

Welcome to Preschool Storytime at the Harnett County Public Library! Our goal is to provide parents an opportunity to introduce their children to reading and language in a fun way. Not only does storytime serve to spark a child's desire for good literature, it can also help stretch their attention spans, improve their listening skills, as well as promote the library as an enjoyable place where learning is fun.

#### Frequently Asked Questions...

**Question:** How do I know if my child is ready for storytime?

**Answer:** Storytime can be both enjoyable and beneficial to children of all ages and levels of maturity. Even infants enjoy observing the other children and listening to the music played during storytime.

**Question:** Should my child attend Toddler Time or Preschool Storytime?

**Answer:** Children mature at different rates. It is not unusual for a 2 year old to do well in Preschool Storytime. Likewise, it is not uncommon for an older child to enjoy the simplicity and repetitiveness of Toddler Time. It is a parent's decision as to which storytime is the best fit for his/her child. If you are unsure, feel free to try out both and choose based on your child's reaction?

**Question:** Can we attend more than one storytime a week?

**Answer:** Yes, however it is not recommended that you attend two back-to-back sessions in one day. Children tend to get a bit restless after sitting for extended periods of time. Save yourself and your child the frustration.

**Question:** My child enjoys storytime but sometimes has difficulty sitting quietly, paying attention, and keeping her hands to herself. What should I do?

**Answer:** Don't panic. These behaviors are normal for young children. However, to ensure that storytime is enjoyable for all, it is important that we keep disruptions to a minimum. Please keep watch of your child's actions during storytime. If a behavior is distracting others, please quietly get your child's attention and redirect their actions in a positive manner. If the behavior continues, gently remove your child from the storytime area and talk with them. Allow them to decide when they are ready to return to the storytime area. If the behavior continues, consider that your child may be having a tough day or is not feeling well. If this is the case, please do not get frustrated or give up. Try again on another day. You may be surprised to discover that your child's next visit to the library is pleasant. Your efforts will benefit your child both academically and socially.

# It's Story TIME

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Public  
Library

## Toddler Storytime

Toddler storytimes are created especially for children ages 18 months-2 years of age. Story sessions typically last approximately 30 minutes and include stories, flannel boards, repetitive fingerplays, puppets, and songs as well as other activities with a toddler's shorter attention span in mind.

## Preschool Storytime

Preschool storytimes are created especially for children 3-5 years of age. Story sessions typically last between 40-50 minutes and include stories, flannel boards, fingerplays, puppets and songs as well as other developmentally appropriate activities. Occasionally theme related craft activities may be provided at the end of the storytime session. In addition, snack treats are sometimes served to celebrate holidays and other

# STORYTIME SCHEDULE

## Harnett County Public Library

Toddler Time

Wednesdays and Thursdays  
at 10:00 a.m.

Preschool Storytime

Wednesdays and Thursdays  
at 11:00 a.m.

## Coats Public Library

Preschool Storytime

Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m.

## Dunn Public Library

Preschool Storytime

Fridays at 10:00 a.m.



## Storytime Guidelines

To make story time a positive experience for your family as well as others, please consider the following:

- ☺ If the library is a new place for your child, visit us prior to coming for a program.
- ☺ Discuss appropriate library behavior with your child before coming to the program.
- ☺ Arrive a few minutes early, to minimize disruptions. Children need time to greet friends, become acclimated to a different environment, and to relax.
- ☺ Do not leave your child unattended during a program. Bathroom emergencies, behavior issues, and other crises are not at all unusual for small children. Please stay close and be prepared to take charge if the need arises.
- ☺ Remember that your child is watching YOU! Be a positive role model for your child by listening to the stories and by participating in the activities.
- ☺ Leave toys and snacks at home or in the car so they do not distract other children. In addition all library puzzles should be put away before the start of story time.
- ☺ Please be considerate of others by taking your child out of story time if he/she is unhappy or disruptive. Feel free to return when you feel your child is ready to listen.
- ☺ Encourage your child to respect the tools used for story time. Items such as flannel board pieces, puppets, books, and media equipment should be off limits to children during story time.
- ☺ Keep in mind that at times a large audience requires special seating either on the bleachers or around the perimeter of the story time carpet. Encourage your child to cooperate during such times so that every child may have access to an unblocked view.
- ☺ Story time is a wonderful time for socializing not only for children but for adults too! However, please visit with other parents before or after, not during story time. Even quiet, personal conversations are distracting to others who are engaged in story time.
- ☺ Extend the reading experience by checking out books to share with your child at home. Allow your child to select books before or after story time.