

**Figure 2.11** Some oral language activities, text structure and features

Oral language activity	Text structure and language features	Example of activities
<b>News talk</b>	Recount (who, where, when, what, how) Orientation Event Event Event	Recounting the news from the weekend Photo Story comments with photographs Recounting school events
<b>Personal response</b>	Description May be descriptive and/or technical vocabulary Use of first person 'I' to describe thoughts, feelings and observations	Responding to a book, film, television show using comparative language, personal feelings and thoughts
<b>Storytelling</b>	May be a narrative, recount, retelling Orientation (who, where, when) Series of events and/or problem, conclusion Descriptive vocabulary	Puppet plays Storytelling traditional tales such as <i>The Wide-mouthed Frog</i> Readers theatre with masks and puppets Family and community stories
<b>I wonder ...?</b>	Explanation Phenomenon is outlined in a question, e.g. <i>I wonder how kites fly?</i> Explanation Explanation Summary	'I wonder ...?' charts can be set up when reading information texts Children's questions can be listed and answers or explanations provided under the question
<b>Report</b>	Report General classification Information Information summary May have a compare/contrast framework	Oral report on a topic, usually prepared in advance so the material is organised and comprehensive
<b>I made ...</b>	Procedure Materials Methodology	Description of objects, experiments in science, paintings, constructions made in craft, art, activity
<b>Debate</b>	Exposition to persuade or argue one side of an issue Organising information into an introduction, points of evidence, conclusion Technical vocabulary and data may be used to provide scientific or logical argument	A debate with a topic, e.g. <i>Goldilocks was a thief</i> Team 1: three speakers for affirmative Team 2: three speakers for negative Chairperson, timekeeper and adjudicator who decide on the winning team

Source: Based on Derewienka 1990, 2011, and Western Australian Department of Education and Training 2006