To create the love of the Qur'an, and instil it in the children at a young age, it would help give them some tools that they can relate directly to the Qur'an.
Here are some stories created around the surah names of the Qur'an. It helps in creating familiarity and some Arabic words and their meanings. It is not meant to be all inclusive of what the surahs talk of. Sometimes it links with the message of the surah, but the main aim is to get familiar with the names and the order the surahs are in. This is a way to help recall. Ali (RA) said a good way to memorise is by association of ideas. That is what is attempted here.

- **Story 1: Invitation**

1. Al Fatiha – the opening; you open up your home to invite the Jews
2. Al Baqara[1] – the Cow and you invite the Christians
3. Al'e Imran[2] – family of Imran You invite also their
4. An Nisa – Women. You set for them a
5. Al Maida – table or table spread. You feed them kebabs and meat stuff from
6. Al Anaam – cattle/livestock. It makes you feel happy and you are on a high, on
7. Al Araf – the Heights. You then serve them all desert and extra special stuff –
8. Al Anfaal – Booty or 'extras'[3] Before you get proud about it, do some
9. At Tawba – repentance. The prophet who did lots of *tawba* was
10. Yunus. – the prophet who prayed while in the fish. Another prophet was
11. Hud, - whose people didn't listen to him. Then another prophet was
12. Yusuf. – He was thrown in the well by his brothers; just imagine small child hearing
13. Ra'd – the thunder; scared, Allah gave him solace. He is the only prophet in a line of four generations of prophets, Yaqoob, Ishaq, and his great grandfather was
14. Ibrahim – he had a father who disbelieved and was stubborn as a rock in a
15. Al Hijr – rocky tract; now think of hills, flowers and the humming of
16. An Nahl – bees. (Incidentally this surah is strong on Allah's signs in nature)

End of story.

- **Story 2:** next story starts with the Israelites,

17. Bani Isra'il[4] – talks about the Jews and then followed by a story of Christian lads in
18. Al Kahf[5] – the Cave; the lads are known as the Sleepers of the cave; followed by
19. Maryam – Jesus' mother and then the story of Musa extensively in
20. Ta Ha – Musa was one of the great
21. Al Anbiya – the prophets; think of them and think of
22. Al Hajj – the pilgrimage; once you come out of hajj hopefully you will be one of
23. Al Muminoon – the believers. Inshallah you will carry some
24. Nur – Light and you will be able to see right from wrong as in
25. Al Furqan – criterion/standard; some who are infamous for exaggerating are the
26. Ash Shu'ara – the poets. You can have poems on
27. An Naml – the ant; or lots of other stories as in
28. Al Qasas - the story and you could also have one on
29. Al Ankabut – the spider; - a destructive thing; think of how
30. Ar Rum – the Romans were defeated and destroyed. They didn't have wisdom of

31. Luqman – he gave his son good advice on kindness to parents. The best thing is
32. Sajdah – prostration; to prostrate to Allah. Tell that to everyone in your
33. Ahzab – tribes, confederates. There were many tribes, as the tribe of
34. Saba – a people who disbelieved in the one
35. Fatir – Creator, Allah; He guided our Rasul[6] in
36. Ya Sin – the special letters[7]; About life and death. We need to line up in
37. As Saffaat –Ranks, like the angels in *hamd*; They are so *Saleh* spelt with the letter
38. As Sad – The message of Allah needs to be clear to all the
39. Az Zumar – the crowds or troops. There is need to be forgiving and believing as in
40. Al Ghafir or Al Mumin[8]; and things are made clear as in
41. Al Fussilaat[9] - things well expounded. This is necessary when you have a
42. As Shura – Counsel or consultation. Be sure not to get up in useless things like
43. Az Zukhruf – gold ornaments. It is all very transitory and as nebulous as the
44. Ad Dukhan – the smoke; To avoid the smoke you sometimes have to bend down,
45. Al Jathiya – kneeling down; you might need to do that to avoid the winds on
46. Al Ahqaf – the sand dunes or windy tracts. The best in sajadah and kneeling was
47. Muhammad – our Prophet. His excellence is what finally gave us the
48. Fattah – the victory; but you mustn't get over familiar with him; take care of his
49. Hujjarat – the apartments; know the limits in behaviour.

End of story;

- **Story 3** Let us start with the letter of al Qur'an – the
50. Qaf – the letter. The Qur'an is found in every corner of the world as the
51. Ad Dhariyaat – the winds that scatter; the Qur'an talks about the
52. At Tur – the mountain and the
53. An Najm – the star and the
54. Al Qamar – the moon. It is Allah the most
55. Ar Rahman – the Merciful to tell us about all the blessings. He tells us of akhirah in
56. Al Waqia – the major event to come. We need to prepare, be strong like
57. Al Hadid – the iron, the element that came on earth from outer space[10].

