



For ages
**Birth
to 2**

The Bookworm



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

January 2014

It's Never Too Early

Thanks to research over the last decade, we now know much more about how babies develop their early language skills. Here are some facts:

- Babies begin to learn language from birth. Reading aloud exposes children to the sounds of speech.
- Children who are spoken to and read to develop into better readers.
- Reading aloud to babies and toddlers lays the foundation for learning to read.

Reading With Your Baby or Toddler...

From birth to 3 months, your baby:

- prefers books with bright colors and designs.
- looks at pictures but might not want to touch the book.
- gazes at you when you sing songs or nursery rhymes.

At 4 to 6 months, your baby:

- explores books by putting them in her mouth.
- explores books by patting, grabbing, and pulling pages.
- may coo and babble at you when you read.

At 6 to 12 months, your baby:

- babbles at some of the pictures.
- can turn the pages with your help.
- plays with books like toys.

At 12 to 18 months, your child:

- can hold or carry books without your help.
- turns pages and looks at books by herself.
- uses his finger to point at the illustrations.

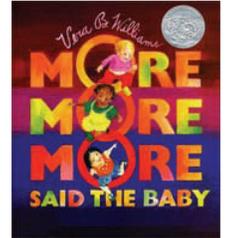
At 18 to 24 months, your child:

- may say some of the words and phrases in familiar books.
- pretends to read.
- wants to hear a favorite story over and over.
- may like to carry favorite books around.

- from Brooklyn Reads to Babies: First Five Years

Book of the Month

More, More, More Said the Baby, by Vera Williams



This Caldecott Honor Book describes how three families show love to their babies through colorful artwork and catchy phrases. A father, a grandmother, and a mother all do fun things with the baby that has them saying, "More, More, More".

Choosing quality books:

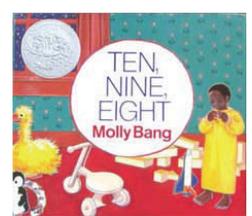
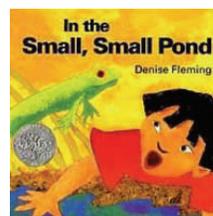
American Library Association (ALA) Awards

Though many picture books are considered high-quality for children, choosing award-winning books such as those sponsored by the ALA are a good way to begin introducing your child to the best children's literature.

The Geisel Award (Dr. Seuss) is presented each year to the best American book in English for beginning readers.

The Caldecott Medal is awarded each year to the artist of the best-illustrated American picture book for children.

Look for these gold or silver medals at your local library.



More fun with *More, More, More...*

Days of Glory... Writing down your baby's "firsts" or "favorites" in a special baby book is a great way to remember those special moments. Another easy way to keep special memories is to simply write them on a calendar. Hang a free or inexpensive calendar on your refrigerator or in your little one's room. Attach a string with a pen or pencil to the calendar with tape or a staple. When your child does something for the first time, says something funny, or achieves a skill, it's easy to jot it down on the day's square. You'll have years worth of great memories to share later, and it only takes a few seconds of time!

Playtime... Rhymes and poems, bounces, tickles, fingerplays, and movement games are a great way to start helping your little one develop early literacy skills. Besides being fun, they also build your child's memory skills, imagination, sense of humor, big and small muscles, and ability to relax. Try these:

Lap Bounce for Baby

Mother and Father and Uncle John

Mother and Father and Uncle John

(bounce child on knee)*

Went to town, one by one.

Mother fell off *(tip to one side)*,

Father fell off *(tip to other side)*,

But Uncle John went on and on and on

and on and on and on

(bounce quickly — but gently)

See a video of this lap bounce at

www.wccls.org/rhymes

Washington County Cooperative Library Services

**Never shake a baby. Always bounce Baby gently on lap or knee.*

Action Rhymes and Songs for Toddlers

Ring Around the Rosies

(Walk in a circle holding hands, sit down on the last line)

Ring around the rosies,

A pocket full of posies,

Ashes, ashes,

We all fall down!

I'm a Little Teapot

(Match actions to words)

I'm a little teapot, short and stout,

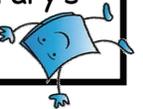
Here is my handle, here is my spout.

When I get all steamed up, hear me shout,

"Tip me over, and pour me out!"

What your library can do for you...

You can read hundreds of free online books with your child by visiting your local library's website and clicking on TumbleBooks™.



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