

Children who never have a story read to them, who never hear words that rhyme, who never imagine fighting with dragons or marrying a prince, have the odds overwhelmingly against them.

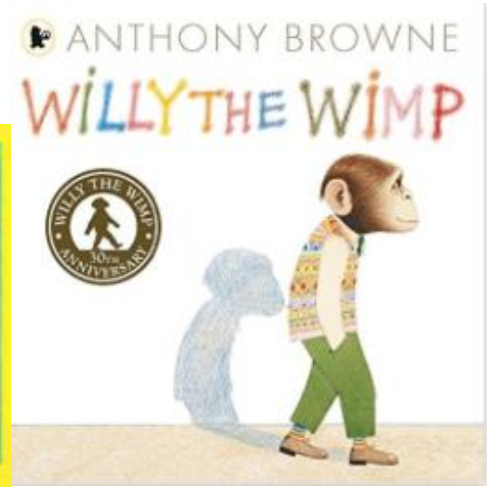
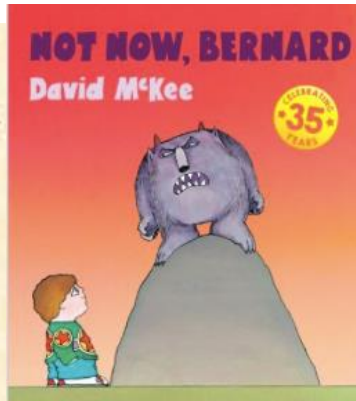
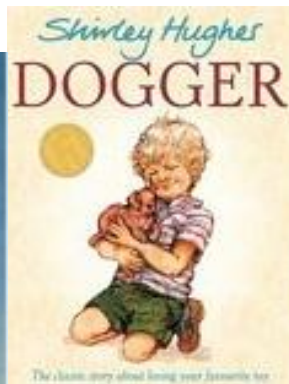
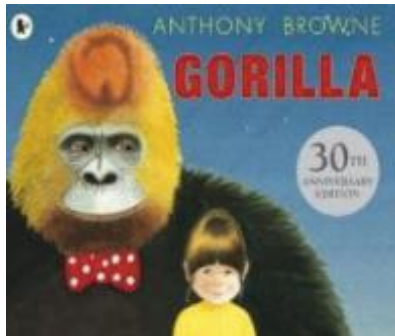
Maryanne Wolf

What makes children happy?

