

# Easy Tech for Long-Distance Storytimes

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Children's Librarian: Lauren Mondala



# Lauren Mondala

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Youth Services Librarian at Rust Public Library, LCPL

Working in libraries for seven years

15 years of experience working with literacy based programming for children in Chicago

- **The Northwestern Mime Company:** Storytelling without words
- **The University of Chicago Lab School:** Reader's Theater
- **Barrel of Monkeys:** Creative writing to performance in-school residency program

# Today We Will...

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- **Discuss** the lasting developmental benefits of sharing stories with children
- **Explore** four pieces of easy technology that can help you to engage in storytimes even when you can't be there
- **Engage** with the tools by means of hands-on testing
- **Answer** Questions

# Benefits of Reading Aloud to Children

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Strengthens **parent-child relationships** at a critical time in child development (Augustyn M, Zuckerman B., 2007, p. 92).



# Benefits of Reading Aloud to Children

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Builds language, **literacy**, and social-emotional skills that last a lifetime (American Academy of Pediatrics & Council on Early Childhood, 2014, p. 404).



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“Hey, Mr. Fish with your daily scaly  
**scowl**, I wish you wouldn’t greet us with  
a **grimace** and a **growl**.”

-*The Pout-Pout-Fish*, Deborah Diesen

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"**Fairy tales** are more than true – not because they tell us dragons exist, but because they tell us **dragons can be beaten**"

-*Coraline*, Neil Gaiman



# Benefits of Reading Aloud to Children

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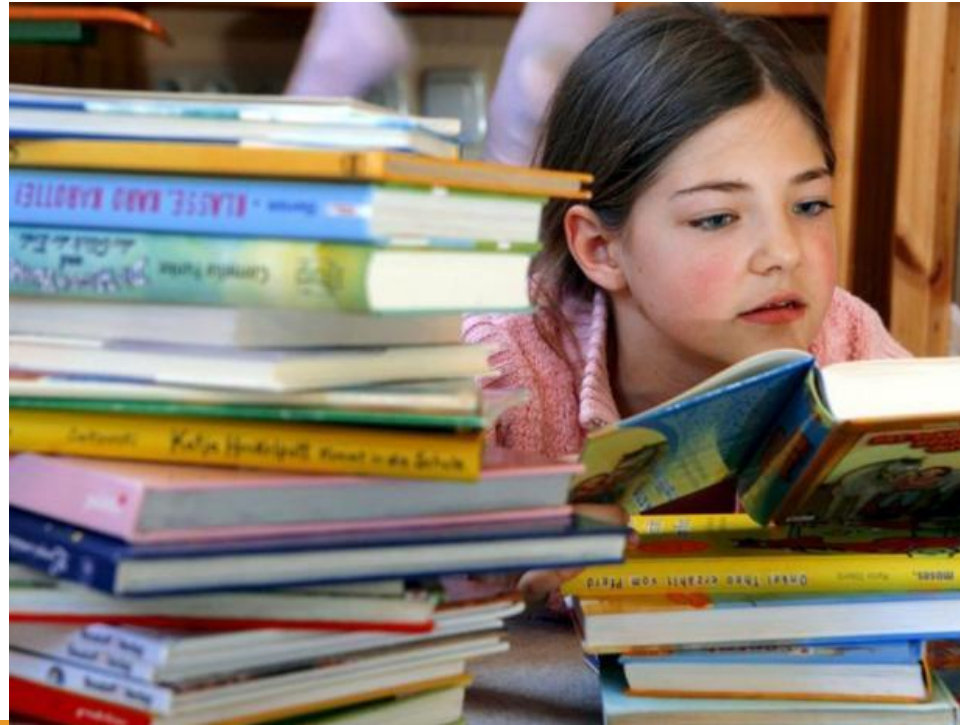
Fosters an **enjoyment of books** and **knowledge-seeking behavior**  
(Trelease, J., 2013, p. 9).



# Benefits of Reading Aloud to Children

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Early, regular parent-child reading is associated with later reading success, **leading to life-long readers** as opposed to just school-time readers (Anderson, R. C., Hiebert, E. H., Scott, J. A., & Wilkins, I. A. G., 1985).



