language
- Phonological awareness
- Vocabulary
- Letter knowledge
- Print awareness/ Conventions
- Background knowledge/ Narrative skills

### Choose a 21<sup>st</sup> century skill

- Critical thinking & Problem solving
- Creativity & innovation
- Communication & Collaboration
- Cross-disciplinary thinking
- Perspective taking
- Taking on challenges
- Self-directed/engaged learning
- Teamwork
- Persistence
- Focus and self-control
- Citizenship
- Personal & social responsibility
- Information and communications technology

## List the skills developed in each of the 6 presentations:

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_