



Age Group
Kinders

The Bookworm

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

February 2013

Awareness of Print

Being familiar with printed words helps children feel comfortable with books and understand that print is useful. It is one of the six early literacy skills that help young children become readers.

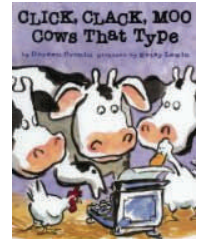
Here are some ways to help your child develop print awareness:

- Show children that print is all around them. Point it out in signs, on menus, and in books and newspapers.
- Run your finger along the bottom of words while reading. This helps children understand that print runs from left to right and that you are reading text rather than looking at pictures.
- Point to some words as you say them, especially words that are repeated.
- Label objects around your home, such as "bed," "window," "door," and "toys."
- Let your child turn the pages. When you are done reading, let her hold the book and tell you the story.
- Talk about and play with punctuation marks. Show your child what an exclamation mark (!) and a question mark (?) are, and why you read those sentences differently.
- Encourage children to play with print every day. Help them make lists, write notes, make signs, etc.

Children with print awareness understand that print has different functions; menus list food choices, a book tells a story, a sign can show a favorite restaurant or warn of danger.

Book of the Month

***Click, Clack, Moo: Cows That Type*, by Doreen Cronin, illustrated by Betsy Lewin**

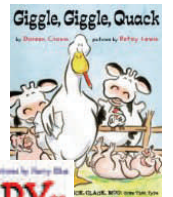


In this Caldecott Honor story the cows on Farmer Brown's farm find an old typewriter and begin making typewritten demands. Not only will young children find humor and delight in the antics of the farm animals, they will see the power that written words can have.



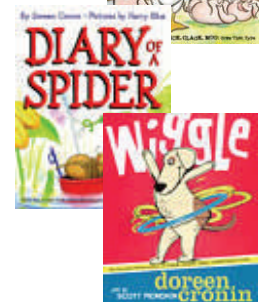
Author Doreen Cronin has written follow-ups to *Click, Clack, Moo*:

Giggle, Giggle, Quack, Click, Clack, Quackity-Quack, Dooby Dooby Moo, and more...



Other Doreen Cronin books:

Diary of a Worm; Diary of a Spider; Diary of a Fly



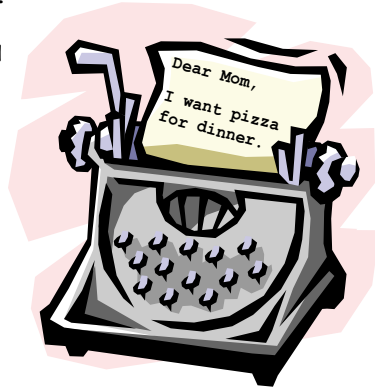
Wiggle; Bounce; Stretch

Kinds of books that develop print awareness:

- Books with lots of punctuation marks
- Books with signs, lists, labels, menus, charts, instructions, etc. as part of the illustrations
- Books in which characters are using print in different ways, such as writing a letter, or making a checklist
- Any book!

More fun with *Click, Clack, Moo*

Print awareness... School-age children can practice the power of writing by helping you make grocery or "to do" lists, writing invitations, greeting cards and thank you notes, etc. They can print by hand or type on a computer. They can even use an old typewriter that may be lying around...



Talk about it... There are some great words and phrases to talk about in this story:

- The cows go on *strike* until the farmer meets their demands.
- The cows were growing *impatient* with the farmer.
- Farmer Brown was *furious*.
- Duck was a *neutral party*, so he brought the *ultimatum* to the cows.

Recognizing Reading Problems

By: Reading Rockets (2007)

Learning to read is a challenge for many kids, but most can become good readers if they get the right help. Parents have an important job in recognizing when a child is struggling and knowing how to find help.

What to look for:

- Difficulty rhyming
- Difficulty hearing individual sounds
- Difficulty following directions
- Difficulty re-telling a story
- Struggles to sound out most words
- Avoids reading aloud

If you think your kindergartener is struggling with learning to read, talk to her teacher sooner rather than later. The school can provide free support if needed!

Song to sing with your child

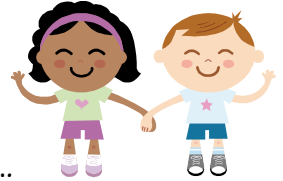
The More We Get Together

The more we get together,
Together, together,
The more we get together
The happier we'll be.
'Cause your friends are my friends,
And my friends are your friends.
The more we get together,
The happier we'll be.

Additional verses:

The more we play together...

The more we dance together...



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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