Title: Story Time
Recommended for: 2-5 Year Olds

Objectives:

Children
- Receptive language
- Predicting
- Engagement
- Positive mood

Adults
- Language
- Positive mood
- Communication
- Nurturing

Materials Needed:
- Picture books
- Optional: reading lamp
- Large reading chair for adult
- Optional: cardboard fireplace display

Methods:
Facilitator Preparation
1. Set up reading area with reading chair and lampstand to mimic a living room.
   a. Option: create a cardboard fireplace.
2. Pick out stories.
   a. Option: ask the children and adults to pick out stories in advance to bring to story time.

Intergenerational Participants
1. Introduction-choose one elder and introduce them to the children. Sing the hello song.
2. Sit the children in a circle in front of the adults’ chair.
3. Have the adult read the story, pausing to show pictures.
4. Let children ask questions and give them the option to tell related stories.
5. Sing the goodbye song together holding hands.

Special Considerations
- Make sure the elder is comfortable reading a story and taking breaks to discuss with the children. The adult may want to practice reading the story in advance.
- Discuss with the elder what stories he or she can share with the children that relate to the story or that can be asked of the children.
- Make sure font size in stories is readable for vision impairments.
- Consider reading level when selecting child age group and older adult.

Getting To Know You
- “Can you ask ______ if they have a personal story similar to the story being told?”
- “Can you ask ______ what his/her favorite book is?”
**Encouraging Interaction**

- “______ can you ask the children what they think will happen next in the story?”
- Have the IG group discuss who their favorite storyteller is and why.
- Facilitator studies or knows children’s and elders’ social histories and preferences well enough to ask questions that prompt participants to relate personal stories to the story being read. E.g., “Kathleen, you have told me about your family’s vacation to the seashore. What did you do at the beach? What about when it rained, like in the story?”

**Extension Opportunities**

- Reading another story in a series.
- Creating a story together and making a short book or play.
- Reading the same book while having the children act out different parts in the story.