# Benefits of Reading Aloud to Children

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“The **single most important activity** for building the knowledge required for eventual success in reading is reading aloud to children” (Anderson, Hiebert, Scott, & Wilkins, 1985, p.23).



# Benefits of Reading Aloud to Children

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In 2014 the American Academy of Pediatrics issued a policy statement saying that all pediatric primary care should include **literacy promotion, starting at birth** (American Academy of Pediatrics & Council on Early Childhood, 2014, p. 404)







# Technology and Storytime

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WHAT AND HOW TO USE TECHNOLOGY TO CONTINUE  
STORYTIME BENEFITS WHILE YOU ARE AWAY

# What To Look For in a Tech Tool

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Your real voice can be utilized

Physical book in child's hands

- Book mechanics
- Print motivation vs screen time

Primary focus is the book and the story



# Voice Memos

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# VOICE MEMOS

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Free applications

Often preinstalled

No need for editing tools

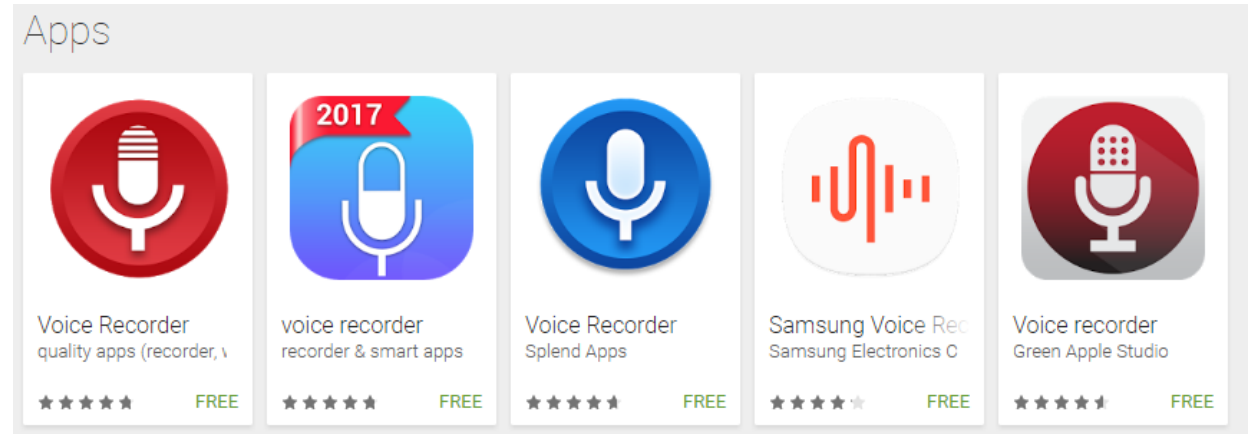


# VOICE MEMOS

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<https://www.wikihow.com/Email-Audio-Files>

