

Description of Reading Promotion Activity/ Action <u>STORY SACKS</u>	
Reaches disadvantaged pupils / families	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes but not only
Multilingual activity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no
Action especially for	<input type="checkbox"/> girls <input type="checkbox"/> boys <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> both
Involves parents	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no
Utilizes ICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no
Objective (s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To encourage families to tell stories together. • To motivate and inspire families to read with their children.
Age level (s)	6-12
Preferable number of participants	All students and their families
Duration	Throughout the year
Setting, materials, and preparation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting: School library, classrooms, homes • Materials: Cloth bags, paints and markers that may be used on cloth, pieces of old clothing or other materials that can be used to decorate the story sacks, a variety of books, games, cards, board games, digital content, etc., as described below.
Step -by-step description	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Staff, volunteer families and local organizations collaborate to make as many story sacks as possible. 2. These should be attractively decorated sacks (made of sturdy material), filled with story inspiring objects, sets of storytelling cards, stories, puppets, relevant board games, etc., as well as instructions for families and suggestions for playing with the material and creating stories. 3. Since some parents may find making up their own stories intimidating, starter story sacks that include props based on popular fairy tales are also made. 4. A folder of the different sacks available for loan is



	<p>made, with a waiting list at the front of the folder.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">5. The sacks are lent out to families, so they can use them at home for storytelling, reading, and creative activities.6. DIY story sack guidelines are included in each sack to encourage families to create and personalize their own story sacks.7. At school, children are encouraged to tell their story sack stories and a book is created containing all the stories. Children take the book home in turns.
Notes to reading promotion facilitator	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Getting parents involved gives them a sense of ownership, so the more parents participate in the creation of story sacks the better.• The sacks could also include digital content, such as DVDs, memory sticks or CDs with narrations of stories, relevant electronic games and activities, songs, videos, photos, etc.• In a similar manner, Story Sacks could also be used by groups of students at school (in their classroom or the school library).• Annual audit/replacement of contents as required.• Variation of textures used in tactile materials.
Suggested follow-up actions/ activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A storytelling celebration could be organized, during which families share the stories they have come up with.
Acknowledgements	Ideas adapted from Osborne et al (2008).
Sources	Osborne, S., Strong, J. & Torsi, S. (2008). <i>Reading Connects Family Involvement Toolkit</i> . London: National Literacy Trust.