



For ages
**Birth
to 2**

The Bookworm

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

March 2012

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:

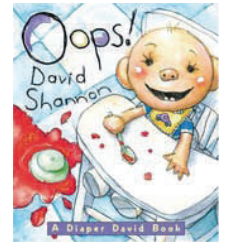
- may say some of the words and phrases in familiar books.
- pretends to read.
- wants to hear a favorite story over and over.
- may like to carry favorite books around.

- from Brooklyn Reads to Babies: First Five Years

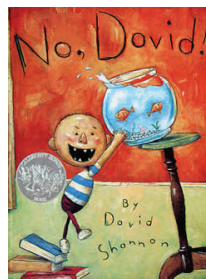
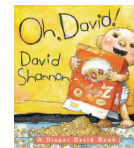
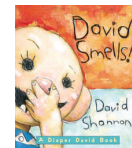
Book of the Month

Oops! by David Shannon

It's hard work to be a toddler! Little David makes all kinds of messes but there's nothing better than cuddling with Mama at the end of the day. Make sure your child knows that you love her no matter how many "oops!" happen during the day.



Other "Diaper David" board books:
(also in Spanish)



David Shannon is the author and illustrator of many highly praised books for children. In 1999 he won a Caldecott Honor for the book, *No, David!* He grew up in neighboring Spokane, Washington and now lives in Los Angeles.

More books your baby or toddler will love:

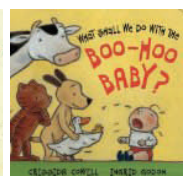
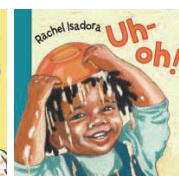
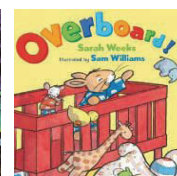
Big Fat Hen, by Keith Baker

Overboard! by Sarah Weeks

Uh-Oh! by Rachel Isadora

What Shall We Do with the Boo Hoo Baby?

by Cressida Cowell



More fun with *Oops!*

Seeing First Words... If your child can point to the ball on the page, show him the word, "ball." Repeat with the other objects in the book.

Make your own book... You will need an old photo album from around the house or from a thrift or dollar store. Insert photos of your baby/toddler and use stickers or file labels to write a label such as "happy," and "mad." You could also make a book of your family, labeling "dad," or "cat." Your child will love "reading" these books together over and over again!

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:

Action Song for Toddlers

Here we go round the mulberry bush,
The mulberry bush, the mulberry bush;
Here we go round the mulberry bush
On a cold and frosty morning.

This is the way we wash our hands,
We wash our hands, we wash our hands;
This is the way we wash our hands
On a cold and frosty morning.

Other verses...

This is the way we brush our hair...
This is the way we mend our shoes...
This is the way we scrub our clothes...
This is the way we dust our room...
This is the way we clap our hands...

Rhymes for Babies

This is the Way the Baby Rides

(Gently bounce baby on knees with each verse)

This is the way the baby rides,
The baby rides, the baby rides.
This is the way the baby rides,
So early in the morning.

This is the way the farmer rides...
This is the way the cowboy rides...

All I Want are Hugs

(Hold your little one in your arms and give a gentle hug every time you say the word "hug")

All I want are hugs from you,
Hugs to last the whole day through.
Hugs just make me feel so good,
So hug me, hug me, hug me.
Give me lots of hugs today,
Hugs to chase the blues away.
Hugs to last the whole day through,
Just hug me, hug me, hug me!



What your library can do for you...

Your library offers many services for teens and adults, too. Visit your library's website for information about job searches, audio or electronic books, special programs, book reviews, and much more!

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