

Making a sensory story

Age: 15–24 months

Resources: Books with textured pages, toys and objects from each story.

Tips:

Sensory stories are an enchanting inclusive way of telling a story whilst stimulating all the senses; vision, touch, sound, smell/taste and movement to create an enriched learning experience which brings the story alive to your child.

Start with simple stories and one or two props, this number can grow as your child develops.

Use the guiding hands approach – try placing your hands on your child's upper arms, elbows, lower arms, or wrists to guide them to any item you would like them to touch. Once you've located the item together, maintain gentle contact to show them that you're there. For support, try placing your hands under your child's hand while you touch the texture together.

Talk about your shared experience; making this a calm but fun activity! By exploring new textures in this way, your child can stop and pull their hand away if they're not comfortable. Re-introduce the texture again next time you play. Remember, it takes many opportunities to become familiar and comfortable with new textures, tastes and situations.

Activity:

Explore a **range of sensory books** together using hand-under-hand and guiding hands techniques as you introduce new textures.

Use toys and real objects to support your child's understanding of the story. For example, if the story is about a donkey, find a toy donkey and explore its legs, ears and nose as you read the book together.

Using stories such as **The Hungry Caterpillar** can provide opportunities to introduce your child to new tastes and smells. For example, explore new fruits as you progress through the story. Talk about the foods you're sharing and make this an enjoyable experience for you both to share in.

Notes:

Please supervise your child at all times while completing any of the activities outlined on this sheet. Stop any activity if your child becomes upset, unwell or you are unsure if you are completing it correctly.

The activities on this card align with stage 3 of the [Developmental Journal Babies Visual Impairment \(DJVI\)](#)

If you would like any further advice or support, please contact the advice line on **0800 7811444** or via email children@guidedogs.org.uk

