



For ages
**Birth
to 2**

The Bookworm



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

January 2013

Narrative Skills

Narrative Skills are the ability to describe things and events, and tell stories. Helping your child develop these skills when she is young will help her understand what she hears, and later, what she reads. An example of a narrative skill is a child's ability to tell what happens at a birthday party or on a trip to the zoo.

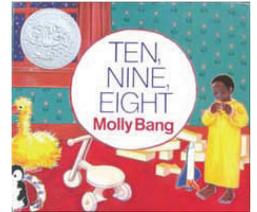
What can parents do to help build Narrative Skills with babies and toddlers?

- Re-tell stories with your child using puppets or props. Talk about what is going on in the pictures.
- Name things (real objects and pictures in books) as you go through the day. Use songs and nursery rhymes.
- Make sure your child has lots of chances to talk *with* you, not just listen to you talk.
- Ask your baby a question and then answer for her. "Your diaper needs changing; let's do that right now, OK? Good!"
- Ask your toddler to tell you about something that happened to him today; ask questions so he can add details.
- Use the language that is most comfortable for you!

Book of the Month

Ten, Nine, Eight, by Molly Bang

In this Caldecott Honor counting book, a young girl and her father make a game out of getting ready for bed. As they go through their bedtime routine, they gently count down from ten until they come to "1 big girl all ready for bed." This is a perfect book to read to your little one at bedtime!



Favorite author/illustrator Molly Bang has two other award-winning books:



Caldecott Honor



Caldecott Honor
ALA Notable Book
Charlotte Zolotow Award

Choosing quality books:

American Library Association (ALA) Awards

Though many picture books are considered high-quality for children, choosing award-winning books such as those sponsored by the ALA are a good way to begin introducing your child to the best children's literature.

The Geisel Award (Dr. Seuss) is presented each year to the best American book in English for beginning readers.

The Caldecott Medal is awarded each year to the artist of the best-illustrated American picture book for children.

Look for these gold or silver medals at your local library.



More fun with *Ten, Nine, Eight*

Count me in! As you read this book with your toddler help her count the items on each page. Touch (or help her touch) each item as you count it aloud. "Let's count the toes: 1, 2, 3..." Being able to touch an item and count it out loud is an important skill for young children to develop.

Play lots of counting games with your baby or toddler, such as this one:

One Little Baby

One little baby, rocking in a tree.
(Hold up finger then rock in palm.)
Two little babies, splashing in the sea.
(Hold up two fingers, splash hands.)
Three little babies, crawling on the floor.
(Three fingers, make crawling motions.)
Four little babies, banging on the door.
(Four fingers, pound on imaginary door.)
Five little babies, playing hide and seek.
(Five fingers, cover up eyes.)
Keep your eyes closed tight now,
Until I say...
PEEK!
(Hands away from eyes)



Good books to build narrative skills:

Books with a repeated phrase

Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? by Bill Martin, Jr. and Eric Carle

Books with repeated parts of the story

Overboard, by Sarah Weeks

Books where events happen in an order

The Very Hungry Caterpillar, by Eric Carle

Books with photos of babies, animals, and everyday objects

Animal Babies: A Counting Book, by Daniel Moreton

Any book! You can find lots of things in books to talk about with your child.

Song to sing with your child:

This Old Man

This old man, he played one,
He played knick knack with his thumb,
With a knick, knack, paddy whack,
Give the dog a bone;
This old man came rolling home.

This old man, he played two,
He played knick knack on my shoe,

With a knick, knack, ...

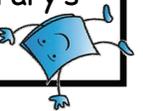
Three, on his knee	Eight, on my gate
Four, on the door	Nine, rise and shine
Five, jazz and jive	Ten, in my den
Six, with his sticks	Eleven, up in heaven
Seven, with a pen	Twelve, on the shelves

See a video of "This Old Man" at

www.rif.org/kids/leadingtoreading/en/babies-toddlers/finger-plays/this_old_man.htm

What your library can do for you...

You can read hundreds of free online books with your child by visiting your local library's website and clicking on Tumblebooks™.



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