

Storytelling

We are inspired by the work of Vivian Gussin Paley, an early childhood education researcher, and have introduced 'story circles' to the children in Reception. The children are given time during child initiated sessions to dictate their story to an adult, who records it exactly as it is told. As the children progress in their writing, they are encouraged to join in with the scribing, and will eventually be encouraged to record on their own. The stories are kept in a safe place until a specific group time, where it is then shared and acted out by the author and friends on our makeshift masking taped stage.

These sessions are wonderful in developing children's speaking and listening, storytelling skills, expressive language, creativity, and in providing writing opportunities. The children love to see their stories performed on 'stage' and performing in a group helps to encourage confidence in front of an audience. There are often a lot of requests for storytelling!