Read to Me

Age Group
Kinders

The Bookworm

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

February 2012

Vocabulary

Vocabulary is knowing the names of things. This is a very important skill for children to have when they are learning to read. Most children enter school knowing between 3,000 and 5,000 words.

Why is it important for children to hear a wide range of words?

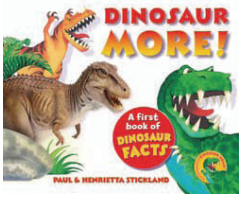
Children need to know the meaning of words to understand what they are reading.

When you think about it, you know if you are reading a word correctly if you have heard it before. The more words children hear, the more ready they will be to make connections between sounding out words and knowing they're pronouncing them correctly.

The best way to help your children build vocabulary is to talk and read with them.

- Studies show that children whose parents talk to them a lot better understand what they read.
- Talk to your child about what is going on around you. Talk about how things work, feelings and ideas. Listen when your child talks to you.
- Speak in the language that is most comfortable for you.
- Read to your child every day. Children's books have more rare words than everyday conversations. Talk about the stories and the pictures in books.
- Learn together by reading information books. Help your child pick out books about the things he or she is interested in.

Book of the Month



***Dinosaur More! A First Book of Dinosaur Facts,* by Henrietta and Paul Stickland**

Colorful art, interesting pictures, and basic facts make this a great book for school-age kids who want to find out more about dinosaurs.

Favorite Dinosaur Fiction

Can I Have a Stegosaurus, Mom? Can I? Please?! and *Can I Have a Tyrannasaurus, Dad? Can I? Please?!* by Lois Grambling

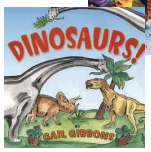
Dino-Basketball, by Lisa Wheeler

Edwina, the Dinosaur Who Didn't Know She Was Extinct, by Mo Willems

How Do Dinosaurs Say Goodnight? (and other 'How Do Dinosaurs…' series), by Jane Yolen
*Many of these books are also available in Spanish.

Saturday Night at the Dinosaur Stomp, by Carol Diggory Shields

When Dinosaurs Came with Everything, by Elise Broach



Favorite Dinosaur Non-Fiction

Dinosaur A to Z, by Roger Priddy

Dinosaurs! and *Dinosaur Discoveries*, by Gail Gibbons

Prehistoric Actual Size, by Steve Jenkins

More fun with *Dinosaur More!*

Measure up… Take a tape measure, piece of chalk, and this book to the sidewalk or school blacktop. Draw a starting line. Have your child lay flat with her feet on the line, and using the tape measure, draw a line the length of your child. Choose a dinosaur from the book and find its length. Have your child stand on the start line with one end of the tape measure while you walk the appropriate distance. Let your child draw a chalk line from the starting point to you. This gives her a better sense of how big the dinosaur was!

Tech time… Here are some good dinosaur websites that are geared for young school-age kids:

teacher.scholastic.com/activities/dinosaurs/
pbskids.org/dinosaurtrain/

Dinosaur Song

(To the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb")

Dinosaurs once ruled the earth,
Ruled the earth, ruled the earth.
Dinosaurs once ruled the earth,
Many years ago.

(Additional verses)

Stegosaurus swished his tail...
Brontosaurus was very big...
Brachiosaurus lived in the water...
Apatosaurus stomped so hard...
Pterodactyl was a winged flier...
Trachodon had 2000 teeth...
Triceratops had three horns...
Tyrannosaurus Rex was the king...

Rhyme

Carnivore, carnivore, what do you eat?
"I am a hunter. I only eat meat!"
Herbivore, herbivore, what do you munch?
"I enjoy plants and leaves for lunch."
Omnivore, omnivore, how about you?
"I like meat and plants to chew."

Why Kids Need Non-Fiction

- Information books and magazines play an important part in motivating children to read.
- Many kids enjoy information books as much as story books.
- Non-fiction can be a way for parents to share their interests with their children.
- Information books expose children to special words and concepts, which helps build language.

What your library can do for you…

There are some great, high-quality information books available for children of all ages. Your librarian can help you find age-appropriate books about dinosaurs or other fun topics!

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.

Printed 2012