



For ages
3-5

The Bookworm



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

March 2011

Vocabulary

Research shows that children who know and understand lots of different words become better readers. Building a strong vocabulary helps children recognize and read written words, and later use them in their writing.

To help your child develop vocabulary:

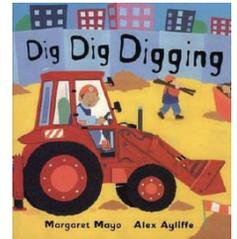
- Talk to your child, a lot! Research shows that parents who talk to their children more often have children with larger vocabularies, and those children better understand what they read.
- Talk to your child about what is going on around you. Talk about how things work, feelings and ideas. Listen when 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 nonfiction books. Help your child pick out information books about the things he or she is interested in.
- When your child talks to you, add more detail to what she says. Expand the conversation and ask lots of questions.

Parents and caregivers who talk to their children throughout the day are giving them a gift. The language they learn will help them enjoy and understand the world, and help them to become lifelong learners.

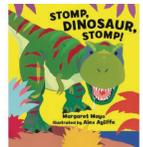
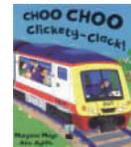
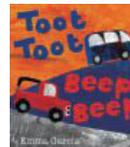
Book of the Month

***Dig, Dig, Digging*, by Margaret Mayo**

Bold, bright pages contain visual word poems about large trucks, tractors, and cranes and the work they do. Often the shape of the rhyme shows the action performed by the machine. A great book to share with your curious child!



Check out some other books by the author:



Good Books to Build Vocabulary

Busy Body Book, Lizzie Rockwell

Muncha, Muncha, Muncha, Candace Fleming

First the Egg, Laura Vaccaro Seeger

Measuring Penny, Loreen Leedy

A Huge Hog is a Big Pig, Francis McCall

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

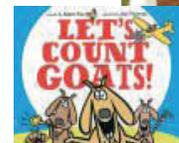
New Non-Fiction:

Handiest Things in the World, Andrew Clements

New Fiction:

Let's Count Goats, Mem Fox

One Pup Up, Marsha Wilson Chall



More fun with *Dig, Dig, Digging*

Math connection... Sorting a collection of cars, trucks, trains, etc. is an excellent way to begin looking at how objects are "alike" and "different." Choose a car/truck from the collection. Ask your child, "Can you find one that is the same (size, color, shape, number of wheels, etc.) as mine?"

Movin' and groovin'... Help your young child build words while also getting some energy out. Ask her to act out words in the book, such as digging, spinning, squashing, tipping. Put some music on if you like, or join in the fun!

Arts and crafts... Make a book of cars, trucks, and other vehicles. Help your child tear or cut out pictures from magazines, catalogs, or advertisements. Staple several sheets of paper together on one side to make the book pages, then help your child glue the pictures inside. Write the name of the vehicle on the page (tractor, fire engine, car).

Action Rhyme

If I were an airplane *(spread arms wide)*
I would fly up in the sky. *(arms out, lean right/left)*
If I were a tricycle *(pump legs like pedaling)*
I would wave as I went by. *(wave)*
If I were a dump truck *(hand on same shoulder)*
I would dump my heavy load. *(let hand fall open)*
But if I were a car or bus
I'd roll on down the road. *(roll hands)*
If I were a choo-choo train *(hands close to sides)*
Along the tracks I'd chug. *(push-pull with arms)*
And if I were a steam shovel *(hands near knees)*
I would have a big hole dug. *(scoop with hands)*
If I were a helicopter *(whirl hands over head)*
I'd sing a whirly tune. *(make whirring noise)*
But if I were a rocket ship *(palms together)*
I'd blast off to the moon! *(shoot hands upward)*

Why Kids Need Non-Fiction

- Information books and magazines can play an important part in motivating children to read.
- There are some great, high-quality information books available now for children of all ages.
- 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 vocabulary and concepts, which helps build language.
- Reading non-fiction now can help children prepare for reading these types of books later in life.



What your library can do for you...

Don't have a library card? You can still visit your library for storytimes or to read with your child. Or you can ask your librarian about how to apply for your own card today!

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