

EVERYDAY SKILL BUILDERS

Storytelling

choosing great books



3 MINUTE VIDEO
TUTORIAL HERE

We all know the power of books to strengthen children's foundational literacy skills, build vocab and extend concentration spans. But what happens when story time is proving challenges for children to engage with?

If you're finding children are struggling to sit through a book being read to them, perhaps its time to reflect on your choice of book or the way its read.

TIPS FOR CHOOSING GREAT BOOKS THAT SUPPORT FOUNDATIONAL LITERACY

1

Start with a short book with lots of rhyme, good rhythm and repetition where possible. Rhythm helps us learn the pace of language – or its syllabic nature. Rhyme supports learning about the sounds of language – its phonological awareness. Adding repetition provides opportunities for children to join in.

eg. The Phoenix Five – Sandi and Chris Phoenix and Monica Millgate

eg. Edwina the Emu – Sheena Knowles and Rod Clement

2

Find books where pages can be skipped if necessary, without impacting the story line. This enables you to meet children's needs if they become restless – a clear sign their need to move is trumping their ability to hear a story.

eg. Where is the Green Sheep – Mem Fox

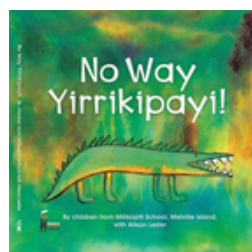
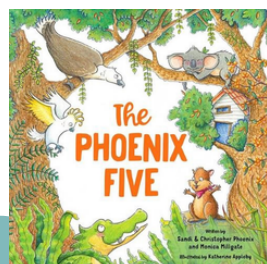
eg. No Way Yirrikipayi! – Milikapiti School and Alison Lester.

3

Ensuring you include a range of books from different cultures, family structures, languages and gender diversity helps build an inclusive environment that fosters respect and inclusion.

THE PHOENIX 5

Sandi and Chris
Phoenix and Monica
Millgate



NO WAY YIRRIKIPAYI!

Milikapiti Primary
School and Alison
Lester

BOO TO A GOOSE

Mem Fox



Notes

Reflections

