



For ages  
**Birth  
to 2**

# The Bookworm



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

**November 2013**



Idaho Family Reading Week is an annual statewide celebration of reading as a family activity. The theme this year is "Imagine the Fun at Your Library." Libraries across the state are planning fun events that celebrate family reading.

Your library can help you find lots of great books that spark your child's imagination. The library also offers storytimes, and 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!

## Imagine That!

In order for children to understand what they are reading, they must be able to imagine what the characters are doing, why they are doing it, and what they might do next. If children have never engaged in imaginative play, it is very difficult for them to do this. Singing, talking, reading, playing, and writing/drawing with your young child every day will help her develop the skills she needs in order to learn to read. Here are some things you can do:

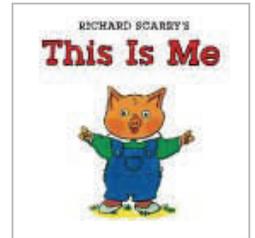
- Encourage your child to draw their own pictures on blank paper, rather than use coloring books.
- Make up silly songs to familiar tunes.
- Join in "pretend" play with your child.
- Read books that spark your child's imagination.



## Book of the Month

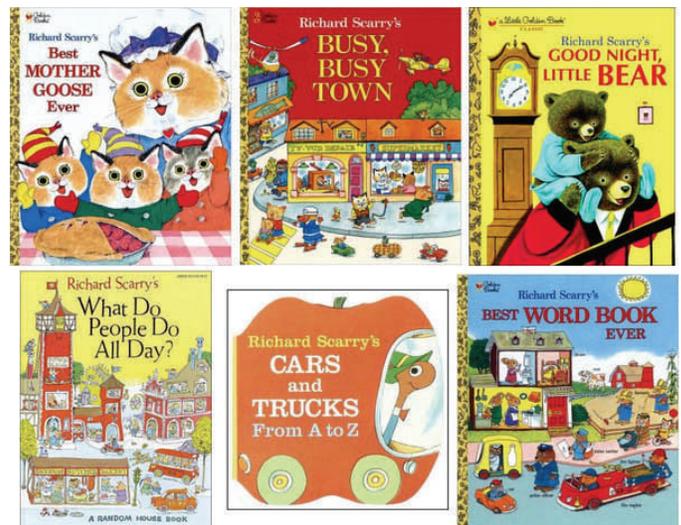
*This Is Me*, by Richard Scarry

Toddlers love to learn about themselves, and this book celebrates the wonderful people they are and all the things they can do—from running and jumping to brushing their teeth.



Richard Scarry is one of the world's best-loved children's authors. His books are always filled with fun pictures, which children can pore over again and again and again. His books have sold many millions of copies around the world, and are currently published in over twenty languages.

## More books by Richard Scarry



Look for these and many others at your local library!

## More fun with *This Is Me...*

**Math connections...** Next time you fold laundry, let your toddler help you match socks into pairs. Matching is an important early math skill.

**Mirror games...** Play peek-a-boo in front of a mirror with your baby or toddler. Using a small cloth, make your little one "disappear." Remove the cloth and say, "Peek-a-boo!" Another game is to make eye contact with your baby or toddler in the mirror, then make different faces or movements, such as smiling, showing your teeth, sticking out your tongue, etc. Talk about what you are doing. "I'm sticking out my tongue!" Toddlers will begin to copy your movements.



**Pretend play...** Young children, both girls and boys, can learn how to take care of themselves and others by taking care of a doll. Give your little one a doll and say things like, "Baby's hungry. Let's feed him." Provide a little bowl and spoon and let your toddler pretend to feed the baby. "I think baby's sleepy. Let's put her to bed." Model and talk about other ways to take care of the doll, such as burping her, dressing her, and singing to her. You can find inexpensive dolls at thrift stores and yard sales.

## Action Rhyme for Toddlers

### "Storytime"

When the sun lights up the sky  
*(wave arms above head)*

I sit right up and rub my eyes  
*(rub eyes)*

I dress myself with greatest care  
*(pretend to step into pants)*

I brush my teeth and comb my hair  
*(pretend to brush teeth and comb hair)*

Then off to story hour I go,  
*(march in place)*

To hear the stories  
that I love so.  
*(open hands like a book)*



## Rhyme for Baby

### "Touch"

(Touch each part of baby as named in the poem)

Touch your nose,

Touch your chin,

That's the way the game begins.

Touch your eyes,

Touch your knees,

Now pretend you're going to sneeze!

ACHOO!

Touch your hair,

Touch one ear,

Touch your two red lips right here.

Touch your elbows where they bend,

That is how this game will end.

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

Ask your librarian about special events and programs planned for Family Reading Week!

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