

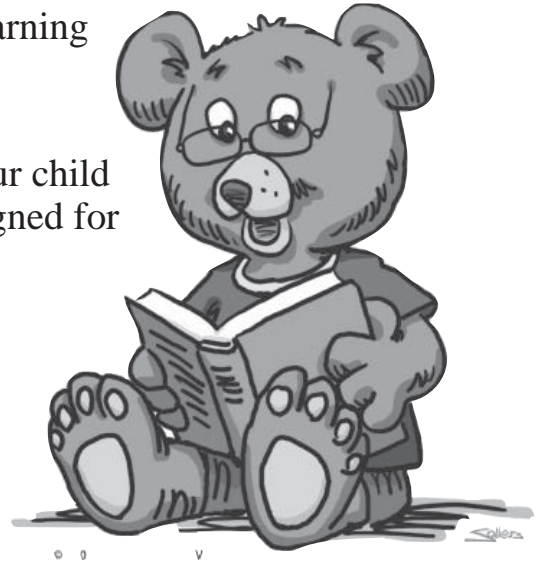
# Storytime Expectations for Caregivers and Children

Storytimes at the Henrico County Public Library are designed to be a shared early literacy experience between a child and a parent or caregiver. Here are some ways for you to ensure maximum enjoyment and learning for your child every time.

## Choose the Right Storytime

Storytimes are planned specifically for each age level. Your child will get the most from attending the storytime that is designed for his or her developmental level.

- ◆ Lapsit Lambs is for birth to prewalkers
- ◆ Mother Goose is for children 6–24 months
- ◆ Toddler Time is for children 24–36 months
- ◆ Preschool is for children 3–5 years (child may be unaccompanied but parent/caregiver participation is recommended)



## Come Early

Attendance is limited to 25 children accompanied by caregivers. Please come early to avoid disappointment. We hate to turn people away, but sometimes it is necessary, so that children can have the best experience. Late arrivals are disturbing both to the presenter and to others—doors will close 5 minutes after storytime begins.

## Health and Safety First

If the room is full, park strollers outside. Leave toys and puzzles outside the story room. No snacks in the story room. Constant coughing and runny noses mean it's time to stay home. And please visit the restroom before storytime starts.

## Join in

Sing, clap, and play along, and help your child to do the same. Young children learn by doing, and you are your child's best role model. Maximum learning and fun depends on joining in.

## Model Good Listening

Sit close to your child and be attentive to the presentation. Wait until storytime is over to chat with other parents. Turn off cell phones, please!

## Supervise Your Child

Please do not allow your child to engage in potentially harmful or destructive behaviors. If your child is distracting others, please get up and quietly redirect his or her attention back to the story or activity. If your child becomes upset, please take him or her out of the story room. After a few minutes, you may rejoin the group, or come back another time if your child is still unhappy. Share concerns with the presenter before or after the program—we may be able to help!