<https://www.imore.com/voice-memos>

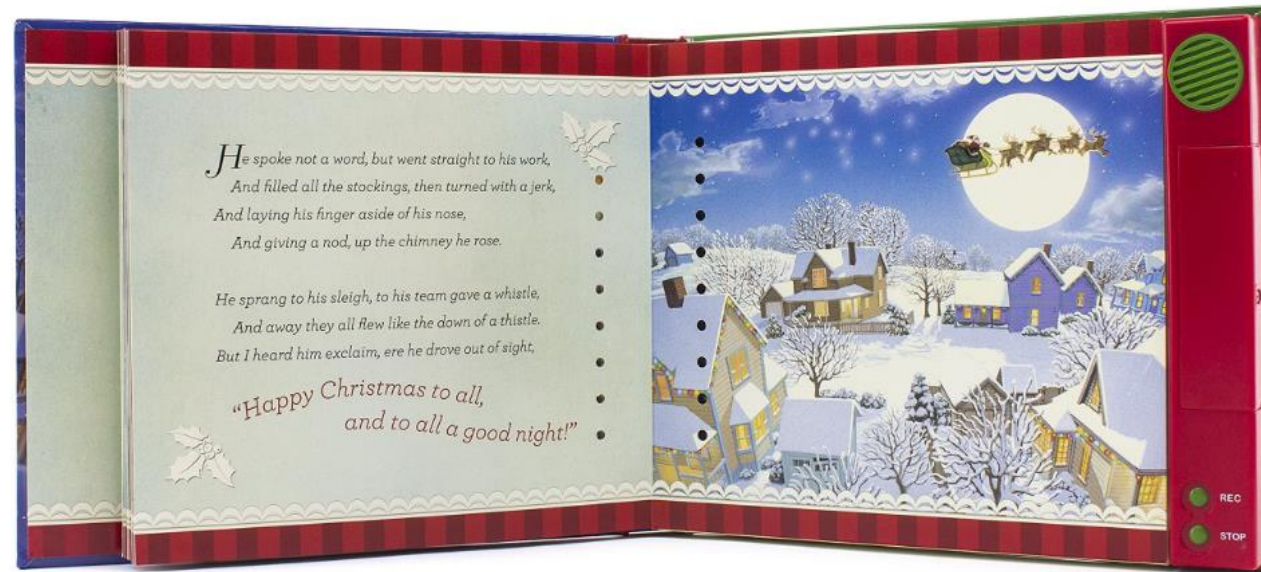


# VOICE MEMOS

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Easy to send





# Recordable Books

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# Recordable Book

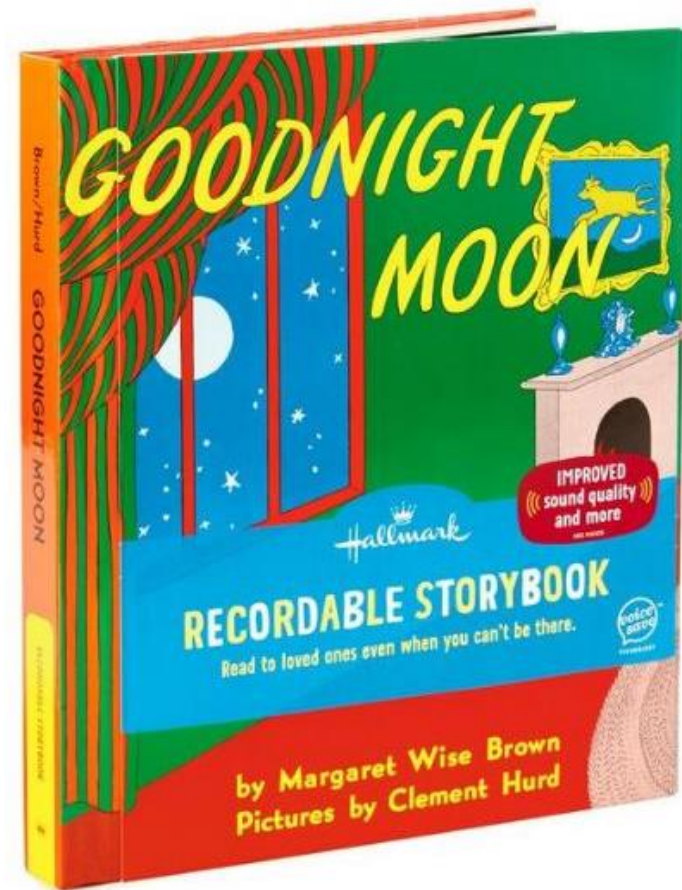
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Physical books with built-in recording functions

