



## HELLO PARENTS,

Show and tell (or show and share) is usually the first opportunity for young children to stand up in front of a small group and speak. Speaking in front of a group is an effective activity to encourage the use of descriptive language and develops a child's ability to retell stories leading to improved communication skills which are important throughout their lives. Children also develop the ability to answer questions well. Being part of a show and tell audience is also an important part of learning, where one learns to sit, listen closely and be respectful. In this newsletter, we provide show and tell activities.

## ACTIVITIES

### INFANTS (3 -18 MONTHS)

#### IT MAKES ME FEEL SAFE

##### MATERIALS:

- A favourite toy

##### DIRECTIONS:

- As you cuddle with your child before nap or bedtime, take your child's favourite toy with you.
- Make bedtime fun and part of the day that your child looks forward to!
- Play a quiet game before going to bed. For example, let your child show their favourite toy that makes them feel safe.

[Click here](#) to see more strategies about show and tell.

### TODDLERS (19 MONTHS – 2.5 YEARS)

#### CHOOSE-AND TELL

##### MATERIALS:

- Different objects (small toys, greeting cards, spoons, buttons, flowers, or cookies etc.)
- A basket

##### DIRECTIONS:

- Put the basket with different items in front of your child.
- Let your child pick one of the items.
- Ask your child simple question. For example: "What do you like about it?," "What does it feel, look, smell, taste, or sound like?" etc.
- Encourage your child to talk about the object selected.

[Click here](#) to listen to show and tell songs.

### PRESCHOOLERS (2.5 – 5 YEARS)

#### WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT ME?

##### MATERIALS:

- A big paper or piece of cardboard
- Old magazines, flyers
- Scissors
- Glue

##### DIRECTIONS:

- Encourage your child to cut and collect pictures from magazines, that represent things they like. For example: foods, sports, or TV shows; and interesting facts such as, where they were born, how many family members or pets they have, etc.
- Let your child glue the pictures on the paper the way they like.
- During show-and-tell ask your child questions about each item and let them explain what it means.

[Click here](#) for more activities.

### JK/SK (4 – 6 YEARS)

#### SHOW AND TELL MY SKILLS – TYING SHOE LACES

##### MATERIALS:

- String or yarn at least 2 feet long
- Cardboard
- Markers, crayons, or coloured pencils

##### DIRECTIONS:

- As your child grows, they will learn new skills. Give them the opportunity to share and showcase these skills for their friends and family.
- Invite your child to practice, and share their shoe tying skills.
- Trace a shoe template on a piece of cardboard.
- Label top, bottom, left, and right on cardboard and colour the shoe any way you wish.
- Make holes in the specified places large enough to place string through.
- Now, it is time for Show and Tell! Invite your child to practice tying shoes, and showcase their skills for their friends and family.
- Your child can practice and share the following techniques:
  - Knot: Hold a lace in each hand, crisscross them into an X, then tuck one lace through the hole. Pull both laces to tighten.
  - Bunny ear: Using one lace, create a loop to look like a bunny's ear, and pinch it closed in your fingers.
  - Wrap: Direct your opposite hand to wrap the other lace around the bunny ear.
  - Bunny ear: Push the loose lace through the hole under it to make a second bunny ear.
  - Whiskers: Pull both ears to tighten. The ends of the laces become "whiskers" and should be about as long as the ears.

[Click here](#) to read "Show and Tell" by Robert Munsch.

### SCHOOL-AGERS (6 – 12 YEARS)

#### MY ADVENTURE

##### MATERIALS:

- Paper
- Pictures and photographs

##### DIRECTIONS:

- Select a series of 3-4 favourite photographs from a single significant event such as, a holiday, vacation, sporting event, or recital.
- Arrange the photos in sequential order.
- Show and tell to your audience the story about your special event.
- This activity has the added narrative benefits of practicing sequencing events and teaching a sense of story.

[Click here](#) for more activities.



Immigration, Refugees  
and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés  
et Citoyenneté Canada

#### A TIP FOR TODAY

- Encourage children to say a sentence or two about their object and ask prompting questions such as "What is it?", "Where did you get it?", and "How do you play with it?"
- Extend Show and Tell by creating themes that interest your child, such as a favourite board game, movie, animal, and toys.
- Encourage children to ask each other questions and only intervene when needed.