

Did you know...



It is never too early to introduce babies to print. Board books have pages that are heavy, sturdy, and laminated. They are perfect for little hands. Babies and toddlers explore their world by putting things into their mouths, including books. This is normal, which is why board books are a great choice for young children.

Books don't have to be read from front to back. You can take a "book walk" by turning the pages and pointing to pictures. Name the pictures as you look at them, to help build your child's vocabulary. If your child wants to look at the same pictures over and over, give them time to do so. Children need repetition for information to be stored in their long-term memories.

Take time to look at and read books with your little one. It will create a strong tradition of reading in their lives.

Here's how...

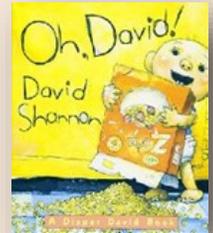


- ❖ Point out street signs as you walk or drive around town with your child. Talk about the color, shape, and words on signs so your child will be aware they have meaning.
- ❖ Point out letters, numbers, and shapes on your child's clothing. Say "Oh look, there is a circle on your shirt" and trace it with your finger.
- ❖ Let your child have opportunities to play with writing and drawing. They can write in pudding, shaving cream, sand, or dry Jell-O on a cookie sheet or any flat surface. Shaving cream should be used only with older toddlers.

Read

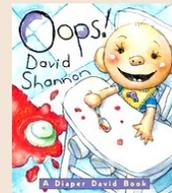
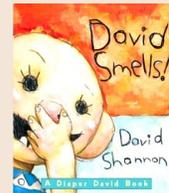


Oh, David! by David Shannon



It's hard work to be a toddler! Little David makes all kinds of messes but there's nothing better than cuddling with Mama at the end of the day. Make sure your child knows that you love her no matter how many "oh's!" happen during the day.

Other "Diaper David" board books (also available in Spanish):



Choosing Books



More print-rich books...

Mouse Mess, by Linnea Riley

Baby Signs, by Joy Allen

Dear Zoo, by Rod Campbell

Feast for 10, by Cathryn Falwell

Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!
by Mo Willems

Shopping, by Rosemary Wells

Goodnight Gorilla, by Peggy Rathmann

What Shall We Do with the Boo Hoo Baby?
by Cressida Cowell

Talk



Point to the pictures and talk about what is happening. "Look here, Mommy is trying to feed David and he does NOT want to eat!"

Ready to Write



Sprinkle Cheerios or other soft cereal on your toddler's high chair tray or placemat and let him practice picking them up with two fingers. The pinching motion will help develop the little muscles he will need to hold a pencil later on.

Play



Rhymes and poems, bounces, tickles, fingerplays and movement games build your child's memory skills, imagination, sense of humor, and big and small muscles.

This is the Way the Baby Rides

(Gently bounce baby on knees with each verse)

This is the way the baby rides,

The baby rides, the baby rides.

This is the way the baby rides,

So early in the morning.

This is the way the farmer rides...

This is the way the cowboy rides...

Touch

Touch your nose, touch your chin,

That's the way the game begins.

Touch your eyes, touch your knees,

Now pretend you're going to sneeze!

ACHOO!

Touch your hair, touch one ear,

Touch your two red lips right here.

Touch your elbows where they bend,

That is how this game will end.

See this rhyme at

<http://tinyurl.com/touchrhyme>

Created by our friends at the Washington County Cooperative System

Sing



Frère Jacques

(traditional French song)



Frère Jacques, Frère Jacques,

Dormez vous? Dormez vous?

Sonnez les matines,

Sonnez les matines,

Din, din, don!

Din, din, don!

English:

Are you sleeping?

Are you sleeping?

Brother John,

Brother John?

Morning bells are ringing.

Morning bells are ringing.

Ding! Ding! Dong!

Ding! Ding! Dong!

Spanish:

Martinelo,

Martinelo.

Duermas tú?

Duermas tú?

Tocan las campanas,

Tocan las campanas.

Din Din Don.

Din Din Don.

Hear the tune at:

<http://tinyurl.com/kididdles-frerejacques>

At your library...



Don't have a library card? You can still visit your library for storytimes or to read with your child. Ask your librarian about how to apply for your own card today!