

Reading and Storytelling – Fun and Educational

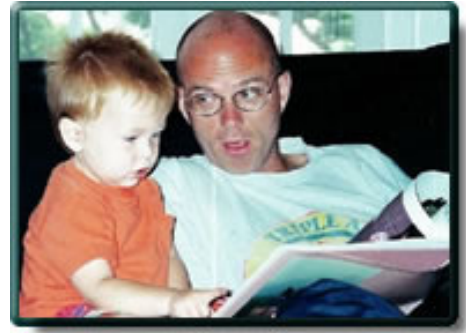
Pre-reading

Questions:

- How is reading and storytelling educational?
- Do you enjoy reading? Why or why not?

Definitions:

- Vocabulary – the words of a language
- Routine – a regular or usual way of doing something



Reading

17 Jeff knew reading to his children was very important. He had been told by his son's doctor,
17 teachers and daycare provider that reading and storytelling helped build children's language skills
30 and developed the brain.

34 Children who hear stories on a regular basis have a wider vocabulary. Children who are
49 read to daily become better readers than those children who are not read to on a daily basis. They
68 also tend to be more successful in school.

76 Jeff was not read to as a child. There were no books in his home. He did not hear any
96 bedtime stories or nursery rhymes, nor did his parents share any family stories. He wanted life for
113 his son to be different.

118 Jeff decided to visit the library. It had a huge selection of children's books. He had also
135 thought of looking for books at thrift stores and garage sales. He found some fun books with
152 colorful pictures. He knew his young son would enjoy short books with big pictures.

166 Jeff's goal was to read ten minutes a day with his son. He knew that if he did it at the same
188 time everyday, it would become a **habit**. It would become part of their daily routine. Bedtime
204 became their reading time. Both Jeff and his son looked forward to being close and sharing a story
222 before bed.

224 Some nights Jeff would tell his own stories. Some were true and some were **fantasy**. His
240 son loved to hear stories of when Dad was a child. Jeff told stories about family trips, family pets,
259 and life with his brothers and sisters.

266 The stories Jeff's son enjoyed most were the made-up silly stories about a little boy named
282 Will (Jeff's son's name) and his friend Duke (Will's stuffed dog). Jeff's son asked for those stories
299 over and over again. Soon Jeff was sharing stories with his son more than ten minutes a day, and
318 more than just at bedtime.

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Level 5.0

Understanding

1. In this text, how is storytelling different than reading? _____

2. What does the word **habit** mean? _____

3. Why should parents read to their children? (List at least three reasons.) _____

4. What were Will's favorite stories? _____

5. Why do you think Will liked those stories best? _____

6. What does the word **fantasy** mean in this reading? _____

Writing

Choice A: Summarize the reading in your own words.

Choice B: Do you enjoy reading? Why or why not? What types of materials do you enjoy reading? If you have children, what do you enjoying reading with your kids?
