

# BLINK AT HOME

# STORYTELLING

## How can we retell our favorite stories?

### Skills to Develop

- + Early literacy
- + Verbal communication
- + Written communication

### Materials

- + Books
- + Toys
- + Building materials: blocks, LEGOs, Lincoln logs, etc.
- + Recycled materials: boxes, egg cartons, scrap paper, etc.

## WHAT TO DO

### During the Learning Activity

1. Choose a book to read. As you read, ask questions about the story's plot, setting, and characters: *who are the characters in this story? What are the characters doing? What problem do the characters have? Where does this story take place?*
2. Once you have finished reading and discussing the book, explain that you want to retell the story using toys and building materials.
3. Discuss the setting of the book you read. Invite your child to build the setting using building materials, toys, and other recycled materials you have on hand. Encourage your child to look back at the pictures in the book for ideas if they get stuck. Ask questions about process and important elements of the setting as they build: *what are you building now? What will you use to build...? How will you build...?*
4. Discuss the characters in the book you read. Invite your child to choose one of their toys to be each character in the book. Encourage your child to look back at the pictures in the book to be sure they find all the characters.
5. Invite your child to retell the story using the characters they chose and the setting they built.

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### Extend the Fun

- + Practice reading and retelling other favorite stories.
- + Invite your child to retell the story with small changes to the plot or setting.