End of story;

- **Story 4** starts with women and their issues as in
58. Mujadilah – the one who argued and pleaded. We need to be good to women or in
59. Hashr – the day of gathering we will be asked. Remember the women who
60. Mumtatana – were examined about their faith. We need to stay united and stand in
61. As Saff – the ranks in salaah, and say what we mean. No nonsense, take care of
62. Al Jumma – the congregation. Don't divide or let the
63. Munafiqoon – hypocrites get the better of you. They involve you in
64. Taghaboon – mutual fraud, loss and gain and the dunya. Be careful especially in matters of

65. Talaq – divorce; do it with decency, and don't make on yourself haraam,
66. Tahrim – prohibitions; things which are allowed. Remember to Allah belongs the
67. Mulk – the dominion of all things. He gave us the *aql* and the use of the
68. Qalam – the pen. To remind us of the
69. Haqqa - the true reality. To Allah belongs all the gateways to the heavens as in
70. Al Ma'arij – the stairways; It's hard working with disbelievers; think of
71. Nuh –the prophet who was saved in the ark; and know that the
72. Jinn – the unseen creatures can be good and bad.

End of story

· **Story 5** starts with our Rasul,

73. Al Muzzammil – wrapped in a robe, always deep in zikr at night.
74. Al Muddaththir – wrapped in a cloak he used to contemplate a lot, to tell the people of
75. Al Qiyama – the resurrection. To tell the arrogant
76. Al Insan – man about it; there was a *Dahr*[11]- time when man wasn't even mentioned.
77. Al Mursalaat – the winds that scatter were there. Winds spread the
78. An Naba' – the news of what will happen in akhirah, of death as
79. An Nazi'at – the soul snatchers take out the souls of good guys and bad.
80. Abasa – To frown; on the poor guy isn't good; give them time and attention before
81. At Tanwir – enveloped and overthrown we are on doomsday.
82. Al Iftar – it will be a rending and cleaving of the heavens. The bad guys
83. Al Muttafiffin – cheaters will be dealt with once the
84. Al Inshiqaq – the splitting of that day takes place. The
85. Al Buruj – the constellation and the
86. At Tariq – the bright star, the visitor of night, will all yield by the grace of
87. Al A'la - the Most High.
88. Al Ghashiya – the overwhelming event, and the
89. Al Fajr –day break are all signs of Allah, as is the world, the country the
90. Al Balad – the city. Akhirah is remembered better when we see signs in the
91. Ash Shams – the sun,
92. Al Lail – the night and
93. Ad Duha – the morning brightness; gives the rasul solace from Allah and
94. An Nashr – expansion. Allah gives ease after every difficulty.
95. At Tin – the fig and the olive are all blessings and signs of Allah's goodness and in
96. Al Alaq – the blood clot, is where we come from before we even learn to read.
97. Al Qadr – the Power is Allah's – the special night when the Qur'an came down. It has
98. Al Bayyina – the clear proof that Allah is one, and there is an akhirah foretold by a
99. Al Zilzal – an earthquake to turn it all upside down and give us the result.
100. Al Adiyat – the runners or chargers are there for our benefit, but there is
101. Al Qaria – the calamity, or day of judgment; so don't race in
102. At Takathur – rivalry for worldly gain; because it all ends and you lose if
103. Al Asr – Time you don't take care of; so don't hoard or slander like
104. Al Humaza – the backbiter. Bad guys suffer like the people with
105. Al Fil – the elephants; when they tried to destroy the Kaaba; Allah saved it. The

106. Quraish – were blessed with peace; but still disbelieved; were mean, didn't give
107. Al Maun – assistance to the poor; or help. Allah gives good news to the Rasul of
108. Al Kauthar – abundance – the ultimate one being in jannah; the
109. Al Kafiroon – disbelievers can go their own way and suffer while
110. An Nasr – help and victory is ultimately the believers. Bad guys carry bad deeds like
111. Al Masad – palm fibre as fuel to burn in hell. They don't believe in Allah – in
112. Al Ikhlas – sincerity in the oneness of Allah. He is the Allah of
113. Al Falaq – Day break; his protection we need from envy. He is the *Rabb* of
114. An Naas – mankind; Allah is the main protector from evil whisperings of people.

1 Surah Baqara talks a lot about the Jews
2 Ale' Imran talks a lot to the Christians.
3 literally *anfaal* and *nawafil* are both plurals of *nafl* which means extra.
4 Also know as al Isra' – the night journey on the *Meraj*
5 By now we have covered nearly half the Qur'an
6 who title is considered to be Ya Sin also
7 Al muqattaat - Allah alone knows their significance.
8 This surah has two names.
9 This surah is also known as Ha Mim
10 Iron is the metal that was not indigenous to planet Earth
11 Another name for this surah