

New Twists on Storytime

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<https://infopeople.org/civicrm/event/info?reset=1&id=594>

Useful Websites for Planning Storytime Special Events

Stay and Play Storytimes

[Melissa and Doug](#)

www.melissaanddoug.com

For your Stay and Play storytimes, the Melissa and Doug company is a great resource for educational toys, including wooden puzzles, trains, puppets, stacking and sorting toys, and other age-appropriate non-commercial toys.

[Fat Brain Toys](#)

www.fatbraintoys.com

Looking for learning toys that appeal to children with special needs (and all children)? Fat Brain Toys is a great resource for all types of learning toys, including adaptive toys for children with disabilities.

[BayViews Storytime Themes](#)

www.bayviews.org/storytime.html

From the Association of Children's Librarians of Northern California. A blog that contains a section on storytime, with two new themes every month.

[West Bloomfield Township Public Library](#)

www.growupreading.org/

This library's "Growing Up Reading" site is a great place to start, to learn why we need to offer storytimes, advice for parents, booklists, information on child development, phonemic and print awareness, and other factors important for emergent readers.

[Everything Preschool](#)

www.everythingpreschool.com/

Arranged by themes, these lesson plans include books! In fact, the book jackets are shown so you can see which picture books you might have and which may carry well to a group. Under each theme there are also songs, coloring pages, art ideas, recipes, games, and science ideas.

[Preschool Express](#)

www.preschoolexpress.com/theme_station.shtml

Thousands of ideas to enliven your storytime, but no books listed. Go to the "Theme Station" for crafts and activities by theme, the "Story Station" for rhymes and stories to tell, the "Toddler Station" for active movement ideas, the "Pattern Station" for craft printables, and more!

[Beyond the Book Storytimes](#)

<http://btbstorytimes.blogspot.com/>

From librarian Steven Englefried, this blog has a wealth of ideas for using puppets in library programs.

[Storytime Katie](#)

<http://storytimekatie.com/>

Katie Salo has been blogging about her storytimes for over five years, and her site has resources for flannelboards, songs and fingerplays, arts and crafts, and much more.

[First School](#)

<http://www.first-school.ws/themes.html>

This site offers many themed outlines that include a craft project; look for those labeled “SP” for Spanish language content.

[Jbrary](#)

<http://jbrary.com/>

For someone who is not musically inclined the Jbrary YouTube channel is very helpful, but they are much more than that. When you need a “pick me up” and refresher course in how to run a storytime, turn to these two ladies.

[Sunflower Storytime](#)

<https://sunflowerstorytime.com/>

Storytime plans, themes, songs, crafts, and many other resources are gathered on this attractive website, created by two children’s librarians.

Yoga Storytimes

[Yoga in My School](#)

<http://yogainmyschool.com/yoga-classroom/yoga-games/>

A yoga teacher offers this blog with easy-to-do ideas for yoga games to play with children.

[BayViews Yoga Storytime](#)

www.bayviews.org/storytime/styoga.html

Visit my blog for an outline of a yoga storytime that is perfect for preschoolers and their caregivers.

[Promote Yoga with a Learning Storytime](#)

<http://www.alsc.ala.org/blog/2016/06/yoga-storytime/>

Stephanie C. Prato and Kristen Hanmer of the Fayetteville Free Library collaborated on this blog post with lots of great suggestions on doing a yoga storytime.

Dance Party Storytimes

[Lakeshore Learning](#)

<http://www.lakeshorelearning.com/>

Lakeshore has everything you need for storytimes, from special rugs to puppets to musical instruments. This is a great resource for scarves, beanbags, and other things you might need for a dance party.

[Kimbo Educational](#)

<http://kimboed.com/>

Kimbo sells music CDs and downloads, with recordings geared for use with scarves, beanbags, preschool dancing, and other music that is perfect for a dance party storytime.

[Kididdles](#)

www.kididdles.com/lyrics/allsongs.html

A great resource for song lyrics to popular preschool songs; some of the lyric pages let you hear the music, too.

