

## Did you know...



Building your child's vocabulary is one of the most important skills you can develop to help them be successful when they get to school. You are building vocabulary as you sing with them, play games like "peek-a-boo", and point out print on food containers.

### Language Milestones- Birth to 3 years old

0-6 months	Back and forth noises
4-12 months	Babbling, tries to repeat sounds
6-15 months	Imitating, uses 1-2 words
10-18 months	First words, meaningful gestures, uses 4-6 words
15-24 months	Putting words together
24-36 months	Makes 3 word sentences, uses 250-900 words

## Here's how...



- ❖ Hearing language on TV is not as effective for building vocabulary as talking directly with your child. Dressing and feeding your child are great opportunities for talking with them.
- ❖ Talk with your children in the language you speak at home. If they build a vocabulary of words in their home language it will help them to build a vocabulary of words in English as they get older.
- ❖ Look for books that teach concepts such as numbers, colors, shapes, opposites, etc. These are things your child should know before they begin kindergarten (see *Choosing Books*).

## Read



### *Numbers / Números, by Sterling Publishing Company*



Babies and toddlers love photographs, so what better way to teach counting than pictures of familiar things? Toddlers can start to understand amounts by touching and counting the pictures on each page.

More books in this series:



## Choosing Books



### More "concept" books...

*Same and Different*, by National Geographic  
*Blue Hat, Green Hat*, by Sandra Boynton  
*Big Fat Hen*, by Keith Baker  
*Counting Kisses*, by Karen Katz  
*Quite, Loud*, by Leslie Patricelli  
*The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, by Eric Carle  
*Ten Black Dots*, by Donald Crews  
*Colors*, by Roger Priddy  
*Ten Little Fingers and Ten Little Toes*, by Mem Fox



## Talk



As you read counting books with your toddler, help her count the items on each page. Touch (or help her touch) each item as you count it aloud. “Let’s count the chicks: 1, 2, 3.” At this age, help her count things up to three or five. For higher amounts, it’s okay just to point and count them yourself and talk about the pictures.

## Ready to Write



Being able to touch an item and count it out loud is an important beginning math skill for young children to develop, and also helps her learn to control the little muscles in her fingers that are needed to hold a pencil later on.

## Play



### One Little Baby

(Lap Rhyme for Babies = B )

(Fingerplay for Toddlers = T )

One little baby, rocking in a tree.

*(B: With baby laying in lap, gently rock.)*

*(T: Hold up finger then rock in palm.)*

Two little babies, splashing in the sea.

*(B: Wiggle fingers on baby’s tummy.)*

*(T: Hold up two fingers, splash hands.)*

Three little babies, crawling on the floor.

*(B: Crawl fingers up baby’s legs.)*

*(T: Three fingers, make crawling motions.)*

Four little babies, banging on the door.

*(B: Pat baby’s hands together.)*

*(T: Four fingers, pound on imaginary door.)*

Five little babies, playing hide and seek.

*(B: Cover your eyes.)*

*(T: Five fingers, cover up eyes.)*

Keep your eyes closed tight, until I say... PEEK!

*(Both: Hands away from eyes)*

## Sing



### This Old Man

This old man, he played **one**,  
He played knick knack with his thumb,  
With a knick, knack, paddy whack,  
Give the dog a bone;  
This old man came rolling home.

This old man, he played **two**,  
He played knick knack on my shoe,  
With a knick, knack, paddy whack,  
Give the dog a bone,  
This old man came rolling home.

*Continue singing with these verses:*

**Three**, on his knee

**Seven**, up to heaven

**Four**, on the door

**Eight**, on my gate

**Five**, on my hive

**Nine**, on my spine

**Six**, with his sticks

**Ten**, all over again

*See a version of this song at*

<http://tinyurl.com/RIF-oldman>

## At your library...



Your library, in cooperation with the Idaho Commission for Libraries, now offers free “storytimes online” every day of the year. Each day features an online book to read with your child, as well as songs, rhymes, fingerplays, videos, crafts, and other activities that you can access from a computer or Smartphone.

**DayByDayID.org**  
STORYTIMES ONLINE