



For ages  
**Birth  
to 2**

# The Bookworm



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

**November 2011**



## Family Reading Week: November 13–19

Family Reading Week is an annual statewide celebration of reading as a family activity. The theme this year is "Let the Games Begin @ your library." Libraries and schools across the state are planning exciting events celebrating family play and literacy.

Playtime is special. Not only is it fun, it is critical to how well your child grows and develops. Play is a child's "work" and their way of learning about the world around them. Through play, young children try out new skills, explore their imagination and creativity, and learn about relationships with other people.

You are your child's favorite playmate! Playing with your child helps him develop early reading skills, improve vocabulary words and language, practice early math skills, and learn to solve everyday problems. On the back are some ways to make the most of your child's playtime at home.

There are lots of ways to play at your library. The library is a place the whole family can enjoy. In addition to reading and storytimes, many libraries offer game nights, arts and crafts, workshops, kids' clubs, adult clubs, teen programs, computer access, video games, movies, music, and more...at no cost!

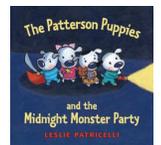
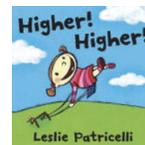
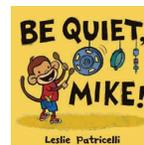
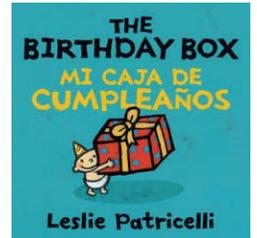
## Book of the Month

*Mi caja de cumpleaños /  
The Birthday Box*, by  
*Leslie Patricelli*

What is better than getting a brand-new toy as a birthday gift? Playing with the box it came in! Good thing the toy puppy that came inside the box is happy to come along for the ride!

Award-winning author Leslie Patricelli lives in Ketchum, Idaho. Visit her website to see all the great books for kids she has written:

<http://lesliepatricelli.com/>



## More books that encourage imagination and play:

*Wrapping Paper Romp* by Patricia Hubbell. As every baby knows--the packaging is even more fun than what's inside!

*More, More, More, Said the Baby*, by Vera Williams. Three babies are caught up in the air and given loving attention by a father, grandmother, and mother who play with them.

*Pat-a-Cake*, by Andrew King. A toddler helps a baker make a cake—and then shares it with a rather messy baby friend.



## More fun with *The Birthday Box*

**Fun and games...** Make a tunnel from a large cardboard box by opening both ends. Place the child at one end of the tunnel. You sit at the opposite end. Peek your face in the tunnel and say, "Hi!" Then lean away from the tunnel (so the child can't see you) and say, "Bye!" Does the child try to communicate with you by crawling to find you, or by making sounds to copy your "hi" and "bye"?

**Arts and crafts...** Have boxes sitting around? See how to make a box town, a guitar, a tiny puppet theater, and more!

[www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/box/](http://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/box/)



## Supporting playtime...

- ☺ **Back and Forth.** Coo and talk to your baby. Imitate her sounds and wait for her response. Encourage her to copy you, too.
- ☺ **Peek-a-Boo.** Try hiding behind your hands, a diaper, or pajamas as you dress Baby.
- ☺ **Action Games.** Games like "Ring Around the Rosie" and "London Bridge" encourage toddlers to move, sing, listen, and take turns.
- ☺ **Do it again... And again.** Doing things over and over helps toddlers learn how things work. This helps them master new skills, which boosts their self-confidence.
- ☺ **Name That Tune.** Toddlers enjoy singing songs and having you read books with rhyming words. See if toddlers know the next word in the song by pausing before you sing it.
- ☺ **Busy Hands.** Young toddlers love to make things work. They use their hands and fingers for pushing buttons, opening boxes, and turning pages. Many toddlers also like to finger paint, color, play with play dough, or squeeze water out of a sponge.

From Zero to Three, [www.zerotothree.org](http://www.zerotothree.org)

## Nonsense Fun!

Young children love hearing nonsense stories, rhymes, and songs. They're fun and they encourage the development of rhyming skills, which will help children get ready to read.

### Rhyme: "Acka Backa Soda Cracker"

Acka backa soda cracker,  
(Bounce baby on lap/toddlers bounce knees)  
Acka backa boo!  
Acka backa soda cracker,  
Up goes you!  
(Lift baby into the air/toddlers jump up high)  
Acka Backa soda cracker,  
(Bounce baby on lap/toddlers bounce knees)  
Acka backa boo!  
Acka backa soda cracker,  
I love you!  
(Give baby/toddler a hug)

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

Ask your librarian about special events and programs planned for Family Reading Week, November 13–19.

*Funding for this project is made possible by the Idaho Commission for Libraries' Read to Me program, and the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under a provision of the Library Services and Technology Act.*

Printed 2011

