



Changing life stories

Using Facebook Live with families

This guide provides step-by-step guidance for running online family activity sessions

Facebook Live and why it is useful

Go live on Facebook to broadcast short interactive family activity sessions to support young children while at home. You can go live on a page, in a group or an event, and your live videos will appear in people's News Feed.

Facebook Live is a great way to increase engagement with content and enables direct streaming to families.

Getting started

All you need is a mobile device or a computer with an internet connection. Watch this [online video](#), which introduces how to use Facebook Live.

Step-by-step guidance

Follow the steps below to use Facebook Live on mobile and desktop devices. Refer to this [step-by-step guide](#) for visual steps and more details.

1. Tap the camera icon to the left of your search bar
2. Give Facebook access to your camera and microphone when prompted
3. Switch to "Live" on the bottom of your camera screen
4. Choose your privacy and posting settings
5. Write a compelling description
6. Tag friends, choose your location, or add an activity
7. Set your cameras orientation
8. Add lenses, filters, or writing and drawing to your video
9. Click the blue "Start Live Video" button to start broadcasting
10. Interact with viewers and commenters
11. Click "Finish" to end the broadcast
12. Post your reply and save the video to your camera roll

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Considerations – technology and logistics

- Check your internet connection. Wi-Fi is ideal
- If using a mobile device, use a tripod and microphone if you have one. Otherwise make sure your phone can be positioned in a stable way and will not fall whilst filming
- Record in a space with natural light if possible
- Be aware that there is a 10-20 second delay on the recording
- To go live on your phone, click on 'post' and then 'Go Live'
- You can also go live on your profile by clicking the camcorder image with the word 'live' next to it when you open Facebook on your phone

Considerations – planning and delivering content

- We have provided sample sessions for you, and are happy to continue to provide these. Make any necessary tweaks in advance of the session and gather resources (they don't have to match the ones in our plan)
- Set up a space that can remain the same for each video. Make sure you have a place to sit and a place you can stand (for movement activities) where you can still be seen in the camera
- If conducting a storytelling session:
 - Make sure you have proper copyright permissions (see links at bottom of this document)
 - Make sure the audience can see the pages of the book. Try out the session first using the 'only me' privacy setting to make sure you are the correct distance away from the screen
- Talk slowly and clearly so that viewers can hear what you are saying
- Do not worry about mistakes or stutters and remember to be yourself. This allows you to connect with the audience
- Make sure your sessions are short, at least 5 minutes but no more than 20 minutes long
- Encourage parents to stay with their child and do the activities together. Focus on sharing simple ways parents can do these same activities at home with their child after the session
- Say goodbye before ending the video

Considerations – interaction with the audience

- Make sure people know when you are going to go live. Make an open event on your page, and let parents/carers know when it's taking place
- Introduce yourself at the start of the video but also as you go along, so that new viewers know who you are and what you are doing
- Do shout outs! You may not be able to read and reply to comments during the session, so plan to spend a short amount of time responding to comments after the

session. You can give shout outs to parents/carers and children who've commented at your next Facebook live session (this will encourage them to keep attending)

- At the end of each session, post a link to the survey below for parents to complete to measure the impact of these sessions on their home learning environment
<http://research.literacytrust.org.uk/s/2454G6/>

Safeguarding

At the end of your stream, it would be useful to direct parents to this link about how to keep under 5s safe online

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/keeping-your-under-five-safe-online>

Further information

For further guidance, including how to moderate comments and how to save, edit and trim your live videos for viewing after the event please refer to [this guide from Facebook](#).

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