



For ages  
**Birth  
to 2**

# The Bookworm



From your  
local library  
and Idaho's Read  
to Me program

**September, 2009**

## Welcome to the Read to Me *First Book* program!



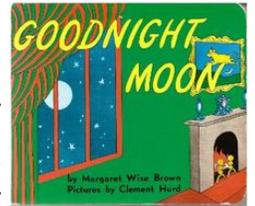
Your child has received a free book today as a part of the Idaho Commission for Libraries' and your local library's Read to Me First Book program. Your child will receive a free book each month as part of the program. Your library also has some fun activities planned for parents and for families. You will be hearing more about these later in the year.

We hope you will take time to visit your library and meet the wonderful people who work there. The library has many great resources for families, and staff can find the perfect book for your child's age and interests. We hope you enjoy reading these books and sharing special time together.

## Book of the Month

### *Goodnight Moon*, by Margaret Wise Brown

This classic book is a perfect bed-time story to read with your child. The rhyming text makes it a great choice for babies and toddlers, who identify with the bunny's desire to stay awake. The soothing poetry and pictures will help your little one get ready for a good night's sleep!



Margaret Wise Brown is one of the best-selling children's book authors of all time.

Here are two more favorites:  
*The Runaway Bunny*  
*A Child's Good Night Book*  
(Caldecott Honor)

## 10 good reasons to read to babies:

1. Baby associates your voice with warmth, comfort, and security.
2. Reading has a calming effect on a restless baby.
3. Baby is entertained by nursery rhymes and songs.
4. Holding the baby while reading to him/her creates a close, loving bond between parent and baby.
5. Baby makes an association between reading and being held.
6. The pleasure of being held transfers to the desire to be read to.
7. Baby will learn to listen and will grow up ready to read.
8. Baby will begin imitating sounds and words.
9. Baby must hear English (or French or whatever) in order to learn that language.
10. It's fun to read to a baby!

## More fun with *Goodnight Moon*

**Talk and point...**Talk about the objects in the story, and ask your child to find them on the page. "Where is the brush? Here it is! It is on the table with the comb and lamp. What do we do with a brush?" (Older children can look for the mouse on each colored page.)

## A Word About Board Books

Board books have pages that are heavy, sturdy and laminated. They are perfect for little hands. The pictures are simple and clear and the designs are bright and fun.

Babies explore their world by putting things into their mouths, including books! This is normal and board books are made for little hands and mouths because they are harder to damage than other books.

You can clean board books by wiping with 1/2 cup bleach per gallon of water, window cleaner or rubbing alcohol or just clean them with a little soap and water and wipe them dry. We hope you and your little one have fun exploring and playing with board books!



## Nursery Rhyme

Hey, diddle diddle,  
The cat and the fiddle,  
The cow jumped over the moon.

The little dog laughed  
To see such a sport,  
And the dish ran away with the spoon.



## Action Rhyme



### Big Yellow Moon

*(Match actions to words)*

**Big yellow moon shines so bright,**

*(Hold your arms above your head in a circle shape.)*

**Glides across the starry night.**

*(Move your arms from left to right.)*

**Looks down at me,**

*(Use your hands to shade your eyes.)*

**Asleep in bed,**

*(Pretend to sleep.)*

**And whispers, "Good night, sleepyhead."**

**Big yellow moon your turn is done,**

*(Move your arms down in front of your body.)*

**Here comes Mr. Morning Sun!**

*(Move your arms above your head in a circle shape again.)*

### What your library can do for you...

"Early literacy" is what children learn about reading and writing before they learn to read and write. Children learn these skills before they start school. Check with your librarian to find out what resources are available to parents to help promote early literacy.

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