

PSRIP Intermediate Phase

COVID-19 MESSAGING

18 June 2020

Good day **Intermediate Phase PSRIP** colleagues,

Stories create a sense of wonder and curiosity about the world. They teach children about life, themselves and others. In addition to hearing stories, children should be given the opportunity to tell stories too. Giving them this opportunity to speak has the potential to boost their confidence in EFAL. In the Intermediate Phase, EFAL learners are expected to engage in more sustained conversations in English.

Creative storytelling allows children to use language authentically and to apply their knowledge of a topic and creativity to create a meaningful story. It also helps build important sequencing skills that are critical to reading comprehension and writing.

So how do we inspire this purposeful talking?

- Find some old newspapers or magazines around the house and cut out some interesting pictures. You could also use family photos!
- Ask your children to think of a story that relates to each picture.
- Give your children a minute or two to think about their ideas.
- Next, give them an opportunity to share their story.
- You could also ask your children to work as a team to create one story. This encourages collaborative work!
- Remind them that their story should be creative, but must also fit with the pictures!
- To make this more complex, you could ask your children to make up a story using a set of 3 or 4 pictures!

Remember, keeping literacy fun and playful is essential! Getting your children to engage in creative storytelling presents opportunities for them to improve their oral language proficiency, which helps strengthen their reading and writing skills.

Thank you for continuing to think critically about the development of literacy skills,
The NECT and DBE Team