**Story making ideas**

**Follow that thread**

An adult starts making up a story verbally. Every few sentences stop and chose someone else to take over and carry on the story with their ideas. Prompt with sentence starters e.g. suddenly…. At that moment…. No one could believe what they saw but there in front of them was….

**Picture stories**

Find a selection of pictures. They could be photos, pictures cut out of a newspaper or magazine, images found online or drawn by friends. Arrange them to make a short sequence. Make up a written or verbal story based on the pictures. To make it trickier you could write some word or phrase cards e.g. afterwards, amazingly, you would never have imagined but…, everyone felt so proud when…, and add them in the sequence to be included in the story too.

**Change adjectives and adverbs**

Pick a book to base your story on. Every time you spot an adjective or adverb replace it with a different one. You could choose one with a similar meaning or the opposite e.g. A small family lived in an old house, deep within the dark forest. = A little family lived in an ancient house, in the middle of the gloomy forest. Or A large family lived in a newly built house at the edge of the quite village.

**Consequences**

Each person playing writes the following plan

Name of a character, Setting, Funny event, New character, Problem scenario, Resolution

e.g. Peter, the old barn on the farm, he fell into the bucket of animal food, Kelly a young girl, Kelly gets locked inside the chicken coop, Peter and Kelly become best friends.

Then swap your list with someone else. Use their plan to make up a story, adding your own extra ideas and details to expand the story.

**Story circle**

Sit in a circle and take it in turns going round the circle to each say the next line of a story. You could share a copy of a text passing it round for everyone to see and read, retell a well known story or make up a new story.

**Re-order sentences**

As you read a story consider how you could rearrange the order of words to make different sounding sentences, e.g. Tom walked into the room slowly. Tom slowly walked into the room. Tom walked slowly into the room. Slowly, Tom walked into the room.

**Personification**

Pick 5 objects from around your house. Sprinkle magic dust on them and imagine they have come to life. What might they do when you go out? Write a story about the adventures they get up to and how they interact with each other.

**Dictionary ideas**

Open a dictionary or another book at a random page. Close your eyes and point to a word. Write that word on your story list. Repeat 10 times so that you have a list of 10 randomly selected words. Make up a story which includes all these words. Try crossing them off your list when you have used them.

**Story swap**

Pick 2 very different stories e.g. Cinderella and the 3 little pigs. Swap the characters and retell the story. How would the 2 pigs be cruel step sisters to the pig who built her house of straw, what would her special outfit look like when she went to the ball at the wolf’s palace?