[Bussongs](#)

<http://bussongs.com/>

Hundreds of songs and fingerplays are listed on this useful site; many of them have video and audio to help you learn a new song.

[King County Library System Rhymes and Songs](#)

<https://kcls.org/content/>

A wealth of songs and fingerplays are listed on the website for the King County Public Library, WA. Many of these have a video of a librarian performing the song, and all include the lyrics, making it easy to learn new songs.

[Tips for a Successful Music & Movement Program](#)

http://www.alsc.ala.org/blog/2016/06/tips-successful-music-movement-program/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+AlscBlog+%28ALSC+Blog%29

Katie Salo of the Indian Prairie Library offers ten tips on doing a successful music and movement storytime; you can adapt many of her ideas for a dance party storytime.

[Spanish Playground](#)

<http://spanishplayground.net/>

Would you like to add more songs in Spanish to your storytimes, dance parties, and other programming? Check out this website that also has games and printables that encourage children to read Spanish.

Technology Storytime

[Little eLit](#)

<http://littleelit.com/>

Maintained by Cen Campbell. Little eLit began as a blog, but now it is a crowd-sourced network where many children's librarians and child development experts post information about the appropriate use of screen time for preschoolers.

[Tumble Books](#)

<http://www.tumblebooks.com/>

Tumble Books is a very popular library database for online reading for children, packed with popular picture books, chapter books, and nonfiction for preschool through grade 8.

[Book Flix](#)

<http://www.scholastic.com/digital/#book>

Scholastic sponsors Book Flix, an online database of short films and ebooks that will motivate children to read and enjoy popular books.

[Everyday Grooves](#)

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/everyday-grooves/id515990005?mt=8>

This popular app, which is free from the Fred Rogers Center, provides many songs parents and children can sing together.

[Storyline Online](http://www.storylineonline.net/)

<http://www.storylineonline.net/>

If your library doesn't subscribe to either Tumble Books or Book Flix, there is a website you should try. It is provided by the Screen Actors Guild and is free. Celebrities read popular picture books online, showing the illustrations just like librarians do during storytime.

[Chroma Kids](#)

[Super Home Hero](#)

Here are two more free apps provided by the Fred Rogers Center. Both encourage young children to use a tablet device to play a learning game. The content of these apps promotes both play and the creativity involved in writing, even if the child cannot write sentences yet. Often, apps require a child to practice the same fine motor skills used in writing and holding a pencil.

[Children's Technology Review](http://childrenstech.com/)

<http://childrenstech.com/>

This online free journal offers reviews of educational apps and other technology, and a useful blog for those expanding the use of technology in their libraries.

[Commonsense Media's Parent Education Toolkit](http://www.common sense media.org/educators/early-connections)

www.common sense media.org/educators/early-connections

Commonsense Media is a great online resource for parents on how to judge the appropriate use of technology by their children, with handouts, media recommendations, and more.

[Tap, Click, Read](http://www.tapclickread.org/)

<http://www.tapclickread.org/>

Check out this useful resource for children's librarians on media, technology, and brain development in young children.

1,000 Books Before Kindergarten

[Bremen Public Library, Indiana](http://www.cde.state.co.us/cdelib/LibraryDevelopment/YouthServices/1000Books.htm)

www.cde.state.co.us/cdelib/LibraryDevelopment/YouthServices/1000Books.htm

Sandy Krost of the Bremen Public Library in Indiana originated the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten Program. Check out her resources.

[1,000 Books Bloom](http://www.pinterest.com/lochwouters/let-1000-books-bloom/)

www.pinterest.com/lochwouters/let-1000-books-bloom/

Marge Loch-Wouters of La Crosse, Wisconsin has a great Pinterest Page with many "1,000 Books" ideas.

[San Diego County Library 1,000 Books](http://www.sdcl.org/1000books/)

www.sdcl.org/1000books/

A wealth of resources, provided by the San Diego County Library (California), which offers information in Spanish as well as English.