



For ages  
**Birth  
to 2**

# The Bookworm



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

**February 2013**

## 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.
- explores 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 finger to point at the illustrations.

#### At 18 to 24 months, your child:

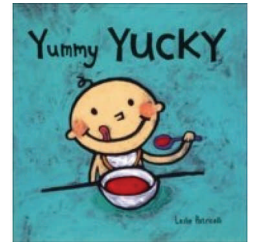
- may say some of the words and phrases in familiar books.
- pretends to read.
- wants to hear a favorite story over and over.
- may like to carry favorite books around.

- from Brooklyn Reads to Babies: First Five Years

## Book of the Month

### *Yummy Yucky*, by Leslie Patricelli

Spaghetti is yummy... but worms—and blue crayons, and sand, and other things toddlers should not put in their mouths—are really yucky.



Other "opposites" books:

*Big Little*  
*Quiet Loud*



Award-winning author Leslie Patricelli lives in Ketchum, Idaho. Visit her website to see all the great books for kids she has written, as well as music, games, and other fun activities:

<http://lesliepatricelli.com/>

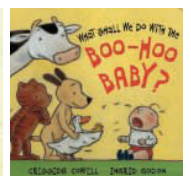
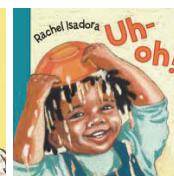
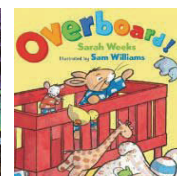
### More books your baby or toddler will love:

*Big Fat Hen*, by Keith Baker

*Overboard!* by Sarah Weeks

*Uh-Oh!* by Rachel Isadora

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



## More fun with *Yummy Yucky...*

**Word play...** *Yummy* and *yucky* are opposites. As you play with your child point out other opposite words, such as *hard* and *soft*, *smooth* and *bumpy*, *big* and *little*, *loud* and *quiet*. This helps her begin to organize and make sense of her world.

**Make your own book...** You will need an old photo album from around the house or from a thrift or dollar store. Insert photos of your baby/toddler and use stickers or file labels to write a label such as "happy," and "mad." You could also make a book of your family, labeling "dad," or "cat." Your child will love "reading" these books together over and over again!

**Playtime...** Rhymes and poems, bounces, tickles, fingerplays and movement games are a great way to start helping your little one develop early literacy skills. Besides being fun, they also build your child's memory skills, imagination, sense of humor, big and small muscles, and ability to relax. Try these:

### Action rhyme for toddlers:

*(match movements to words)*

Roll your hands so slowly,  
as slowly as can be;  
Roll your hands so slowly,  
And fold your arms like me.

Roll your hands so quickly,  
As quickly as can be;  
Roll your hands so quickly,  
And fold your arms like me.

Clap your hands so loudly,  
As loudly as can be;  
Clap your hands so loudly,  
And fold your arms like me.

Clap your hands so softly,  
As softly as can be,  
Clap your hands so softly,  
And fold your arms like me.

## Rhyme for Baby

### Acka Backa

*(Gently bounce baby on knees with each verse)*

Acka backa soda cracker

Acka backa boo

Acka backa soda cracker

Up goes you! *(lift baby up)*

Acka backa soda cracker

Acka backa boo

Acka backa soda cracker

I love you! *(give baby a hug)*



You can see a video of this rhyme and others at [www.youtube.com/Birth2Six](http://www.youtube.com/Birth2Six)



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

Your library, in cooperation with the Idaho Commission for Libraries, now offers free "storytimes online" every day of the year. Each day features an online book to read with your child, as well as songs, rhymes, fingerplays, videos, crafts, and other activities that you can access from a computer or Smartphone. Visit today!

**DayByDayID.org**  
STORYTIMES ONLINE

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