

Little People, BIG DREAMS®

I Can Be an
**Awesome
Performer**

Discover the lives of outstanding people,
from designers and artists to scientists.
All of them achieved incredible things, yet
each began life as a child with a dream.

Read about two of the world's greatest
performers. From Josephine's super-star
dancing, to Ella's incredible voice, both had
their own unique dream.

www.littlepeoplebigdreams.com



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Little People, BIG DREAMS®

I Can Be an Awesome Performer



Frances Lineola

Little People, BIG DREAMS®

Fun
activities
inside!

I Can Be an
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Performer**



Ella
Fitzgerald™

Josephine
Baker™



Scan for more fun!



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Quarto

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Frances Lincoln
Children's Books

Little People, BIG DREAMS®

**I Can Be an
Awesome Performer**

This book
belongs to:

.....

You're about to meet two of the world's most amazing performers. Both had their own hopes, fears, joys and challenges – and their own unique dream.

Their stories show that if you follow your own dream and believe in yourself, you can do anything!



Little People, BIG DREAMS®

**I Can Be an
Awesome Performer
JOSEPHINE BAKER™**



Written by
Maria Isabel Sánchez Vegara

Illustrated by
Agathe Sorlet



This is the incredible story of a girl from St. Louis, USA. Her name was Josephine.

Some would say she was born with nothing, but she had two legs that loved dancing, a dazzling smile and a free spirit – and she was going to use them.



Josephine danced her way out of St. Louis and became a street artist. Then a theatre performer. When she moved, it was like her legs were made out of elastic!



She travelled to New York City, where she became the last dancer of the chorus line.

Yet, everyone noticed her stylish moves!



She was invited to join a new show in the French city of Paris. It was the moment she had been waiting for! She jumped at the chance and sailed to Europe.



Josephine became a star overnight. She made popular dance steps her own – all her movements were exciting! People had never seen anything like it before.

Her fame spread all over Europe.
She began singing and acting in
movies, and was the first Black
woman to ever star in a major film.





During World War II, she became a spy and hid secret messages in her music sheets. She was a hero for all French people.

When the war ended, she returned to the USA and marched for equal rights for all.



And when she celebrated her fifty-year career on stage, the world cheered. It was a long way from St. Louis, but little Josephine had made it, in her own spectacular way.

Josephine's dances were funny and energetic. Can you make up some silly dance moves of your own?

Perform them in front of someone and see if you can make them laugh!