Record one page at a time

Ability to rerecord until satisfied

Can 'lock' in the recording when done



# Recordable Book

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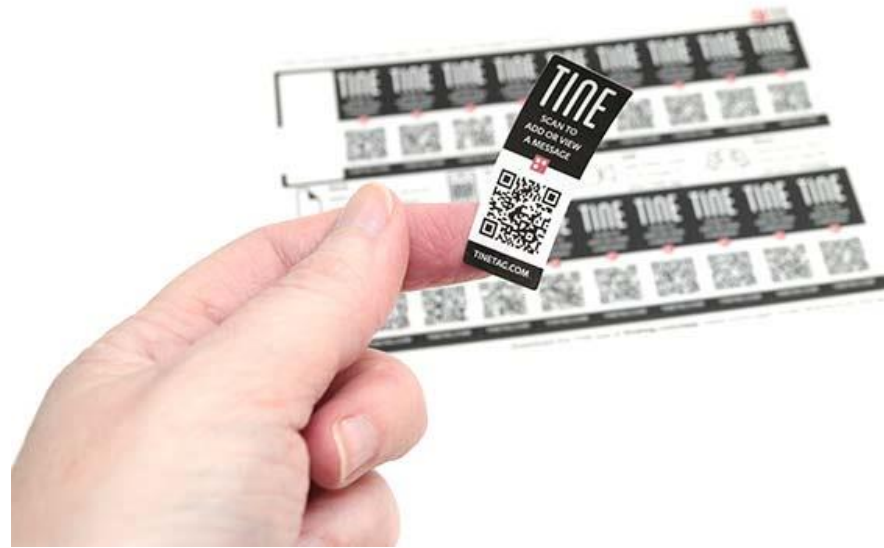
Range in price from \$3-\$30

Hallmark®

Record-a-Story®







# TINE tags

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# TINE Tags

Sticker tags you use in conjunction with an app

- Free App
- \$15 for 20 / \$40 for 100

Each sticker can hold:

- 15 minutes of audio
- 1.5 minutes of video





# TINE Tags

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- 1) Install the TINE App
- 2) Stick a tag on the book or bookmark
- 3) Scan the tag with your device
- 4) Record the entire book, or each page separately

# TINE Tags

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<http://www.instructables.com/id/Create-a-Recordable-Story-Book/>



# Video Chat & Recordings

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# Video Chats & Recordings

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## Pros

- Great if the book contains interactive portions
- Excellent for showing book modeling

# Video Recordings

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## Cons

- Video files are often much larger than just audio files
- Harder to send via email
- Post-processing to condense or burn to cd is time consuming
- Hosting videos online has privacy and copyright concerns
- Screens can be more of a distraction than a tool for young children

# Video Recording Host Platforms

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YouTube, (Private Channel)