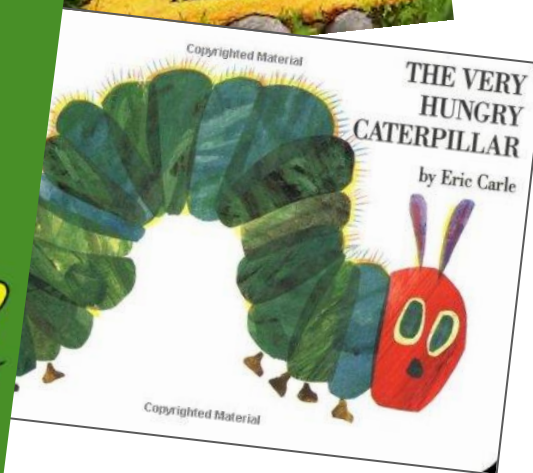
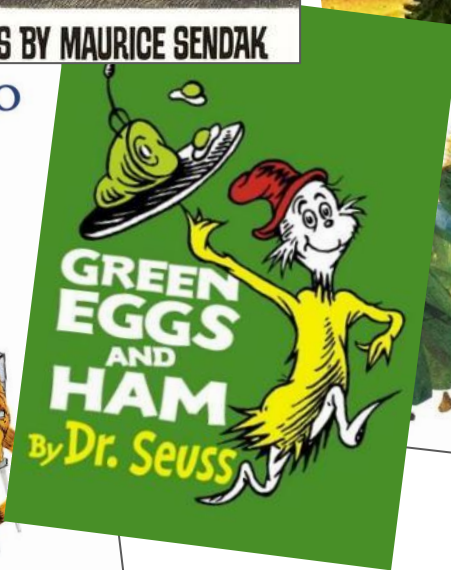
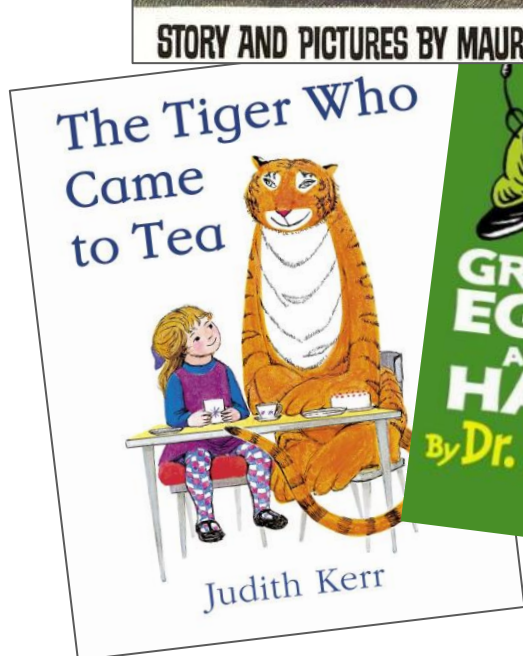
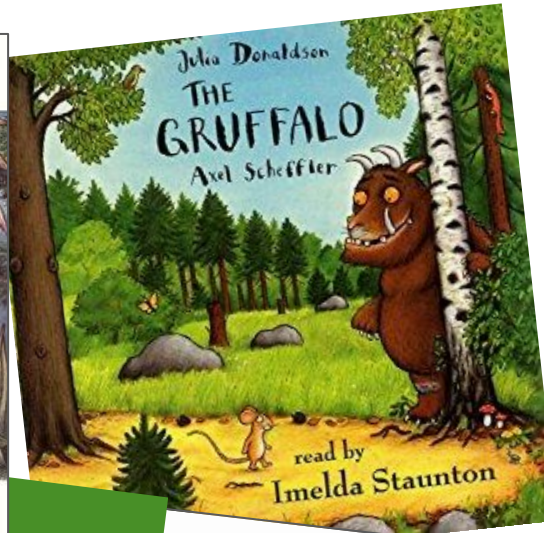
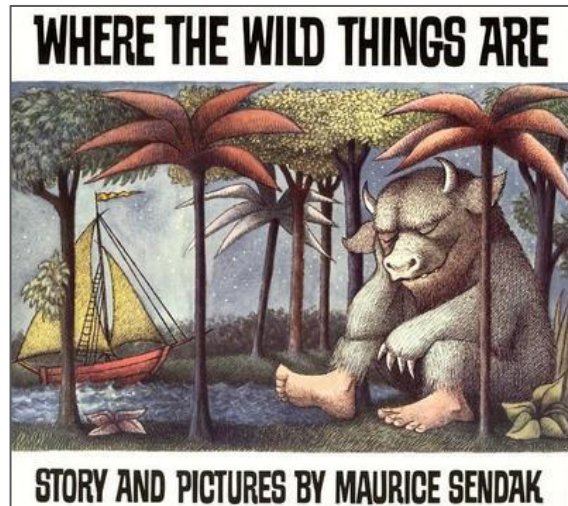
- Read for fun on most days
- Share meal times and talk together
- Cut down on TV viewing
- Do things together – visit local places: farms, parks, museums
- Teach their children new skills and knowledge - cooking, drawing, music, sport
- Listen to each other

Repeated readings Again! Again!

Children are wired to thrive on **repetition**



Storytimes



Storytime at home

- Read *to* your children every day
- Ask lots of questions and share opinions

10 things your child learns when you read aloud stories and poems every day

1. Sustain attention
2. Appreciate rhythm and rhyme
3. Build pictures in their minds from the words on the page
4. Understand humour and irony
5. Use new words and phrases in different contexts - and later in writing
6. Learn new vocabulary and knowledge of the world
7. Think about characters' feelings and use appropriate voices
8. Follow a plot with all its twists and turns
9. Understand suspense and predict what's about to happen next
10. Link sentences and ideas from one passage to the next

Top Tips - Storytime

1. Make it a treat
2. Make it a special quiet time
3. Show curiosity
4. Read story once without stopping
5. Chat about the story
6. Avoid testing with questions
7. Link to other stories and experiences
8. Read favourites over and over again
9. Use different voices
10. Love the book

Be a 'talk-a-lot' family

- **Talk** to your child as much as possible
- Use new and ambitious vocabulary
- Build interesting sentences together

What can you do?

1. Read the same stories aloud again and again
2. Read with enthusiasm – love each story
3. Use a range of vocabulary with your child

Free Online resources

Ruth Miskin Parents' Page:

<http://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/parents/>

Ruth Miskin Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/miskin.education>

Free e-books for home reading:

<http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/Reading/>

**Children are made readers on the laps
of their parents.**

Emilie Buchwald