



Read to Me News

From Your Public Library & Idaho's Read to Me Program

Building Vocabulary

Research shows that children who have larger vocabularies are better readers. Knowing many words helps children recognize & understand written words.

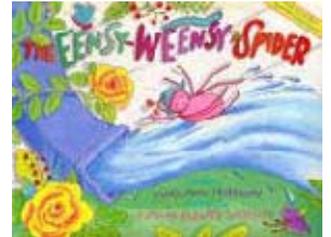
To help develop a strong vocabulary:

- u Talk to your child, a lot! Research shows that parents who talk to their children more often have children with larger vocabularies, and those children score higher on IQ tests.
- u Talk to your child about what is going on around you. Talk about how things work, feelings and ideas. Listen when your child talks to you.
- u Speak in the language that is most comfortable for you.
- u Read to your child every day. Children's books have more rare words than the every day conversations people have. Talk about the stories and the pictures in books.
- u Learn together by reading nonfiction books. Help your child pick out books about things he or she is interested in.
- u When your child talks to you, add more detail to what she says. Expand conversations and ask questions.

Parents who talk to their children throughout the day are giving them a gift. The language they learn will help them enjoy and understand the world around them and help prepare them to become lifelong learners.

Book of the Month

The Eensy-Weensy Spider, by Mary Ann Hoberman



This new version of the popular hand rhyme takes the tiny spider on a series of further adventures. She skips out to play, meets a baby bug, takes a walk, goes for a swim with a frog, marches in a parade, falls and scrapes her knees, plops into a brook, buys new shoes, follows a glowworm home in the dark, and falls asleep. "The eensy-weensy spider slept right through the night./When she awoke, the sun was shining bright./'Good,' said the spider, 'there isn't any rain!'/And the eensy-weensy spider went up the spout again."

If you enjoyed this book, you may also like these:

The Very Busy Spider, by Eric Carle



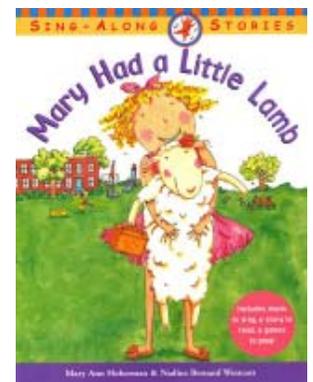
Miss Mary Mack, by Mary Ann Hoberman

I Know an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly, by Mary Ann Hoberman

Mary Had a Little Lamb, by Mary Ann Hoberman

Little Miss Spider, by David Kirk

Peanut Butter and Jelly: A Play Rhyme, by Nadine Bernard Westcott



Bright Futures Begin with Summer Reading!

Top 10 reasons to sign up a child for summer reading.

- 10) To bring the world to your child
- 9) To keep your child's reading skills strong
- 8) To find great books for the whole family
- 7) To meet new friends
- 6) To find books to match your child's interests
- 5) To discover new authors and great web sites
- 4) To nurture a love of reading
- 3) To stretch your child's mind and imagination
- 2) To give your child a head start on life and learning
- 1) It's fun!



Did you know that a child who reads as few as six books over the summer can maintain or increase his or her reading skills!

Song of the Month

Flutter, Flutter, Butterfly

Sung to: "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star"

Flutter, flutter, butterfly.
Floating in the summer sky.
Floating by for all to see,
Floating by so merrily.
Flutter, flutter, butterfly,
Floating in the summer sky.



Fingerplay to Share

Creeping Caterpillar

Here comes a caterpillar,
Creeping up a tree.

(crawl your fingers up your arm)

It's munching every leaf in sight,
Hungry as can be.

(Make eating motion with hand.)

It sheds its skin and forms a shell:

The changes we can't see.

(fold hands)

Then out of the shell a butterfly comes,
Flying fancy-free!

(clasp thumbs, spread fingers and wave them)



Funding for this program is made possible by a grant from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under a provision of the Library Services and Technology Act.