

Bolton Start Well
Early Years Communication and Language Development Service
Tip of the Month for Practitioners – April 2024

Make storytelling a part of your day

Start conversations about what children have done in the past and encourage them to join in with further details.

Children who have more opportunities to hear and talk about events that are not in the immediate present, develop larger vocabularies and are better able to understand stories.

Reference: Tompkins, K. Guo, Y., & Justice, L.M. (2013). Inference generation, story comprehension and language skills in the preschool years. *Reading and Writing*, 26(3), 403-420

Talk about things that happened throughout the day. For example, “*We had a busy day today! We put away all the toys and then made a special treat. What did we make?*” Address the child directly with an enthusiastic voice and wait for them to reply. Use visual aids to support daily routines.

Young children need, and usually love regular repetition of the same stories and songs. Familiarity with stories and songs increases the chances for developing interaction.

Additional resources:

- [Learning and Development – Bolton Start Well](#)

Songs of the Month

‘Mary, Mary, Quite Contrary’ and ‘Round and Round the Garden’

Additional information can be found online on the Bolton Start Well website: [Learning and Development – Bolton Start Well](#)

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