

Did you know...



It is never too early to introduce babies to print. Board books have pages that are heavy, sturdy, and laminated. They are perfect for little hands. Babies and toddlers explore their world by putting things into their mouths, including books. This is normal, which is why board books are a great choice for young children.

Books don't have to be read from front to back. You can take a "book walk" by turning the pages and pointing to pictures. Name the pictures as you look at them, to help build your child's vocabulary. If your child wants to look at the same pictures over and over, give them time to do so. Children need repetition for information to be stored in their long-term memories.

Take time to look at and read books with your little one. It will create a strong tradition of reading in their lives.

Here's how...

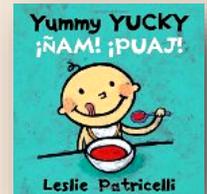


- ❖ Point out street signs as you walk or drive around town with your child. Talk about the color, shape, and words on signs so your child will be aware they have meaning.
- ❖ Point out letters, numbers, and shapes on your child's clothing. Say "Oh look, there is a circle on your shirt" and trace it with your finger.
- ❖ Let your child have opportunities to play with writing and drawing. They can write in pudding, shaving cream, sand, or dry Jell-O on a cookie sheet or any flat surface. Shaving cream should be used only with older toddlers.

Read



Yummy Yucky/ ¡Ñam! ¡Puj! 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.



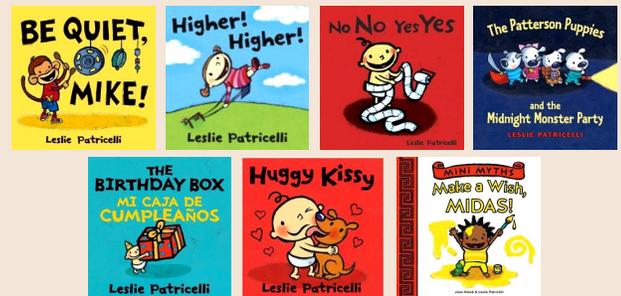
Award-winning author Leslie Patricelli lives in Ketchum, Idaho. Visit her website to see all her great books, as well as music, games, and other fun activities:

<http://lesliepatricelli.com/>

Choosing Books



Some additional books by Leslie Patricelli



Coming January 2017:

Hair and Nighty-Night



Talk



Help your young child learn about opposites. Say the word while making the motion. Let your child make the motion, too.

On and off: Turn the light switch or small mechanical toys on then off.

Up and down: Lift baby or toddler up, then set down gently.

In and out: Put small toys or blocks in a bucket, then let your child dump them out.

Write



Playing with playdough, such as pinching, rolling, and patting, strengthens the little muscles in the hands and fingers that are used for writing.

Sing



Back and Forth. Coo and talk to your baby. Imitate her sounds and wait for her response. Encourage her to copy you, too.

Action Games. Games like “Ring Around the Rosie” and “London Bridge” encourage toddlers to move, sing, listen, and take turns.

Do it again... and again. Doing things over and over helps toddlers learn how things work, which helps them master new skills, which boosts their self-confidence. Let them use their hands and fingers for pushing buttons, opening boxes, and turning pages, rather than doing those things for them.

Tickled Pink. Play tickle games with your child, but be sure to stop when they seem to have had enough. Laugh with your child every day!

Fact: Research shows children laugh about 200 times a day. The benefits to laughing include better health, stress relief, increased intelligence, and stronger social skills. (*Kidshealth.org*)

Play



Do Your Ears Hang Low?

Do your ears hang low? (*point to ears*)

Do they wobble to and fro? (*move hands side to side*)

Can you tie them in a knot? (*make tying motion*)

Can you tie them in a bow? (*pretend to tie a bow*)

Can you throw them over your shoulder like a continental soldier? (*salute*)

Do your ears hang low? (*point to ears*)

Hear this tune at <http://bussongs.com/songs/do-your-ears-hang-low.php>



At your library...



Idaho Family Reading Week is an annual statewide celebration of reading as a family activity. The theme this year is “*Laugh it up at your library.*” Libraries across the state are planning fun events that celebrate family reading.

Ask your librarian about special events and programs planned for Family Reading Week, November 13—19, 2016.