

For ages  
**Birth  
to 2**

# The Bookworm

From your  
local library  
and Idaho's Read  
to Me program  
**September 2012**

## Help your young child get ready to read...

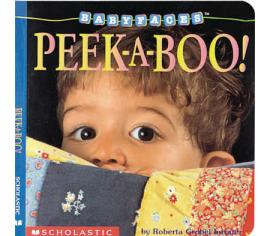
Developing a love of reading, or **print motivation**, is one of the six early literacy skills that help young children become readers when they begin school. Researchers have found that children who enjoy books are more likely to stick with learning to read. The way we share books with children can help their enjoyment of books.

Here's how you can help your child become interested in books:

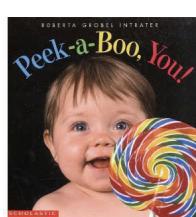
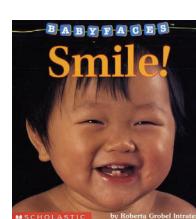
- Make book-sharing a special time between you and your child. Get comfortable and cozy!
- Begin reading books early, even when your child is a newborn.
- Let your child see you reading and enjoying reading.
- Visit your public library often. Make it a special night or day of the week and make a big deal about it.
- Let toddlers choose the books they want to read or have read to them.
- Give books as gifts.
- Very young children have a short attention span, so keep reading activities brief and fun. Don't worry about finishing a story.
- Share rhymes and songs that young children enjoy. Keeping books fun will keep them coming back for more.

## Book of the Month

**Peek-a-Boo**, by Roberta Grobel Intrater (Baby Faces series)



Babies and toddlers love playing peek-a-boo, and will love looking at the photos of children in this colorful board book. The simple words help identify the expression on each child's face, which is an important skill to learn at this age. Look for other books in the award-winning Baby Faces series, which includes *Smile*; *Peek-a-Boo, You!*; and others. This series is also available in Spanish.



## A Word About Board Books

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.

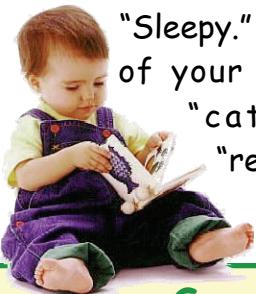
Pages of board books are sturdy, the pictures are simple and clear, and the designs are bright and fun.

Clean board books with a little soap and water and wipe them dry. Store books where your baby or toddler can easily reach them on his or her own, such as a basket or low shelf.

## More fun with Peek-a-Boo!

**Playtime...** Playing peek-a-boo with your little one helps her brain grow. Ways to play: cover your eyes, put a towel over your face, put your toddler's hands over his face and then take them away; draw a face on your thumb and hide it under your other fingers; put a toy or stuffed animal under a blanket, then take the blanket away. Say "peek-a-boo" each time. This game helps your child learn that you (or an object) do not disappear when he or she cannot see you.

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



## Song for Babies

### Did You Ever See a Baby?

(Tune: Did You Ever See a Lassie?)

(Holding baby on your lap, gently sway from side to side)

Did you ever see a baby, a baby, a baby?

Did you ever see a baby go this way and that?

Go this way and that way,  
and this way and that way.

Did you ever see a baby go this way and that?

(Holding baby, gently bounce up and down.)

Did you ever see a baby, a baby, a baby?

Did you ever see a baby bounce  
this way and that?

To see a video of this song, visit  
[www.youtube.com/birth2six](http://www.youtube.com/birth2six)

## Song for Toddlers

### Where is Thumbkin?

(Start with hands behind back)

Where is Thumbkin?

Where is Thumbkin?

Here I am,

(Bring right hand to front, with thumb up)

Here I am.

(Bring left hand to front, with thumb up)

How are you this morning?

Very well, I thank you.

(Wiggle thumbs as if they're talking to each other)

Run away, (Hide right hand behind back)

Run away. (Hide left hand behind back)

Repeat with

Pointer (index finger)

Tall-one (middle finger)

Ring-man (ring finger)

Baby (pinkie finger)

Everyone (all fingers)

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

Your library offers many free resources to help you build your child's early literacy skills: age-appropriate books, music CDs, storytimes, parent workshops, booklists, take-home information, and events for the whole family!

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.

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