



Wednesday 28th January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Celebrating National Storytelling Week 2026

We are excited to announce that Park Hill Infant School will be celebrating **National Storytelling Week 2026** from Monday 2nd February to Friday 6th February. This week is an opportunity to ignite a love of stories and storytelling in our pupils, enriching their imagination and helping them to explore language and the world around them.

Our pupils will engage in a variety of storytelling activities in school throughout the week. Each Reception class will also attend a virtual workshop with poet Simon Mole and musician Gecko, where they will explore the poem 'Earthworms' and take part in a range of activities.



Storytelling doesn't always need to begin with a book, it can grow from a sound, a question or even a walk in the garden. We have attached some resources to this letter that you can use to help your child(ren) to share their own stories from home and play some storytelling games with friends or family. Children can bring in their completed stories to share with their class.

Together, we can inspire our children to develop a lifelong love of reading and storytelling.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Newell and Mrs Clarkson

Assistant Headteacher/ Curriculum Co-Leaders and English Co-Leaders

Tips for storytelling at home



Storytelling together is a great way to support your child's early speech, language and communication skills.

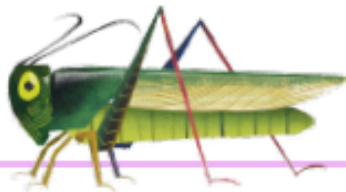
We've been learning about storytelling and making up stories about bugs. You can continue these stories at home or make up your own. Try to find little moments throughout your day to share and tell stories together.



Turn your journey home into a story. Ask your child to point out things they notice. Talk about them together, and maybe make up a story about them. *"I see a slug on it's way to..." "The spider is hiding ..."*



Join the library. It's free! You can visit together to look at and borrow books, or join a story and rhyme session, or author event.



Share a story. Try to find a little time every day to look at books or tell stories together. When you read their favourites, it makes it easier for children to join in and get involved with the story telling. Children love reading the same book again, and again.

More storytelling tips



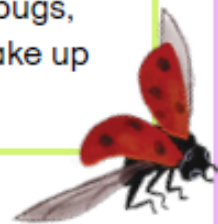
Watch this video together, of author Simon Mole, with Gecko, performing their bug songs and poetry.

Now you've watched the video, why not try creating your own stories about bugs together? Here are some ideas to get you started:

Create your own characters. Ask children to draw or build their own bugs (try using pens, bricks or playdough). Have a chat about what their bugs might look like. Ask your child about their shape, colour, or whether they have a superpower.

Go on a bug hunt. Search for bugs together, in the garden or at the park. Look under rocks, piles of leaves and sticks. Try making up a bug story together, encourage your child to help: *"Tell me about its friends..."* *"Tell me about where it lives..."*

Learn about bugs. Visit the library to borrow a book about bugs, or have a look online together. They might inspire you to make up stories, drawings, or even some wriggly movement!



Storytelling supports your child's language development, and builds key skills for reading and writing. Find more storytelling tips here: [wordsforlife.org.uk/activities/make-your-own-story](https://www.wordsforlife.org.uk/activities/make-your-own-story)

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