



For ages
**Birth
to 2**

The Bookworm



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

October 2010

It's never too early!

Thanks to research over the last decade, we now know much more about how babies develop their early language skills. Here are some facts:

- Babies begin to learn language from birth. Reading aloud exposes children to the sounds of speech.
- Children who are spoken to and read to develop into better readers.
- Reading aloud to babies and toddlers lays the foundation for learning to read.

Reading With Your Baby or Toddler...

From birth to 3 months, your baby:

- prefers books with bright colors and designs.
- looks at pictures but might not want to touch the book.
- gazes at you when you sing songs or nursery rhymes.

At 4 to 6 months, your baby:

- explores books by putting them in her mouth.
- investigates books by patting, grabbing and pulling pages.
- may coo and babble at you when you read.

At 6 to 12 months, your baby:

- babbles at some of the pictures.
- can turn the pages with your help.
- plays with books like toys.

At 12 to 18 months, your child:

- can hold or carry books without your help.
- turns pages and looks at books by herself.
- uses his index finger to point at the illustrations.

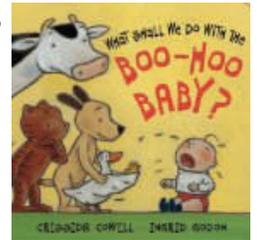
At 18 to 24 months, your child:

- may say some of the words and phrases in familiar books.
- pretends to read.
- wants to hear a favorite story over and over.
- may like to carry favorite books around.

- from Brooklyn Reads to Babies: First Five Years

Book of the Month

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



Baby won't stop crying!

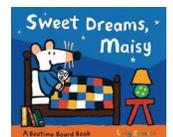
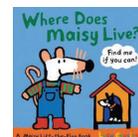
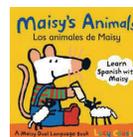
"What shall we do with the boo-hoo baby?" This simple question asked by Baby's animal friends is one that any parent will understand! Baby's friends try everything, but the tears just keep coming....until they realize that what Baby REALLY needs is a nice nap.



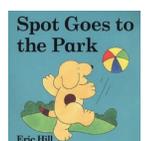
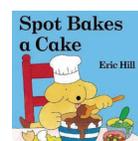
Author Cressida Cowell has written other board books, and may best be known for her older children's series of *How to Train Your Dragon* books.

**More board books
your infant or toddler will enjoy:**

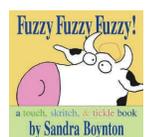
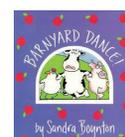
Maisy books, by Lucy Cousins



Spot books, by Eric Hill



Books by Sandra Boynton

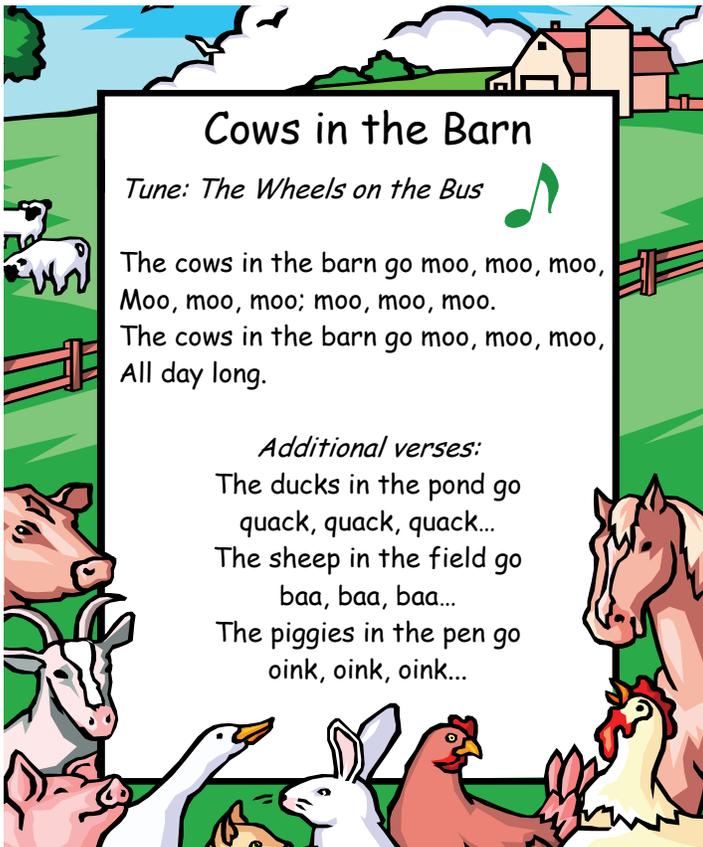


More fun with *What Shall We Do With the Boo-Hoo Baby?*

Talk about it... After reading the story, go back and ask your child to point to animals on a page. "Where's the cow? (help your child point with her finger or hand) There it is! What does a cow say? That's right, Moo!" You can do this activity with other animal books, too!

Seeing first words... When your child becomes familiar with the sounds animals make, point to the word "Moo!" or "Meow!" in the book as she says it. Begin showing your child other words, such as the name of the cereal on the box, words on food packaging, such as "milk" or "eggs," or his first name.

Acting out... This is a great story to re-tell with your infant using stuffed animals. Toddlers can help you re-tell the parts of the story that repeat. Use a favorite baby doll or have your toddler pretend to be the baby.



Action Rhyme

Puppy Dog, Puppy Dog
(match actions to words)

Puppy dog, puppy dog,
Turn around.

Puppy dog, puppy dog,
Sit on the ground.

Puppy dog, puppy dog,
Sit and beg.

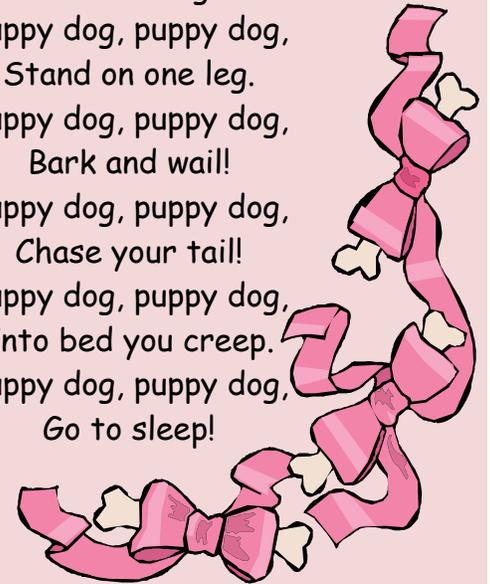
Puppy dog, puppy dog,
Stand on one leg.

Puppy dog, puppy dog,
Bark and wail!

Puppy dog, puppy dog,
Chase your tail!

Puppy dog, puppy dog,
Into bed you creep.

Puppy dog, puppy dog,
Go to sleep!



What your library can do for you...

Most libraries offer special programs for children, free of charge. Storytimes for preschool children, or lapsit programs for babies and toddlers, allow opportunities for "together time" with fun activities and stories. Ask your librarian about the programs offered at your local library.

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 2010

