

## Storytelling: Ages 5-Kindergarten

Having your child retell familiar stories will help your child:

- Pay attention to the beginning, middle and end of a story
- Understand the elements of a story (character, setting, plot)
- Pick out the important details in a story

### Ideas to try with your child:

- Ask your child to respond to specific questions after reading a story to build understanding
  - “How did the story start? How did it end?”
  - “What happened after that? What happened before?”
- Make mistakes in your own retelling of a story and let your child correct your mistakes.
- Act out familiar stories with your child.



### If your child is struggling:

- Draw pictures of the story to help your child remember what happened.
- Use the pictures in the story to help your child retell it to you.
- Read stories multiple times, pointing out the order of events.

### Going further:

- Have your child change the beginning or ending of a familiar story and either write or tell you the new part.
- Have your child retell a familiar story to a younger child.

The WA State Department of Early Learning and the Richland School District believes that parents, families, and caregivers are young children’s best teachers. This resource guide, part of *Strong Foundations for School: Resource Guides for Parents of Young Children*, highlights a key developmental skill for **children of Kindergarten age** that parents can help improve at home.