

## Hands-free Storytelling

Storytelling had been part of just about every culture since people began to communicate with one another. Stories can be true, describing a real event, or purely fictional. Stories are used for entertainment and for imparting information and lessons of the particular society. Many stories have morals; think about *The Little Boy Who Cried Wolf*.

Storytelling is interactive.

Storytelling encourages the active imagination of the listeners.

Storytelling can be combined with other art forms.

Telling a story can grab attention in ways other forms of communication can not.

Here's a short story/poem to grab attention and can be used to move children:

*Christopher Robin goes  
Hoppity, hoppity,  
Hoppity, hoppity,  
Hop.  
Whenever I tell him politely to stop it he  
Says he can't possibly stop.*

*If he stopped hopping, he couldn't go anywhere  
Poor little Christopher  
Couldn't go anywhere...  
That's why he always goes  
Hoppity, hoppity,  
Hoppity, hoppity,  
Hop.*

A.A. Milne

You can insert children's names...use to lead somewhere... out on playground?

## Suggested resources

*Creative Drama and Musical Activities for Children* by Robin Beckles Willson

ISBN 0 8238 0230 2

*The Greedy Dragon*

*Tell It Again!* by Shirley Raines and Rebecca Isbell

ISBN 0 87659 200 0

*Tell It Again 2* by Rebecca Isbell and Shirley Raines

ISBN 0 87659 208 6

*Why the Possum has a Skinny Tail*

*The Parent's Guide to Storytelling, How to Make up New Stories and Retell Old*

*Favorites* by Margaret Read MacDonald

ISBN 0-06-446180-7

*Bringing the Story Home, The Complete Guide to Storytelling for Parents* by Lisa Lipkin

ISBN 0-393-04775-X

*Storytelling Made Easy with Puppets* by Jan VanSchuyver

ISBN 0-89774-732-1

*Storytelling with Puppets* by Connie Champlin

ISBN 0-8389-0709-1

*The Little Old woman Who Wasn't Afraid of Anything* by Linda Williams

HarperCollins, 1986.

*Jesus' Birthday Party* by Nicholas Allen

ISBA 0 385 32521 5

*Chipper* (basically *Cinderella*, but named Chipper with a cowboy perspective)

*The Noisy Counting Book* by Susan Schade and Jon Butler

ISBN 0 394 88956 8

*There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly*

VARIOUS VERSIONS

*Story about blowing out the candle*