Little People, BIG DREAMS®

I Can Be an
Awesome Performer
ELLA FITZGERALD™



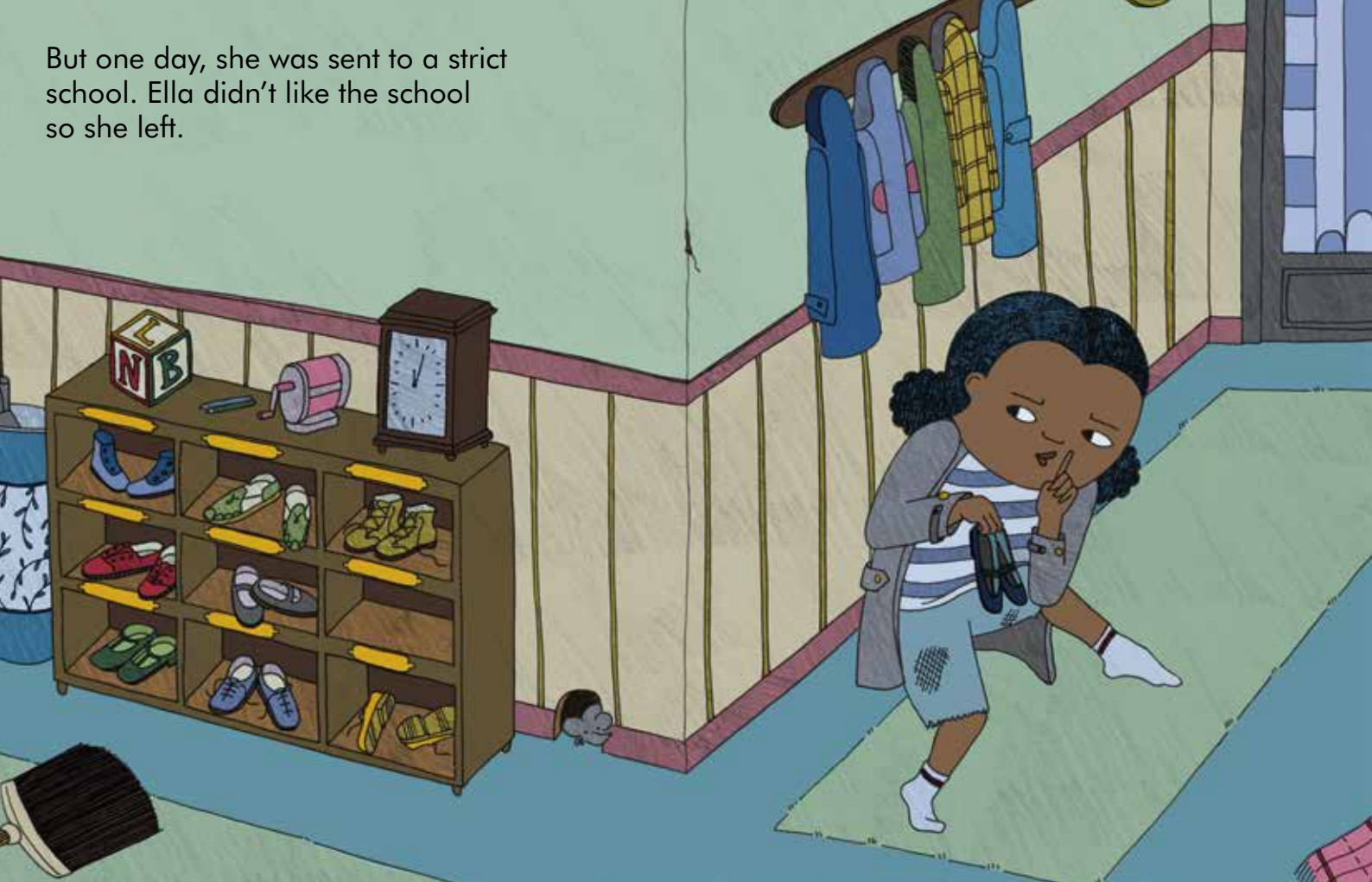
Written by
Maria Isabel Sánchez Vegara

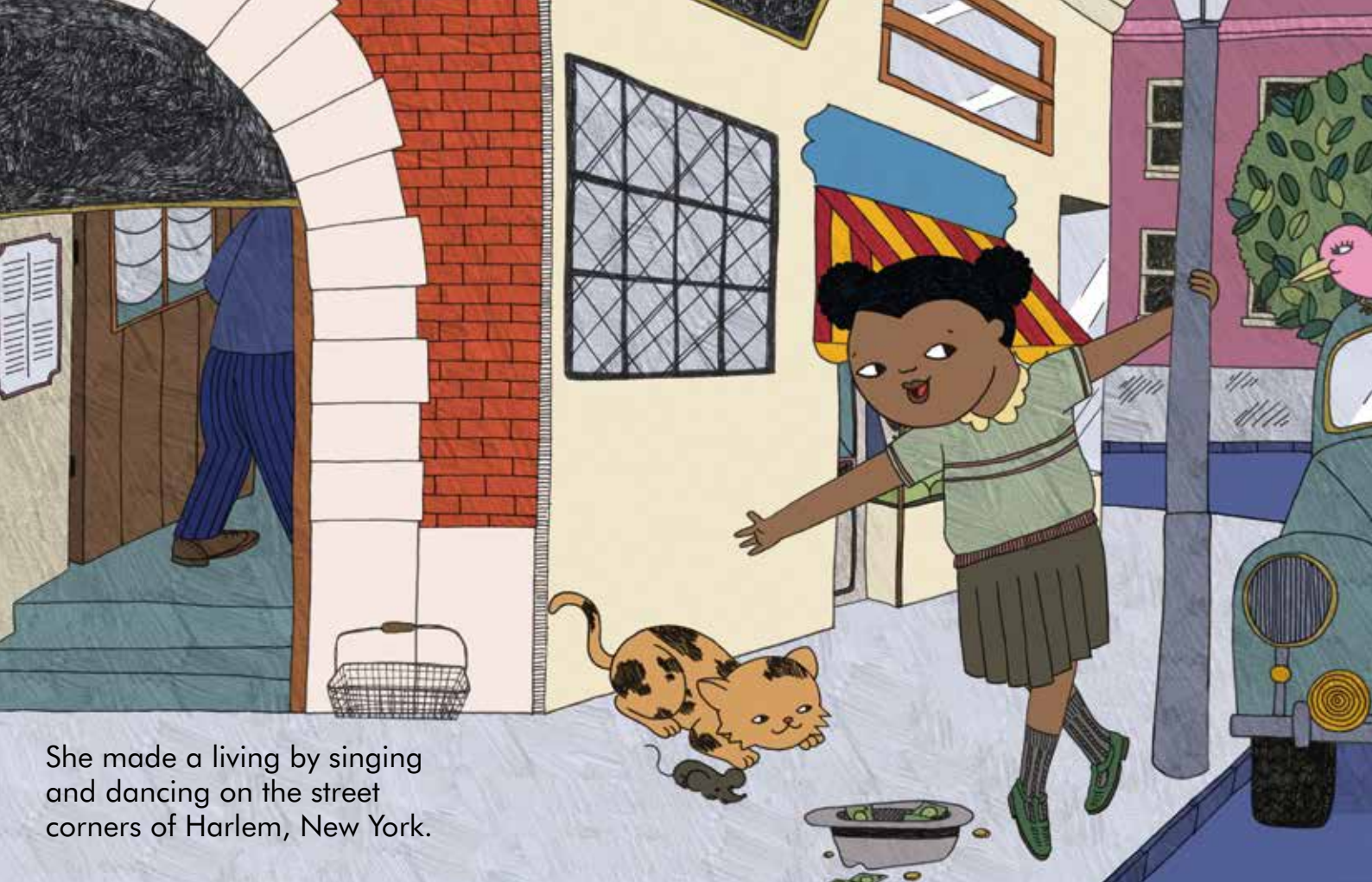
Illustrated by
Bàrbara Alca



Little Ella grew up in New York, USA. She had a beautiful voice and loved to sing jazz.

But one day, she was sent to a strict school. Ella didn't like the school so she left.





She made a living by singing and dancing on the street corners of Harlem, New York.

One night, she entered a competition to perform at one of the most famous theatres in the city.

She was very nervous, but dazzled the crowd with her sweet, tuneful voice. She won first prize!



That night, Ella was so excited she couldn't sleep. She imagined herself singing on an even bigger stage!



It wasn't long before a famous big band offered Ella her first singing job. Together, they performed in jazz clubs all over the country. Ella's career had taken off!

