

MAKING ACCESSIBILITY EASY!



STORY BOX LIBRARY AS AN EAL (ESOL) RESOURCE

Story Box Library (SBL) is the best place to watch celebrated stories read aloud by favourite Australian and New Zealand storytellers. A subscription based, trusted and safe online educational resource created for children, SBL is enjoyed by teachers, librarians, children and families around the world.

Viewing of SBL content will ensure children frequently encounter quality stories with rich vocabulary, text structures and language devices. With an ever-growing library of stories, visitors are sure to find a story to engage every child regardless of age, ability or background.

"The Storybox stories are amazing for speaking and listening as the students get to hear different voices, accents and genders. The closed captions mean we can also incorporate on-screen reading with the words on the screen, making it even more invaluable as an EAL teaching resource. Even for kids with close to zero English, they can still hear and follow the pictures. 'Oliver and George' is a very popular story - and the kids absolutely adored the 'Starting School' video from earlier this year! I just love it, I really do." Elsa, Primary EAL Teacher

Language Learning Support:

SBL provides visual and audio support for the learning of English via:

- Storytellers modelling volume, tone, pace, facial expressions, body language and the addition of music and sound effects.
- Closed captions support students learning English as an Additional Language (EAL), allowing them to follow along with a text being read aloud by our storytellers.
- Many of the stories feature minimal text, repetition, rhyme and high-frequency words.
- Each story comes with tailored Classroom Ideas and/or Activity Time that are specifically created for the Australian Curriculum, supporting educators, librarians and professionals to help children make connections with the text before and after viewing the stories to help with understanding and comprehension.

"Our multi-cultured families have been very positive about using SBL and it is so simple to use that once the EC children have learnt the basics they can use independently." Julie, ELC Teacher Librarian, International School of Amsterdam, Netherlands

Australian and New Zealand Stories:

Our focus on local content ensures children are exposed to stories with settings, language, characters, issues and themes that are familiar to their experiences of living in Australia or New Zealand.

Diverse Stories:

With a commitment to diverse and inclusive stories, children will see themselves reflected in our stories, but also observe the beliefs, cultures and experiences of others.

Classroom Ideas:

These can be used in the teaching and learning of English- particularly in the areas of receptive language modes, literacy and literature.

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Activity Time:

Engaging and involving parents and children in learning, SBL's Activity Time provides a variety of developmentally appropriate experiences for children to enjoy with their family, promoting a balanced, connected, playful and creative approach to learning, while helping children to comprehend and respond to texts.

Search filters:

SBL's various search filters make it quicker and easier for educators, librarians and families to find the stories they're looking for. Our **theme filter** in particular assists in locating stories to suit such needs as modelling a particular text structure or language device; modelling a concept from a learning area other than English; and acting as social stories, modelling friendships, social and communication skills, daily life and routines.

SBL keeps traditional storytelling alive in a digital world, committed to showcasing the power of stories as tools to help us communicate, connect, learn, empathise, analyse, evaluate and grow, and to provoke curiosity, discussion, imagination, play and inspiration.

"All our students use Story Box Library at home, you see all our students are Australian born Chinese, and that means many of their parents aren't confident in reading to them in English at night, and that is very important. Because of SBL our students get to watch and listen to stories read in English, and they can read the subtitles, so you see how worthwhile and valuable Story Box Library is to our community." Heather Zubek, 7 Seeds Reading Club



Sample of SBL stories that feature minimal text, repetition, rhyme and high frequency words, which can be used to support the acquisition of language, include:

Baz & Benz

One Runaway Rabbit

Goodbye House, Hello House

Heads and Tails: Insects

Heads and Tails

Kick with My Left Foot

I Love Me

Why I love Summer

What's Up Top?

Mopoke

My Dog Bigsy

Duck!

Little Bird's Day

My Friend Fred

Red House, Blue House, Green House, Treehouse!

Wide Big World

Bear Make Den

I Got This Hat

I'm a Dirty Dinosaur