

# Winter Tales

The Winter Tales are perfect for reading to children of all ages. Sometimes reading aloud to your child can seem a bit difficult. Here are 10 top tips to help you.

**1**

## **Find Your “Story Corner”**

You don’t need a fancy reading nook — just somewhere cosy where you can both relax. A sofa, a beanbag, the end of the bed, or a blanket fort will do!

**A little comfort helps children associate stories with safety and warmth.**

**2**

## **Pick the Right Moment**

Evenings before bed are classic, but any quiet moment works — after dinner, on a lazy weekend morning, or during a rainy afternoon. Short bursts (10–15 minutes) are perfect.

**What matters is the *together time*.**

**3**

## **Let the Imagination Lead**

If your child wants to talk about what they imagine — a glittering spider web, a snowy forest, or a Fijian boat under the stars — pause and listen.

**These chats are as valuable as the story itself.**

**4**

## **You Don’t Have to Perform**

You don’t need funny voices or perfect pronunciation. Your child doesn’t care how polished you sound — they care that you are the one reading.

**Your warmth and attention make any story magical.**

**5**

## **Take Turns**

Let your child read a line or a paragraph when they feel ready or fill in repeated phrases (“Ho! Ho! Ho!” or “What a lovely surprise!”).

**It builds confidence and makes reading a shared adventure.**

**6**

## **Make It a Ritual**

A special drink, a candle, or a soft light can turn storytime into a treasured routine. For winter tales, try a warm blanket and hot chocolate.

**It helps children settle and listen.**

**7**

## **Talk About Feelings, Not Just Words**

After the story, ask gentle questions: “How did you feel when the fox was trapped?”... “What would you have done if you were Kelera?”

**There are no right answers — Just listen and enjoy.**

**8**

## **Bring the World to Life**

Each story comes from a different country — find it on a globe or map together. You might listen to a song, try a snack, or look at photos from that region.

**It helps children see how big and kind the world can be.**

**9**

## **Let Your Child Lead**

If they ask to read the same story again — that’s perfect! Repetition helps children learn rhythm, vocabulary, and comfort.

**A favourite tale is a safe place they can visit again and again.**

**10**

## **End with Kindness**

When the story finishes, share a small kindness inspired by it: say thank you, hug, feed the birds, or share a treat.

**Stories grow roots when they end in real-life kindness.**

**If you’re not used to reading aloud — start small. Choose one story. Sit close. Read slowly. Smile.**

**Your voice, even if unsure, will be the voice your child remembers when they think of warmth and love.**