

*A 6 by 6 early literacy skill*

# Tell Stories about everything

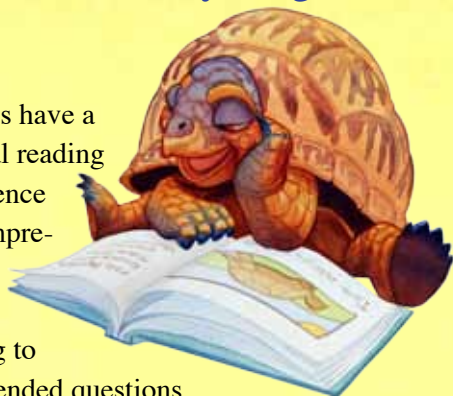


**READY TO READ**

*Six skills by six years*

# Tell Stories about everything

Children need to understand that stories have a beginning, middle and ending before formal reading instruction begins. Understanding the sequence of events in a story will help children's comprehension. The ability to describe things and events and to develop stories is referred to as *narrative skills*, and is critical in learning to read. Use dialogic reading by asking open-ended questions that can't be answered with a simple "yes" or "no" response. Younger children benefit from hearing you tell about your activities, while older children can relate their activities to you.



*Try these activities with your child . . .*

■ Look at the picture on the front of this card and ask your child, "What story do you think the turtle is reading?"

★ Plan your day by talking about what you'll do first, next and last.

▼ Use stringing beads or other toys where you create a sequence and encourage children to recreate the sequence.

● Sort items (buttons, blocks, etc.) by size, shape and color.

■ Talk about activities in the order that they occurred.

▼ Ask your child to tell you about his day.

● Have your child draw a picture. Then let him tell you what is happening in the picture. Write his words on the picture.

■ Practice numbers by counting things you see and do during the day.

★ Encourage your child to reenact a story you've read. *Caps for Sale*, *The Mitten* and *The Carrot Seed* are just a few examples.

*Early literacy is what children know about reading and writing before they can actually read and write.*