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# 45005 StoryTales

Five Ideas for Creating Original Stories  
Age: 3-5 • For 2-4 children



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## Tip

The children can work together using only one background card and building plate, or they can put the building plates together for a larger building surface.

## 5 Ideas:

- Model using the background cards by telling your own story. You may want to start by choosing a mood for your story: for example, is it a happy story? Is it sad or scary? Then, select an appropriate background card, and add characters and events. Encourage the children to do the same, providing story starters if needed.
- Ask the children to build a scene showing what they did on the weekend or during a vacation. Then have them describe their scene to a friend.
- Put some of the special elements in a bag (for example, a crocodile, horse, girl, and boy) and have the children pick one to three elements out of the bag with their eyes closed. Then, invite the children to build a story using the selected elements as the main character(s).
- Encourage the children to choose a background for a story that takes place in the summer. Ask the children to build a scene showing activities they like to do in the summer. Invite the children to do the same for winter, and then talk about the similarities and differences between the two seasons.
- Some of the children may build the same story several times. Encourage them to expand their story by adding details. To help, you may ask questions such as, "What time of day does this take place?" "What are the names of your characters?" "How are your characters feeling?"

## Tip

If the children cannot find the exact element they want, encourage them to build it! Consult the online Constructionary for inspirational models.

## Areas of Learning

- **Cognitive development**  
- recalling past events
- **Language development**  
- developing language related to stories
- **Creative development**  
- enhancing imagination and storytelling skills

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## Tip

The children can work together using just one background card and building plate, or they can put the building plates together for a larger building surface.

## 5 Ideas:

- Demonstrate telling a story using the background cards. Explain to the children that you first need to think of a mood for your story, for example a happy story or a sad or scary story. Then, select an appropriate background card, and add characters and events. Encourage the children to do the same, providing story starters if needed.
- Encourage the children to choose a background for a story that takes place in the summer. Ask the children to build a scene showing activities they like to do in the summer. Invite the children to do the same for winter, and then talk about the similarities and differences between the two seasons.
- Ask the children to build a scene showing what they did at the weekend or on a holiday. Encourage them to describe their scene to a friend.
- Some of the children may build the same story several times. Encourage them to expand their story by adding details. To help, ask questions such as, "What time of day does this take place?" "What are the names of your characters?" "How are your characters feeling?"
- Put some of the special elements into a bag (for example, the crocodile, horse, girl, and boy) and ask the children to pick one to three elements out of the bag with their eyes closed. Then, invite the children to build a story using the selected elements as the main character(s).

## Tip

If the children cannot find the exact element they want, encourage them to build it! Consult the online Constructionary for inspirational models.

## Areas of Learning

- **Understanding the world**  
- recalling past events
- **Communication and language**  
- developing language related to stories
- **Expressive arts and design**  
- enhancing imagination and storytelling skills

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