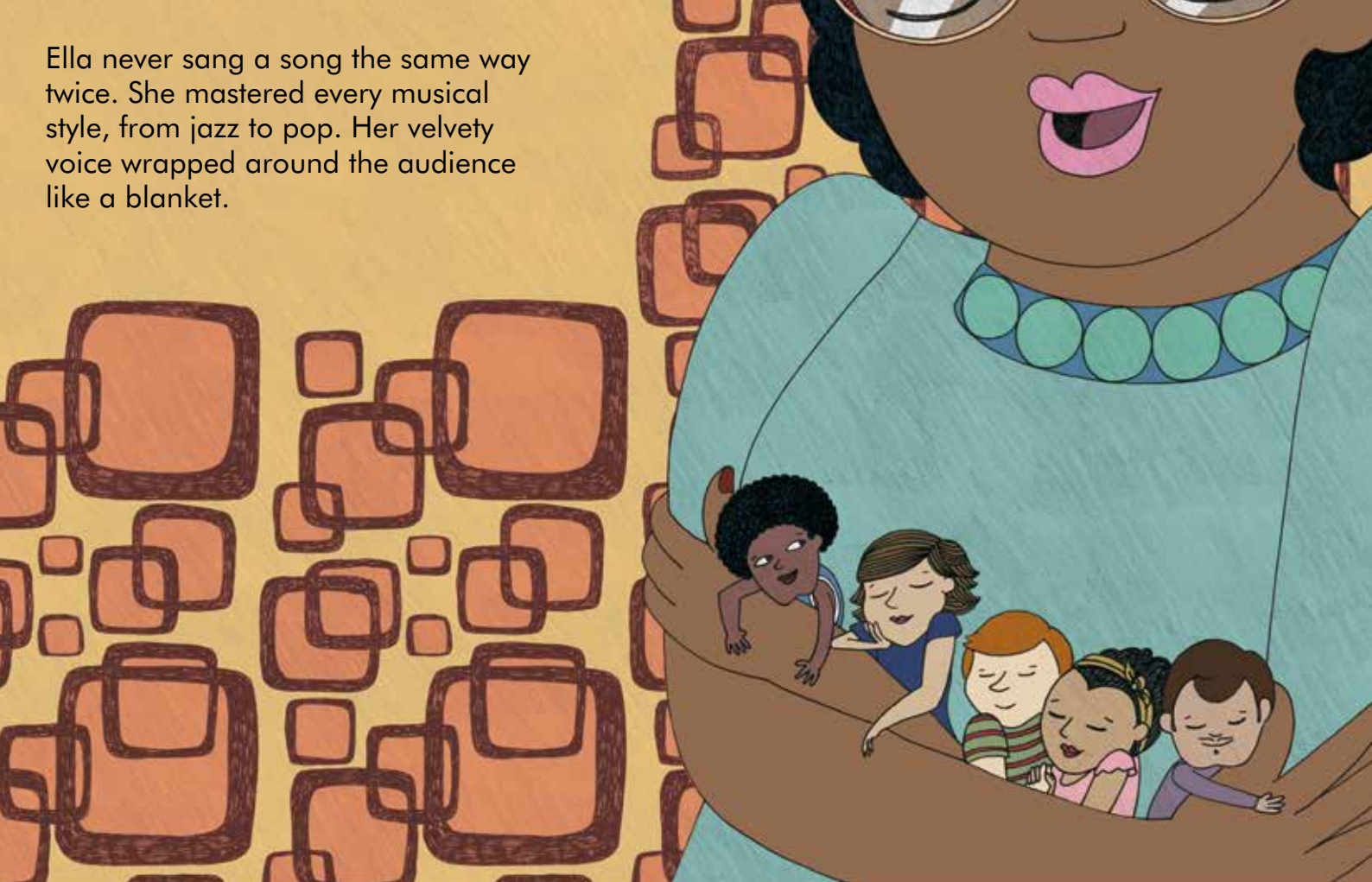


Eventually, Ella decided it was time to sing on her own.

