STORYTIME TIPS FOR FAMILIES NEAR AND FAR

Tips for Engaging, Comfortable Storytimes

Whether you're at the same table or in another city or state, parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and family friends can make storytime comfortable and interactive. Artistanda stands hold the book and the device, so your hands are free to point, turn pages, and connect with the child.

In-person storytime



- **Read at the table.** Put the book on an Artistanda bookstand and read while your child eats.
- **Let your child lead.** Invite your child to turn the pages on their own.

Crystal's tip: The dining table was Crystal's favorite place to read to her young twins.

Reading tips

- **Choose books your child loves.** Match their interests and reading level.
- **Pick camera-friendly books.** Matte pages reduce glare on video.
- **Light your face.** Sit facing a window or lamp, with no bright light behind you.

Video call storytime

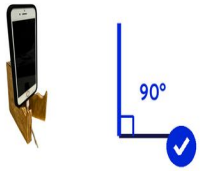
Read to a grandchild, niece, or nephew who lives far away, or to your own child while you're away.



1. Set an ironing board by your chair at camera height.
2. Put the book on an Artistanda bookstand on the board.
3. Place your phone on an Artistanda stand in landscape.
4. Check your self-view; line the book up with the camera.
5. Call the child on FaceTime, Zoom, or another video app.
6. Read aloud, point to words and pictures, and ask questions.

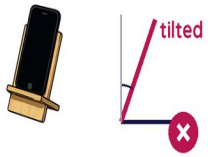
Tip: Turn on live captions if your app has them; they help children who are hard of hearing.

Why the 90° angle matters on video



Artistanda stands

Hold your device upright at 90°: the camera sees you and the book, not the ceiling.



Many desk stands

Lean the device back: the camera points up and the screen catches glare.

Questions? Want more tips?

Sign up for our newsletter: teaching strategies, parenting tips, and product updates.

Signing family? Ask for our Storysigning Tips for Deaf young children.

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