

Storytelling Ideas for Parents/Adults

For all ages: can you build a storytelling cubby?

Having a cosy space to share books and stories can make it an even more special bonding time. For ideas see:

<https://publicdocumentcentre.education.tas.gov.au/Documents/0-4-years-Build-a-cubby-Learning-at-home.pdf-Godd>

For ages 2 and up: 'Helicopter' stories! (this challenge is for adults as much as children!)

'Helicopter stories' is a simple process sometimes where the adult writes down the child's story, word for word (this could be just a couple of sentences, or a full page or more!) - you can do this within your cubby! When the story is written, mark out a stage on the floor, and an adult narrates the story, with different children (and any other family members available!) acting out the different characters.

For more details on 'helicopter stories' see:

<https://www.makebelievearts.co.uk/helicopterstorieslettingimaginationfly> –and for how it can and has been done with 2 year olds: <https://www.makebelievearts.co.uk/working-with-two-year-olds>

This process helps children's confidence as they see their ideas come to fruition, their interest in writing as they see the power of the written word, and their imagination, vocabulary and understanding of story structures will develop very quickly. Try it a few times and see how your child's stories develop over time!

Links to audiobooks and online books-

If you have already read all the books in your house and are looking for more stories - there are lots online!

This site has online books in 60 languages: <http://en.childrenslibrary.org/>

This site has lots of free audiobooks <https://www.storynory.com/>

Spotify has lots of playlists of children's books. (you will have to put up with some adverts) eg <https://open.spotify.com/playlist/0oB4OsTkVnUerbU2moieDb>

This site is not audiobooks, but videos of actors reading stories, which are quite nice: <https://www.storylineonline.net/> -

Watch live animals at aquariums and zoos

Lots of aquariums and zoos around the world have opened up their live webcams for you to see - here are just a couple of examples!

Aquarium: <https://www.montereybayaquarium.org/animals/live-cams->

Dublin Zoo: <https://www.dublinozoo.ie/animals/animal-webcams/> -