

Story Telling or Story Writing

PURPOSE / SKILL: To tell the beginning, middle, and end of a true event and then to retell it with a *twist*!

MATERIALS: A comfortable place to sit and focus on listening and telling a story. Paper, pencil, and crayons to record the story.

INSTRUCTIONS:

- 1) Encourage your child to tell you a story of something that recently happened. It can be something that is true and real from their own life.
- 2) Imagine “What if.....?” Change the character or where the story happened.
- 3) Record your story using pictures and words.

EXAMPLE:

Adult: “Think of something that we did together.”

Child: “We just came back from Grandma’s.”

Adult: “Tell me more about that. Say some words that will help my brain make a movie of your story.”

Child: “We were at Grandma’s. I got to feed Jimmy. Jimmy is her cat. He’s so fluffy and a bit fat. After that, I ate a chocolate chip cookie and a few jellybeans. Then, we came home.”

Adult: “I remember that! That’s a great story. Now, let’s put on our imagination super power hats. Ready? Imagine Jimmy isn’t a cat. He could be Grandma’s pet crocodile, boa constrictor, a pterodactyl, or? Now, tell the story again.”

Child: “We just came back from Grandma’s. I got to feed her cow. She has a house cow named Jimmy who lives in her house. I fed her cheeseburgers and a few pieces of wood from the fireplace. They weren’t too burned and the fire wasn’t

going so it was OK. Jimmy likes me and lets me ride on her. When it was time to go home you drove and I rode on Jimmy!”

Adult: “You really used your imagination.”

Draw out your story. Add words to tell what is happening in your pictures.

POSSIBLE NEXT STEPS:

- Share your story with someone else. For example, “Call Grandma and tell her your story about Jimmy the House Cow.”
- Act out your story by making a little play.
- Repeat this activity again on a different day.