*vimeo*

# Video Chat Apps – Live Video

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Google Hangouts





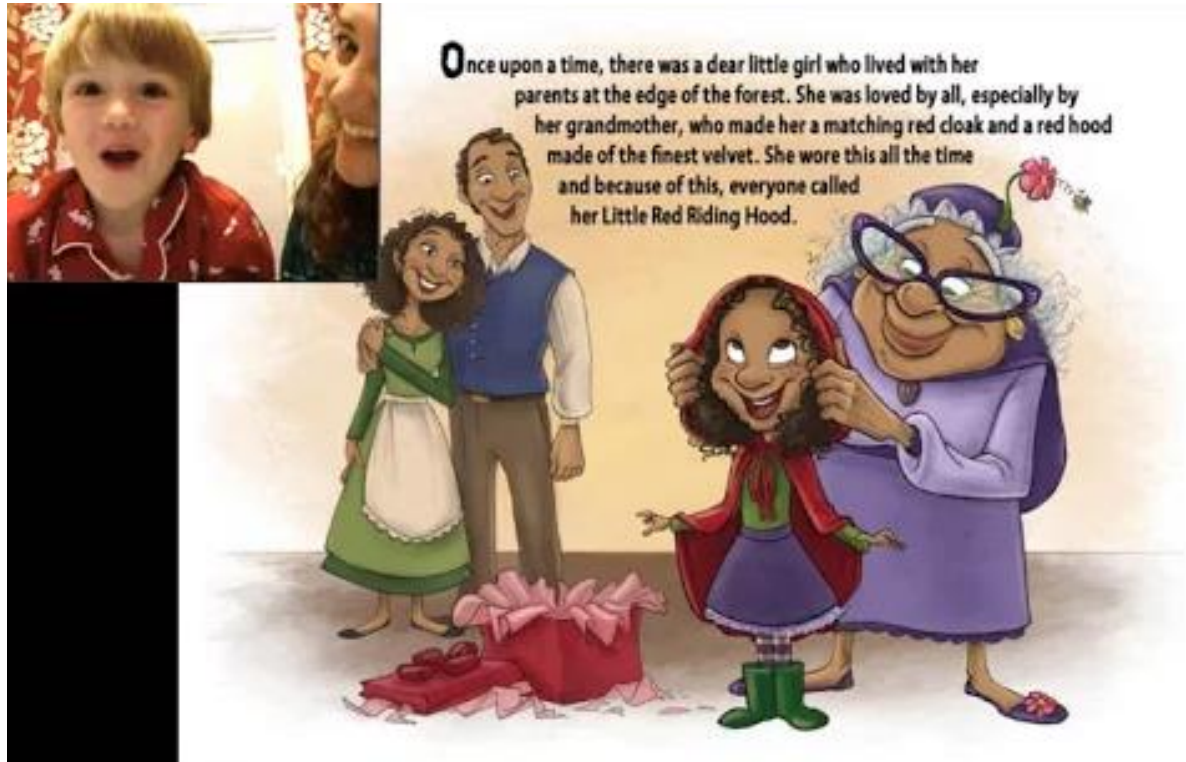
# Storytime Apps

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# Storytime Apps

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# Storytime Apps

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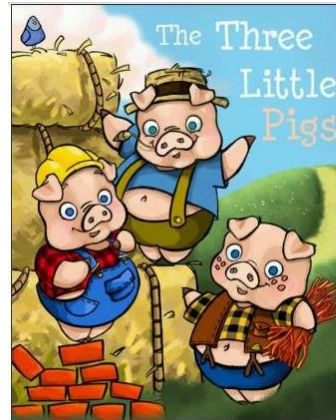
Most have interactive features

Limited selection of stories

Some have live video chat options

Some allow you to record the story

Membership fees



# Storytime App By Kindoma

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Kid-friendly video chat with eBooks

Library of 250 eBooks

Split screen between page and video



# Rock Your Recording

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# Rock Your Recording

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Familiarize yourself with the book/chapter

Record in a quiet, noise dampened space

Don't stress if you goof up





# Rock Your Recording

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HAM IT UP!



# Rock Your Recording

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# Rock Your Recording-Video

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Go hands free so you can hold the book

Try and keep the camera at eye level

Minimize visual background distractions





# Rock Your Recording

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## Story Ritual:

Have a special phrase before you start/before signing off.



# Sources

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American Academy of Pediatrics, & Council on Early Childhood. (2014). Literacy promotion: An essential component of primary care pediatric practice. *Pediatrics*, 134(2), 404-409.  
<https://doi.org/10.1542/peds.digest1342>

Anderson, R. C., Hiebert, E. H., Scott, J. A., & Wilkins, I. A. G. (1985). *Becoming a nation of readers: The report of the Commission on Reading*. Champaign-Urbana, IL: U.S. Department of Education.

Augustyn, M., Zuckerman B. (2007). From mother's mouth to infant's brain. *Archives of Disease in Childhood - Fetal and Neonatal Edition* 2007;92:F82.

Trelease, J. (2013). *The read-aloud handbook* (Seventh ed.). New York, NY: Penguin Book.

# Future Reading

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***Born reading : bringing up bookworms in a digital age--from picture books to ebooks and everything in between*** - Jason Boog

372.425 BOO

***A family of readers : the book lover's guide to children's and young adult literature*** - Roger Sutton

809.89282 SUT

***The read-aloud handbook*** - Jim Trelease

372.452 TRE

***What to read when : the books and stories to read with your child and all the best times to read them*** - Pam Allyn

649.58 ALL

# Tutorial Links

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Voice Memos

<https://www.imore.com/voice-memos>

<https://www.wikihow.com/Email-Audio-Files>

Recordable Books

<https://www.hallmark.com>

TINE Tags

<http://www.tinetag.com/>

<http://bit.ly/2A6V001>

StoryBook App by Kindoma

<http://kindoma.com/>