5 TIPS TO BECOME AN EFFECTIVE STORYTELLER

MAKE STORY TIME FUN
Be sure to create a comfortable space for children where they feel safe and secure. And be enthusiastic! Children see you as a model for reading so if you’re excited about it, they will be too. Include props and activities when possible!

MAKE IT INTERACTIVE
The more you can include children in the reading process, the better. Talk about the cover. Ask them what they think the story will be about. Have them name pictures and tell you what’s happening. Ask them how the characters are feeling and if the situation reminds them of anything.

VIEW PICTURES EASILY
Make sure you’re in a position where the children can easily see the pictures and feel it if the page has textures. If you don’t, children can become frustrated and lose interest.

USE LOTS OF EXPRESSIONS
Dramatic facial expressions can bring the story to life. It makes the story more interesting and can help children relate words to specific facial expressions or feelings which increases their emotional intelligence.

CHOOSE THE RIGHT BOOK
Make sure you take your audience into account before you begin storytelling. Always pick a book that is appropriate to the age group. Consider picture books, books with textures, rhyming or pattern books, etc. And remember, it’s always okay to re-read their favorite book!

FOR MORE INFORMATION
For more information, go to https://courses.uaex.edu/ and register to take our PDR verified training, “The Effective Storyteller.”