

## 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



### ***Every Day Birds / Pájaros de todos los días*, by Amy Ludwig VanDerwater**



Young children are fascinated with birds in their world. *Every Day Birds* helps children identify and learn about common birds. After reading this book families can look out their windows with curiosity—recognizing birds and nests and celebrating the beauty of these creatures.

Other books by the author:



## Choosing Books



### **More nonfiction books your child may enjoy:**

*Bee Dance*, by Rick Chrustowski

*Best Foot Forward*, by Ingo Arndt

*The Book of Seasons / El libro de las estaciones*, by Alice and Martin Provensen

*Gravity*, by Jason Chin

*Hello Ocean / Hola mar*, by Pam Muñoz Ryan

*Red-Eyed Tree Frog*, by Joy Cowley

*What Do You Do with a Tail Like This?* by Robin Page

## Why kids need nonfiction



- Information books and magazines can play an important part in motivating children to read.
- There are high-quality information books available for children of all ages.
- 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.

## Play



### Itsy Bitsy Spider

The **itsy bitsy** spider  
crawled up the water spout.

Down came the rain  
and washed the spider out.

Out came the sun  
and dried up all the rain.

And the itsy bitsy spider  
crawled up the spout again.

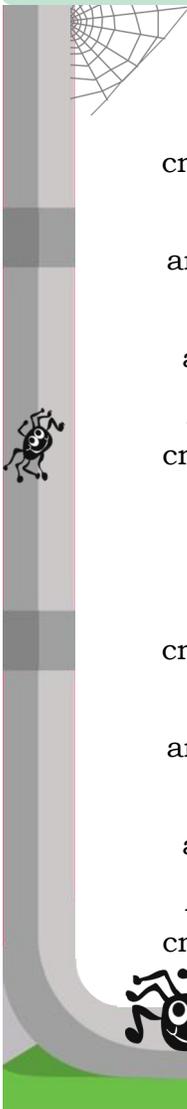
*Now sing in a big voice  
with big movements:*

The **great big** spider  
crawled up the water spout.

Down came the rain  
and washed the spider out.

Out came the sun  
and dried up all the rain.

And the **great big** spider  
crawled up the spout again.



## Sing



### Five Little Chickadees

Five little chickadees knocking at the door  
One flew away and then there were four.

*Chorus:* Chickadee, chickadee, happy today.  
Chickadee, chickadee, fly away.

Four little chickadees singing in a tree  
One flew away and then there were three.

*Chorus*

Three little chickadees didn't know what to do  
One flew away and then there were two.

*Chorus*

Two little chickadees sitting in the sun  
One flew away leaving only one.

*Chorus*

One little chickadees not having any fun  
She flew away and then there were none.

*Chorus*

Hear song at

<https://tinyurl.com/chicadees>



## 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!