

Did you know...



Reading books together can open the door to new countries, new foods, new traditions, and new languages. Explore the world while sitting on your couch. Read as a family!

If your home language isn't English, it's important to speak, read, and sing to your child in the language you speak at home. If children learn the basics of speech in the language of their home, it makes it easier to learn English as they grow older. It's important that the culture of your native country is maintained. Children may switch words from both languages for a while, but they'll soon sort it out.

If your home language is English, consider teaching your child some simple words in sign language or another language you want to try. It's easier to learn a language when you are a young child than as an adult, and it will help them in this very diverse world we live in.

Here's how...



- ❖ Check out books from the library that use phrases from different languages, such as *Say Hello!* by Rachel Isadora.
- ❖ Learn more about your family history and start a new tradition from a country that your family comes from. Example: make German pancakes for dinner one night.
- ❖ Check with your library to see if they are doing a Día de los niños (Children's Day) activity this month. Día is celebrated on April 30 in communities across the United States.

Read

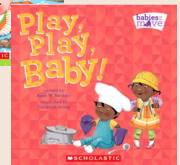
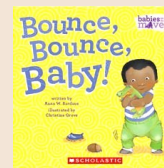


***Read, Read, Baby!* by Anna Bardaus**



This colorful board book has simple rhyming text that describes reading books from a baby's perspective. They explore them with their mouths and like to turn the pages. What does your child do with books?

This book is a part of the *Babies on the Move* series. Other books include:

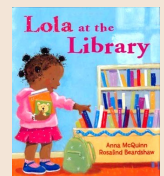


Choosing Books



Books that celebrate reading and diversity...

Lola at the Library, by Anna McQuinn



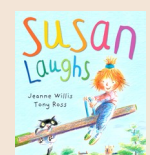
The Crayon Box that Talked, by Shane DeRolf

Round is a Tortilla: A Book of Shapes, by Roseanne Greenfield Thong



Round is a Mooncake: A Book of Shapes, by Grace Lin

Susan Laughs, by Jeanne Willis



Talk



Pairing simple signs with words helps your baby make connections to what they hear. It also gives them a way to communicate before they learn to talk. You can learn signs from books, videos, and websites, and some libraries offer Baby Sign classes. <http://babysignandplay.com/>



Mommy



Daddy



Please



Thank You

Write



Part of holding and using writing tools successfully is having good hand strength. An activity to strengthen your child's hand muscles is playing with soft bristly hair rollers. You can find different sizes at dollar and discount stores. Put them in a basket and let your child explore the texture, stick them together, stack them, and put them inside each other. This is a fun way to prepare your child for writing later on.

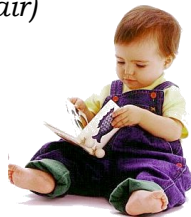


Play



Storytime

When the sun lights up the sky,
(wave arms above head)
I sit right up and rub my eyes.
(rub eyes)
I dress myself with greatest care,
(pretend to step into pants)
I brush my teeth and comb my hair.
(pretend to brush teeth and comb hair)
Then off to story hour I go,
(march in place)
To hear the stories
that I love so.



Poem



Read to Me

Read to me riddles and read to me rhymes,
Read to me stories of magical times,
Read to me tales about castles and kings,
Read to me stories of fabulous things.
Read to me pirates and read to me knights,
Read to me dragons and dragon-book fights.
Read to me spaceships and cowboys and then,
When you are finished, please read them again.

By Jane Yolen

At your library...



Your librarian can help you find books in other languages at the public library, get them on loan from other Idaho libraries, or help you access them online.