

## Did you know...



Children are very curious about the world around them. They want to know about the weather, how things work, facts about animals, etc. Nonfiction, or information books, help children learn about the things that interest them.

Nonfiction books should have a lot of photos or drawings to help children see what they are reading about. If there are a lot of words on each page it isn't necessary to read every one. Read the main points on each page and then ask questions to see what your child is interested in.

Don't hesitate to read the higher level vocabulary that is often in nonfiction books. Your child needs to be exposed to a variety of vocabulary words to have the background knowledge they will need to succeed in school.

## Here's how...



- ✦ Make opportunities for your child to be out in the natural world. Take walks through the woods, splash in a creek, go to a park. Children this age love to explore, so get outside and enjoy some time in nature.
- ✦ Go to your local library and check out books about the things your child is interested in. Whether it is dinosaurs or the solar system, libraries can provide a wealth of books about any topic.
- ✦ Ask your child questions about the book by having them look at the pictures. They provide a lot of clues about the content of the book.

## Read

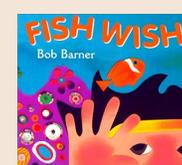
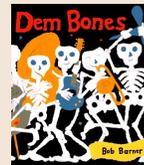


### **Bugs! Bugs! Bugs!, by Bob Barner**



Children are fascinated by bugs. They creep, they crawl, they fly. This colorful nonfiction book uses simple text to describe eight bugs that would be familiar to young children. The informational chart in the back of the book compares features of these bugs—how many legs they have, where they live, if they fly, and if they sting. This book is also available in Spanish.

Barner has written a variety of nonfiction children's books. Here are a few:



## Choosing Books



### **More nonfiction books to read...**

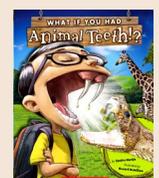
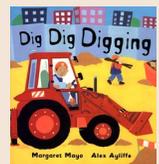
*Stripes of All Types*, by Susan Stockdale

*Dig, Dig, Digging*, by Margaret Mayo

*Wonderful Worms*, by Linda Glaser

*Finding Winnie: the True Story of the World's Most Famous Bear*, by Lindsay Mattick

*Birds, Nests, and Eggs (Take Along Guides)*, by Mel Boring



## Why Kids Need Nonfiction



- Information books and magazines can play an important part in motivating children to read.
- There are some great, high-quality information books available for children of all ages.
- Many kids enjoy information books as much as story books.
- Nonfiction can be a way for parents to share their interests with their children.
- Information books expose children to special vocabulary and concepts, which helps build language.
- Reading nonfiction now can help children prepare for reading these types of books later in life.

## Sing



### The Insect Song

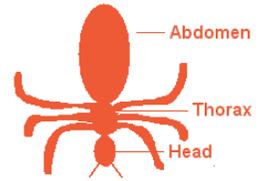
(to the tune of Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes)

Head, thorax, abdomen,  
Abdomen.

Head, thorax, abdomen,  
Abdomen.

Six legs, four wings, antennae two.

Head, thorax, abdomen,  
Abdomen.



Hear tune at

<http://supersimplelearning.com/songs/original-series/one/head-shoulders-knees-and-toes-sing-it/>

Material from *The Bilingual Book of Rhymes, Songs, and Fingerplays* by Pam Schiller, Rafael Lara-Alecio, and Beverly J. Irby, ISBN 978-0-8769-284-7, is reprinted with permission from Gryphon House, Inc., [www.gryphonhouse.com](http://www.gryphonhouse.com)

## Play



### Ladybug, Ladybug

(use your hand to fly around and  
land on body part)

Ladybug, ladybug, fly out of the farm,

And land right on my little arm.

Ladybug, ladybug, fly out of the tree,

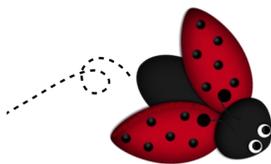
And land right on my little knee.

Ladybug, ladybug, fly out of your bed,

And land right on my little head.

Ladybug, ladybug, fly out of the rose,

And land right on my little nose.



## At your library...



Libraries are helping young children develop science, technology, engineering, and mathematics skills. Contact your library to learn more about STEM programs, and be sure to visit [www.stemgame.lili.org](http://www.stemgame.lili.org) for a fun online game to play with your child!