Welcome to the Read to Me First Book program!

Your child has received a free book today as a part of the Idaho Commission for Libraries and your local library’s Read to Me First Book program. Your child will receive a book each month as part of the program. Your library also has some fun activities planned for parents and for families. You will be hearing more about these later in the year.

We hope you will take time to visit your library and meet the wonderful people who work there. The library has many great resources for families, and staff can find the perfect book for your child’s age and interests. We hope you enjoy reading these books and sharing special time together.

10 good reasons to read to babies:

1. Baby associates your voice with warmth, comfort, and security.
2. Reading has a calming effect on a restless baby.
3. Baby is entertained by nursery rhymes and songs.
4. Holding the baby while reading to him/her creates a close, loving bond between parent and baby.
5. Baby makes an association between reading and being held.
6. The pleasure of being held transfers to the desire to be read to.
7. Baby will learn to listen and will grow up ready to read.
8. Baby will begin imitating sounds and words.
9. Baby must hear English (or French or whatever) in order to learn that language.
10. It’s fun to read to a baby!

Book of the Month

Corduroy’s Day, written by Don Freeman, illustrated by Lisa McCue

Corduroy’s Day takes young children through a day in the life of teddy bear Corduroy, counting from 1 to 10.

Corduroy has been one of the best-loved characters in children’s books for over forty years. The original Corduroy stories, written by Don Freeman, can be found in hardcover or paperback formats:

- Corduroy
- A Pocket for Corduroy

Welcome to the Read to Me First Book program!
A Word About Board Books

Board books have pages that are heavy, sturdy and laminated. They are perfect for little hands. The pictures are simple and clear and the designs are bright and fun.

Babies explore their world by putting things into their mouths, including books! This is normal and board books are made for little hands and mouths because they are harder to damage than other books.

You can clean board books by wiping with 1/2 cup bleach per gallon of water, window cleaner or rubbing alcohol or just clean them with a little soap and water and wipe them dry. We hope you and your baby have fun exploring and playing with board books!

More board books to check out...

Enjoy more adventures of Corduroy in these modern board books, written by Don Freeman and illustrated by Lisa McCue:

- Corduroy Goes to the Doctor
- Corduroy Goes to the Beach
- Corduroy’s Busy Street
- Corduroy’s Snow Day

Action Rhyme

(Make up actions to go with the words)

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, shut the door.
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, count to four.
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, reach up high.
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, wink one eye.
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, put away your shoes.
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, that will do.
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, touch your nose.
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, touch your toes.
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, climb in bed.
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, rest your head.
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, turn out the light.
Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear, say, “Goodnight.”

What your library can do for you...

“Early literacy” is what children learn about reading and writing before they learn to read and write. Children learn these skills before they start school. Check with your librarian to find out what resources are available to parents to help promote early literacy.

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.