Learning Through Play
Creating Big Books to Tell Traditional Stories

Objectives:
- To understand how to use Big Books to record traditional stories.
- To see how the teacher uses the Big Book to tell a story.

What are Big Books?
- Big Books can be used to record traditional stories that may have been passed down from one generation to the next.

Why is story reading important in ECD programmes?
- Through stories, children can learn more about life, culture, the world, and their community.
- Children see the teacher using different facial expressions and hear the different tones in the teacher’s voice as they tell the story.

How to tell a story?
- Practice the story before telling the story to the children.
- Seat children so everyone can see the teacher’s face.
- Tell the story at a good pace with good expression and fluency.
- Ask the children to predict what they think will happen in the story.
- When the story is finished, the teacher can review the story with the children by asking questions about the story.

Adapting Big Books for Children with Diverse Needs
- The video shows the principles of universal design for activities in action. The teacher has made a Big Book to use during the storytelling to help focus the children’s attention.
- The teacher can read the story to children with diverse needs before they read the story to the children so the child is familiar with the story.
- The teacher can choose stories with repetitive phrases to engage the children in the story. They can learn new words and add them during the story.

Reflection questions for teachers about storytelling with children
- What strategies do you use to engage children when reading a Big Books?
- How do you choose stories that are inclusive of all children in your group?
- What did you learn from the video that you will add to your daily practice to do storytelling with children?