

Early years practitioner guidance for book sharing

This guide aims to support our early years settings workforce in sharing the joy and skills for book sharing with young children's families, giving children the best start in life for early reading and writing, including ways for all children to enjoy and learn from books and stories being read to them. Please explore the links below to guide you through ideas and key messages, to support with gifting the Bookstart preschooler packs, through book sharing, with children and their families.

Organisation/Service	Link	Summary
	Supporting Early Years Professionals BookTrust. Partner resource guide BookTrust.	The Bookstart preschooler programme supports early years professionals to get families to share books and stories together. Practitioner videos to support understanding of gifting processes including a model letter to parents and carers . Size: 119KBFile format: pdf
	Book sharing videos for caregivers and EY practitioners - PEDAL.	As part of PEDAL's Playtime with Books project, they created two videos for their YouTube channel that explain what book sharing is, how to do it, how it benefits children and what it might look like.
	Library services for 0 - 4-year-olds Cambridgeshire County Council.	First Steps library club, Rhymetime and Storytime sessions that could be shared with families. Children can join the library for free at any age – either join online or simply visit your local library.
	Festival of Stories.	The Festival of Stories resources shine a light on how stories can be used in fun and interactive ways to bring a sparkle of magic to the everyday and boost young children's communication, language, and literacy skills. There are a number of practitioner and family facing resources available on the webpage.
	Talking Together in Cambridgeshire. Communication, language, and literacy.	Talking Together in Cambridgeshire focusses on improving communication, language, and literacy outcomes for children aged from birth to five years. Our key objective is to increase awareness, knowledge and understanding of communities, in how to support young children's communication, language, and literacy development. Explore the latest communication, language, and literacy courses for early years practitioners using this link.

Practical ideas for provision, practice, and CPD:		
	Set up a 'Borrow Me' basket in your provision.	Children and parents can borrow books to take home and share together. Include a diverse range of books such as simple text, fiction/non-fiction, bilingual, interactive. Encourage parents to do a 'book swap' and donate books to the basket.
 	Ideas for practice. Training opportunities.	Here you will find an evolving bank of resources to support Cambridgeshire's Introduction to Making it REAL community-literacy work. This includes examples of the ORIM framework in action. ORIM is based on the idea that "there are four ways in which parents help their children's learning. All families do these things giving children opportunities to learn, recognising the steps they take as they progress, playing and talking (interacting) and acting as a model for children to imitate." – National Children's Bureau. If you are interested in the Introduction to Making it REAL training, available for £8 this academic year, available dates are listed here.
	50 Things to Do Cambridgeshire & Peterborough.	Explore low or no-cost activities and events across Cambridgeshire, to share with families, to support them to develop their home learning environment. 50 Things to Do Before You're Five activities to support young children's development, specifically, language, communication, early word reading, writing, gross and fine motor skills. #1 Get To Know You: Focus on adult-child interaction. #2 Where Am I?: Focus on Environmental Print. #4 Make Your Mark: Focus on mark-making and early writing. #6 Rhyme Time: Focus on nursery rhymes. #10 Sharing Books: Focus on sharing books and visual literacy. #22 My Secret Treasures: Focus on storytelling. #24 Hop, Skip, and Jump: Focus on physical development.