



Waldorf Homeschool



The **Step-by-Step Course** to Understanding & Creating a Waldorf-Inspired Homeschool

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GUIDE TO STORYTELLING

Most material in Waldorf is told through stories, especially during the early grades. Math, science, history, and geography are brought to life through wonderful stories and biographies.

For Main Lesson or teaching purposes you may have to “tell” a story from a book to your child. This is not the same as reading a story and may take a bit of practice. The rewards of watching your child as you “tell” the story are well worth the extra effort!

It's ok if you don't get all the details from the original story, just tell it in your own words.

TIP:

A helpful tip for learning a story: read the story three times, then make an outline of the main plot, including ideas and characters. The outline can be written or a series of quick sketches. You can use this outline if you need while telling the story. Don't worry about not remembering everything. Enjoy yourself, and your child will sense that enthusiasm.

Stories can also be created from your surroundings, your child's favorite animals, or just something that happened during the day. Children love to be the “stars” of your stories.

To help guide you through storytelling here are a few other ideas.

- *Use a theme of ongoing characters or plot
- *Tell stories from your childhood or family stories
- *Many times you won't have the whole story “fixed” in your mind; it will just unfold while you are telling it. (That's fine!)
- *For inspiration, look out the window, around the room or think back over the day. Bring some of “real life” into the story.
- *Use pedagogical stories to help with behavior or to make a point in a gentle way. If your child is nervous or upset about something, create a story with animals or other characters facing the same problem. (Healing Stories for Challenging Behaviour is an excellent book)