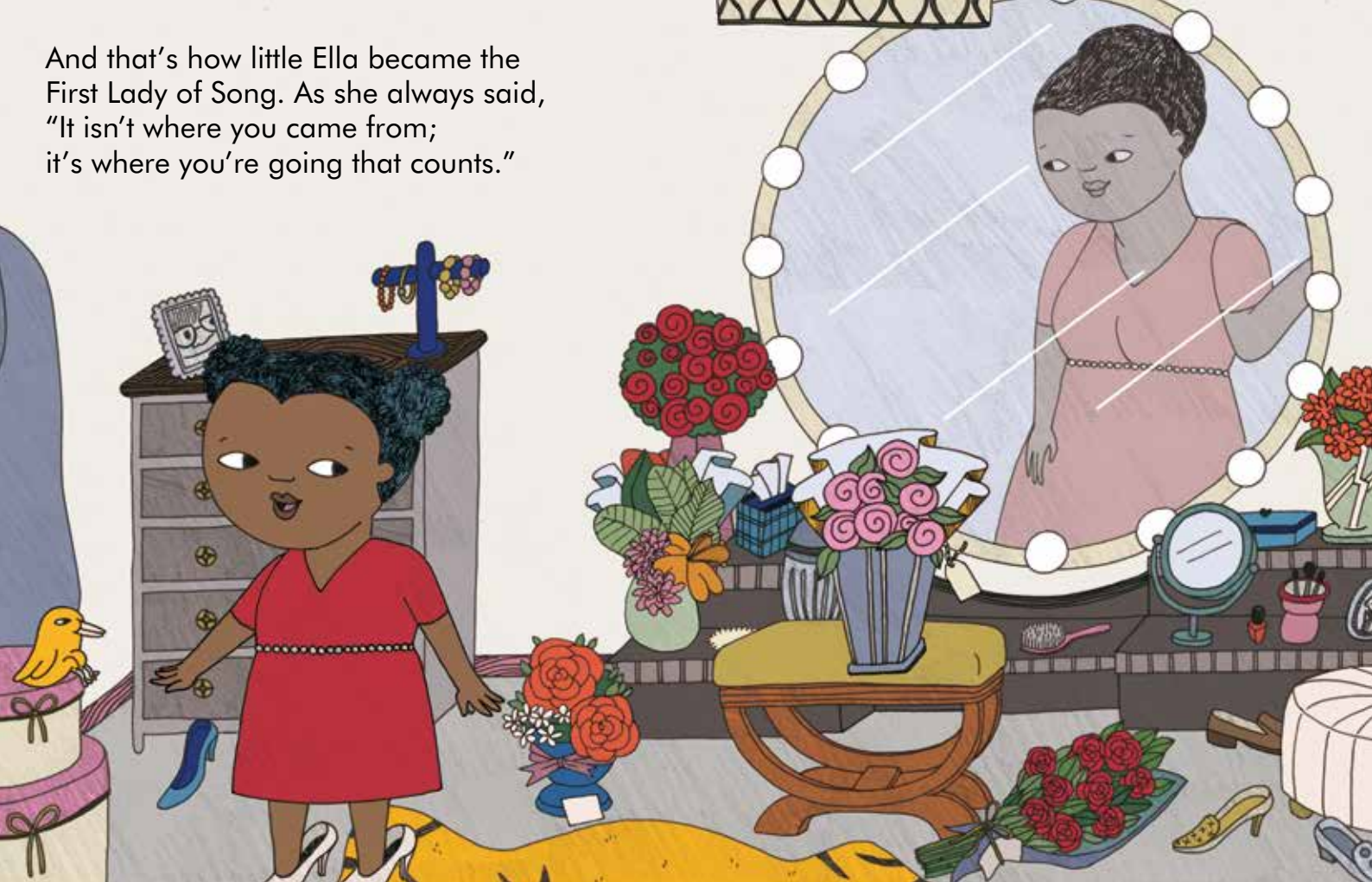
All the great jazz musicians wanted to perform with her. The phone didn't stop ringing!



Ella never sang a song the same way twice. She mastered every musical style, from jazz to pop. Her velvety voice wrapped around the audience like a blanket.



And that's how little Ella became the First Lady of Song. As she always said, "It isn't where you came from; it's where you're going that counts."



Ella recorded over 200 albums!
Design a cover for an album
you might record one day.



Glossary

Elastic – a stretchy, bendy material that bounces back into shape

Chorus line – a big group of dancers who perform the same dance

Equal rights – the idea that everyone should be treated equally

Jazz – a type of music that was invented in the USA by African Americans

Big band – a group of jazz musicians all playing together

Album – a collection of songs

Reading Tips

Top tips to help families discover the magic of reading

Books are magical. You can learn interesting things about incredible and inspiring people who have achieved their dreams. When families read stories together, the possibilities are endless.

Here are some top tips from the National Literacy Trust to help families bring stories to life at home:

- Make story time fun by using different voices for characters and acting out your favourite parts.
- When it comes to selecting books for your child, follow their interests. If they want to find out more about the world, then there are lots of books packed full of facts.
- Pick books about things your child is interested in. Whether they love dinosaurs, ballet or football, there's a story for every child to enjoy.
- Stories come in all shapes and sizes, from books and comics to magazines and newspapers. All reading counts so get exploring.
- Why not give audiobooks and storytelling videos a try? They can be really fun and are also great for children who aren't keen on reading.
- Make time to share stories as a family as often as you can. You could try reading a bedtime story together or listening to an audiobook on a car journey.

The National Literacy Trust is proud to partner with McDonald's to help families discover the magic of reading together.



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