

Storytime FAQs & Guidelines for the McDonough Library Branch

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*Library storytimes are often a child's first "live performance" experience. Attending a storytime is different than watching TV, or going to a movie as the behavior of the audience can positively or negatively affect the program. A good audience enables the storyteller to give the best presentation possible. With this in mind, we request that parents/caregivers follow these **guidelines**.*

- Please try to be on time. Allow extra time for parking and visits to the restroom.
- If you do arrive late, please wait for a break between stories, songs or activities before joining.
- Out of courtesy for others, please do not bring snacks, drinks, or toys that may be disruptive.
- If the children in your care become disruptive, please remove them from the room until they are comfortable and ready to listen. It is difficult for the storyteller to concentrate if there are too many distractions or excessive noise levels.
- Be a good role model for your child by **listening and participating** in all activities. This will help the child stay focused, engaged, and excited about storytime programs.
- Please remember to turn off all cell phones.
- Greeting, chatting, and visiting with friends should be done before or after the program, not during.
- If you do not enjoy the program and must leave, please try to do so in a manner that is least disruptive to others.
- Siblings are welcome but please remember that all program materials are chosen for the appropriate age of the storytime.

[What storytimes are available?](#)

Lapsit is designed for children birth to 24+ months, however a young two year old may not be ready for the regular storytime and may need to stay in the lapsit program until they are ready for a more structured storytime. **Lapsit** is an interactive program for the very youngest children and their parents/caregivers. Exposure to the rhythms of language and music can help introduce very young children to books and reading. One-on-one with an adult is the key to this program, which incorporates books, rhymes, fingerplays, and activity songs. It also strengthens the bonds between baby and caregivers while being exposed to a positive and supportive atmosphere. **Regular storytime** is designed for children over the age of 2 to 5 years old. It is a 30-40 minute program that focuses on stories, songs, flannel board and action rhymes, and an occasional craft. It is requested that the parent/caregiver participate in all activities. Our main goal is for everyone to have a good time and to develop and nurture children's love of books and the library. Each program is thematically based with the emphasis on conceptual learning and also promotes listening skills.

[When are storytimes offered?](#)

At this time we offer Lapsit on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 AM and regular storytime on Wednesday mornings at 11:00 AM. Please check the monthly calendar to ensure Storytime is in session and to check for any special programs. Visit the website to view activity/program calendar @ www.henry.public.lib.ga.us

[Who do I contact for more program information?](#) Please call the children's department at 678-432-5353 ext 6.