

Noni's Favourite
**Read-Aloud
Tips**
for
Bedtime

Turning a Story
into a Memory

Simple tips
for making
bedtime stories
unforgettable

Adventure

Memories

Dream

Explore

Places
Thando
Has Been

PASSPORT

Read-Aloud Tips for Bedtime

Noni's Favourite Tips for
Turning a Story into a Memory



1. Snuggle Up Close

Create a cozy reading spot with pillows, blankets, and cuddles. Children remember how reading felt just as much as they remember the story itself.

Noni's Tip: Let your little one choose their favourite blanket before story time begins.



2. Bring Each Place to Life

Every destination has its own personality, sounds, and energy. As you read, change your voice, pace, and expression to match the place Thando is visiting.

- In the African bush, read slowly and imagine the distant beat of drums and the sounds of wildlife.
- At the beach, use a gentle, flowing voice like the waves.
- In a busy city, make your voice a little quicker and more energetic.
- In the desert, slow down and create a sense of wonder and adventure.

Noni's Tip: Ask your child, "What do you think this place sounds like?" and create the sounds together.



3. Ask Questions Along the Way

Pause occasionally and ask:

- What do you think this place smells like?"
- What sounds would we hear if we were there?"
- Would you like to visit this place one day?"
- What do you think Thando enjoyed most here?"

These little conversations help children connect with the story and spark their curiosity about the world.



4. Connect the Story to Real Life

Stories become even more meaningful when children see themselves in the adventure.

- "Remember when we visited the beach?"
- "What place would you like to explore one day?"
- "If we packed our bags tomorrow, where would you choose to go?"

These connections help children dream, imagine, and see themselves as explorers too.



5. Let Their Imagination Wander

If your child wants to stop and talk about a picture, ask questions, or imagine what happens next—embrace it.

- What would you pack for this trip?"
- Who would you bring with you?"
- What adventure would you have there?"

Sometimes the best part of reading happens between the pages.



6. End With a Special Tradition

Create a simple bedtime ritual after every story.

You could:

- Share your favourite place from the book
- Talk about somewhere you'd love to visit together
- Say one thing you're grateful for
- Give a special bedtime hug
- Wish each other sweet dreams

These little traditions become treasured memories over time.



7. Read the Same Book Again (and Again!)

Children love repetition.

Reading a favourite story many times helps build confidence, language skills, and comfort.

Each time you read, your child may notice a new detail, discover a new favourite place, or imagine a different adventure.

If your child asks for the same book every night, that's perfectly okay.

A Note from Noni

"The stories we read together become part of our family's story too. Long after children forget every word, they'll remember the feeling of being loved, safe, and close to someone who made time just for them. My hope is that every adventure with Thando inspires little dreamers to explore, imagine, and discover the beautiful world around them."

With love, Noni Freebird

