



**1,000 Books Before**  
**KINDERGARTEN**  
**Wells County Public Library**

Books 701-800

**BOOK TITLE:**

**AUTHOR:**

**DATE:**

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**GETTING READY TO READ - *Narrative Skills*** is the ability to describe things and events and to tell stories. Researchers find that this skill helps children to understand what they are reading when they start to read.

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**BOOK TITLE:**

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Choose a wordless picture book from the library and let your child tell what he thinks is happening in the story. If he gets frustrated, make up the story together; he could tell it to another family member later. For younger children, let them describe a single picture in the story.

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**BOOK TITLE:**

**AUTHOR:**

**DATE:**

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**Toddler Reading Activity** - Catch a few minutes throughout the day to read. You might talk about something you did together that is related to a picture in the book. Even though you may not understand everything your toddler says, give him time to talk.

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**BOOK TITLE:**

**AUTHOR:**

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**Pre-school Narrative Activity-**  
Select an activity that has a process, do it together, and explain the steps. For example: "We are going to make spaghetti. First we need to... Next we will..." and so on.

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**BOOK TITLE:**

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You can help build narrative skills by talking to your child about or during daily tasks.  
Ask your child questions; encourage her to speak and listen carefully when she does.

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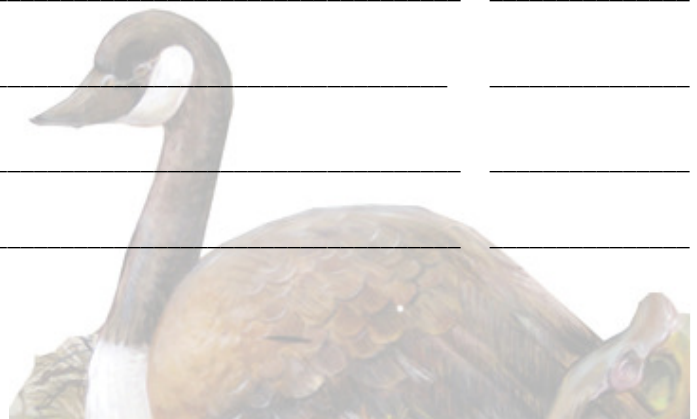
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**Outstanding job!** Don't forget to bring in your log to get a prize and your next set of pages.



# Narrative Skills



## What is it?

Narrative Skills is being able to describe things and events and tell stories.

## What can you do?

### *Birth to Two-Year-Olds*

- Talk to your child about what you are doing.
- Tell your child stories.
- Encourage your toddler to tell you about things. Listen patiently and ask questions.
- Read favorite books again and again.
- Add to what your child says. If your child says, “big truck” then you say, “Yes, a big red fire truck.”

### *Two and Three-Year-Olds*

- Tell your child longer stories.
- Ask your child to tell you about something that happened today.
- Read books together. Stories help children understand that things happen in order—first, next, last.
- Read a book that you have read before. Switch what you do—you be the listener and let your child tell you the story.
- Ask your child “who” and “why” questions. You can say to your child, “Who is wearing the green shirt?” or “Why do you think he is feeling happy?”

### *Four and Five-Year-Olds*

- Listen to your child carefully when he talks.
- Ask your child to tell you about something that happened. Let him tell you about a picture he drew.
- Share books together.
- Read a book together that your child already knows. Switch what you do. You be the listener and let your child tell you the story.
- Ask “what” questions. Point to a picture and ask, “What’s that?” or “What is happening here?” Give him at least five seconds to respond.
- Add to what your child says. If your child says, “big truck” then you say, “Yes, a big red fire truck.”
- Ask open-ended questions like, “What do you think is happening in this picture?”
- Help your child relate what is happening in the story to his own experiences, such as, “What happened when we went on a picnic?”
- Narrate or share a task from beginning to end. “When I make spaghetti, the first thing I do is..., next I...” and so on.

**Talking with children develops comprehension skills that will help them understand what they read. Being able to tell or retell a story also helps with comprehension.**

**My favorite activity to talk about:** \_\_\_\_\_