

It's Story Hour!

The American Library in Paris would like to welcome you and your children to our story hour programs. Stories and activities for each program are selected to match the developmental range of the children for which the program is intended.

To make story time a happy, enjoyable experience, we ask your cooperation in the following ways:

- 1. Please discuss Story Hour with your child before you come.** Explain that there will be stories, fingerplays, singing and such. Young children need to know what to expect and what is expected of them. They need to understand that they are going to the library where they are not allowed to run or yell. However, it is okay to respond to the storyteller during the program!
- 2. Please be on time -** We have two Story Hour sessions for 3-5 year olds on Wednesdays; at 10h30 and at 14h30. You are welcome to attend either session. After everyone gets his/her name tag, Story Hour begins. Young children are easily distracted and late arrivals become the focus of interest, so please be on time.
- 3. We encourage parents to sit on the floor** with their children beside them or in their laps. Story Hour is a warm, sharing time and a chance to enjoy stories together. You know your child best, and perhaps they are not yet comfortable singing aloud or sharing in a large group, but your participation will encourage your child to follow.
- 4. You should not sit in the Story Hour area and chat** with other adults once the program starts. By talking during the program you are demonstrating to your child that the program is not really important or worthy of his or her attention. Turn all cell phones and pagers to vibrate, and if you feel you must answer your cell phone, please take it outside.
- 5. If your child has difficulty settling down,** becomes restless, or begins to cry, you should remove your child from the area so he or she will not distract others.
- 6. Parents of preschoolers, please observe whether your child is ready to attend a structured program.** Although we welcome all young children, some toddlers are not developmentally ready for the sitting still that may last 30 minutes or more. If a toddler begins to wander, talk or play, it distracts the other children from the program. There is a lap-sit bi-monthly on Thursday mornings which may be more appropriate for younger children. Ask the youth librarian for more information or check the schedule on our website.

Our main goal is for everyone to have a good time. With your help, we can develop and nurture your child's love of books and the library. Happy Reading!