

Storytelling: Taking it Further

Most of the books and websites about storytelling are about telling stories from memory, rather than reading printed stories aloud. Some of the titles below relate to storytelling for younger children, but most of the points apply throughout the age range. Try the Medlicott and Hartman titles to begin with. They are all of interest, offer tips that can apply to using books too, and might inspire you to build a repertoire of your own!

Books to Read

Most titles are in print. If not, try libraries – or on-line second hand book sources, such as ABE and Amazon. Many books include the text, or outlines of stories – and many story collections also include hints and tips.

- Hartman, Bob **Anyone can tell a story** (Emphasis on Bible stories, but very useful points)
Lion Hudson, 2002. 0745945872
- Lipman, Doug **Improving your Storytelling** ('Beyond the basics')
August House, 1999. 9780874835304 \$14.95
- McDonald, Margaret R **The Storyteller's Start-Up Book** (Includes several stories to tell)
August House, 1993. 9780874833058 \$14.95
- Medlicott, Mary **Little Book of Storytelling** (Excellent introduction; stories for young children)
Featherstone Education, 2003. 190418765X
- Medlicott, Mary **Stories for Young Children and how to Tell Them** (with audio CD)
Featherstone Education, 2010. 1408124521.
- Sawyer, Ruth **The Way of the Storyteller** (American 'storyteller's bible'). Penguin, 1977.
0140044361
- Trelease, Jim **The Read-Aloud Handbook** (Using books) Penguin, 2001. 0141001615
- Zipes, Jack **Creative storytelling** (One of the key writers) Routledge, 1996. 0415912725

Websites to look at

- The Society for Storytelling [UK] <http://www.sfs.org.uk> (also offers useful booklets on storytelling)
StoryNet (US site) <http://www.storynet.org>
Storytelling Resources (Tim Sheppard) <http://www.timsheppard.co.uk/story> (includes database of stories)
Storytelling Resource Centre <http://www.thestorytelling-resource-centre.com>

Storytellers to listen to

Don't miss occasions to hear other storytellers - both to pick up tips, and to pick up stories themselves! Look out for UK storytellers such as Taffy Thomas, Mary Medlicott, Hugh Lupton, Pat Ryan, Liz Weir, Ben Haggerty, Sally Pomme Clayton, Cassandra Wye, and Jan Blake.

Listen to any children's authors reading their work, or storytellers from other countries. There are storytelling clubs around the country; see the SfS site above for details.

You'll find clips of storytellers on the internet too. Typing storytellers' names (or words like 'Storyteller') into sites like YouTube will give you samples of different styles.

The Pie Corbett series of storytelling books (Scholastic) has audio CDs of storytellers telling the stories; the accompanying teachers' books have video DVDs of storytellers telling the stories