



For grades
K-1

The Bookworm



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

March 2011

Building 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.

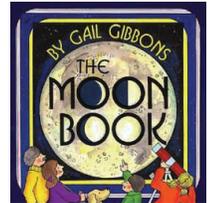
To help your child develop vocabulary:

- 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 choose information books or magazines 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

The Moon Book, by Gail Gibbons



This is a great first book to begin teaching young children about the moon. Information about moon phases, tides, lunar and solar eclipses, and more are explained in basic terms, and the illustrations make the concepts easier to understand.

Gail Gibbons has written and illustrated over 100 information books for children. Look for some of these at your local library:

Alligators and Crocodiles

Cats

Dinosaurs

Dogs

Ice Cream: The Full Scoop

Monarch Butterfly

Sharks

Snakes

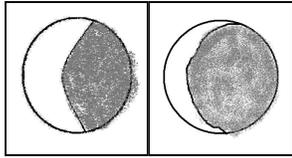
Tornadoes

The Vegetables We Eat



More fun with *The Moon Book*

Science connections... Chart the phases of the moon. Using a calendar or notebook, trace a circle using a quarter or milk cap. Go outside each night with your child and look at the moon. Help your child color in the circle to match what you see. Be sure to include the date and time.



Arts and crafts... Make a flying saucer. Tape or staple two paper plates together to make a curved top and bottom. Tape or glue a small paper or plastic bowl upside down on top of the plates to make the cabin for the crew. Optional: cut small windows in the bowl before gluing it down. You can also use a plastic bubble cover from a cold drink cup. Let your child decorate it with crayons, markers, stickers, and other craft supplies.



Tech tip... Visit the Farmer's Almanac website to see the phases of the moon in your town.

www.almanac.com/moon

This site also has lots of moon information and trivia! Be sure to type your zip code in the box and click "go".

We're Flying to the Moon

To the tune of "Farmer in the Dell"

We're flying to the moon,
We're flying to the moon.
Blast off away we go,
We're flying to the moon.

Other verses:

We're going in a spacecraft...
We're walking out in space...
We're landing on the moon...
We're collecting moon rocks...
We're flying back to Earth...
We're landing on the Earth...



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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