

Make up a story

This handout is intended to support you in guiding your child's development of creativity and imagination. By encouraging your child to imagine, create, and experiment freely, you help foster their self-confidence, problem-solving abilities, and innovative thinking. These skills are valuable tools that will support their growth and success in learning, relationships, and many aspects of everyday life.

Objectives

- Foster the child's creativity and imagination.
- Develop the ability to invent stories, imagine worlds and characters.
- Encourage personal expression through reading-inspired drawing or play.

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- Picture books or a short story.
- Blank paper, pencil crayons.
- Objects or figurines for symbolic play (optional).

Activity steps

- Read a story to the child, focussing on the characters and locations.
- Together discuss, "Who are the characters?" "Where does the story take place?" "What happens?"
- Ask the child to invent a new story using the same characters or new ones.
- The child can draw their story or act it out with toys.
- The parent can write down the child's words to keep a record of the story they create.

Age adaptations

- 0-2 years: Tell simple stories with pictures and practice making the sounds.
- 3-4 years: Encourage the child to invent elements of the story.
- 5 years: Ask the child to tell a whole story that has a start, middle and end.

