



# Spring into Storytime 2023



**O**ur annual Spring into Storytime programme is a national literacy initiative that takes place across all the libraries in Ireland each April. It brings the magic of storytimes to young children and homes in Kilkenny and aims to encourage more children and parents to enjoy the habit of reading together regularly and sharing stories.



Children who develop an interest in stories and reading have been found to have greater self-esteem and well-being, greater creativity and imagination, better social and health outcomes, and an overall better quality of life as they get older.

This year we have a host of events and activities, all based around reading and listening to stories, in all of our Kilkenny libraries. We will be sharing storytimes, crafts, book recommendations and more on our social media and on [kilkennylibrary.ie](http://kilkennylibrary.ie) under 'What's on' - so make sure to follow us!



## Introduction to the Library

Spring into Storytime is a perfect time to introduce your child to the library and to sign them up for their first

come and encouraged to get involved!

### Storytimes at Home

To bring a little bit of the library magic home, you can easily set up your very own storytime. Here's some helpful tips to get you started:

Find the right book! Try to choose books that they will enjoy, find interesting and/or can relate to their day to-day lives - books that tie in with their hobbies/ sports/ animals, etc.

Pick something appropriate to their reading level-If there are more than five words on a page that your child doesn't understand, you can pick a book that is slightly easier. You will know if the reading level is suitable if they are able to read it smoothly and without much difficulty.

Repetition - don't be afraid to read the same book multiple times! When children come across the same words, they develop a stronger understanding of their meaning and use.

Something new-If a child hears new words through conversation and also when read to them in a story, they have a firmer basis for making associations between words, allowing them to more easily learn and recall the new word.



eAudiobooks for Kids - Through the Borrowbox app you can download eAudiobooks where they can listen to some of their favourite titles. You can pop one on and let the child draw what they hear. Or for a more calming storytime, they are fantastic option to help children wind down at night - they can close their eyes, turn down the lights and just listen to the narrator's voice!

### Extra tips for reading with young children

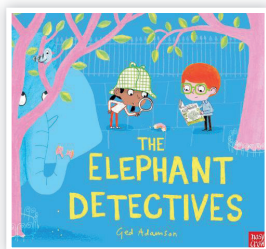
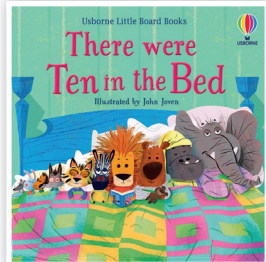
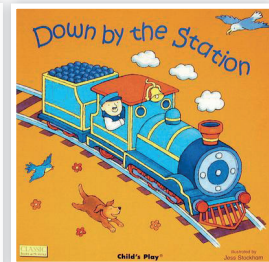
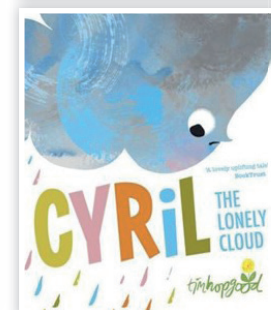
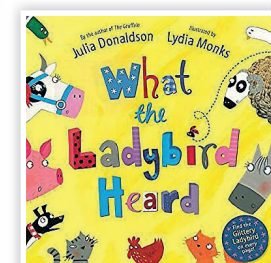
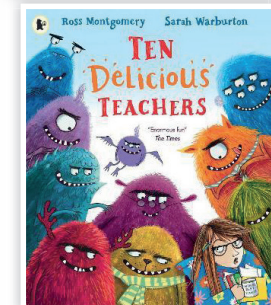
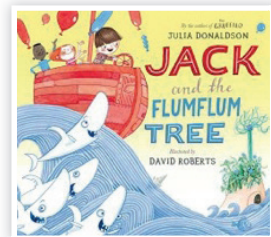
- Repeat sounds and add words-If they say 'cat', say 'nice cat'
- Ask them to find things in the pictures
- Give your child books to 'read' themselves so they can practice turning pages and looking at the pictures.
- Children love re-reading favourites.....just go with the flow!
- Extra tips for reading

### with older children

- Create a cosy reading space with old pillows and a few shelves.
- Have a range of books for all ages, interests and topics (visit the local library!)
- Read aloud with all children - even if it's just a few pages of an independent reader's book
- Encourage your child to talk about feelings and emotions in the story
- Try to bring the characters alive by picking accents and voice levels for each one.
- It doesn't matter how long storytime lasts, concentration levels vary and grows with age..
- Interaction is key - It's important to ask children questions such as what they think, what's going to happen, what would they do?, etc.

### Recommended Reads

Our Kilkenny library staff told us some of their favourite storytime books...



## Mobile library Timetable

April

- 18th:**  
Ballyhale NS 9.30-11.15; Ballyhale Creche ELC 11.20-11.50; Scoil Aireagail Ballyhale 12.00-12.30; Knocktopher 12.35-13.15; Hugginstown 14.20-15.00
- 19th:**  
Templeorum NS 9.50-10.50; Busy Bees ELC Piltown 11.00-11.20; Happy Days ELC Fiddown 11.30-11.50; Piltown NS 13.00-14.30; Owning 14.50-15.50
- 20th:**  
Little Sunshine ELC Ferrybank 10.00-10.25; Slieverue 10.50-11.50; Glenmore NS 12.10-13.00; Shanbogh NS 13.10-14.00
- 21st:**  
Johnswell NS 9.30-10.45; Muckalee NS 11.05-11.55; Muckalee Community Childcare 12.00-12.25; Busy Bees Loughboy ELC 13.00-13.30



## Mobile library Timetable

See [kilkennylibrary.ie](http://kilkennylibrary.ie) for more details

- 25th:**  
Coláiste Mhuire Johnstown 9.45-10.25; Johnstown NS 10.30-12.20; Galmoy NS 13.20-14.30; Crosspatrick Nursing Home 14.45-15.15
- 26th:**  
Bennettsbridge NS 09.30-11.30; Paulstown NS 11.55-13.55; ; Tinnypark Nursing Home 15.15-15.30; Cheeky Monkeys ELC 15.35-16.05
- 27th:**  
Carrigeen Creche ELC 10.10-10.40; Carrigeen NS 10.40-11.40; Luffany 11.45-12.10; Mooncoin Little Mischief ELC 13.30-14.00; Mooncoin 14.10-16.00
- 28th:**  
Conahy Community ELC 09.30-09.50; Conahy NS 09.50-10.25; Coon NS 10.45-11.55, Moneenroe NS 12.15-14.00



See below for details of our storytimes-all are wel-