

## Did you know...



Children are very curious about the world around them. They want to know about the weather, how things work, facts about animals, etc. Nonfiction, or information books, help children learn about the things that interest them.

Nonfiction books should have a lot of photos or drawings to help children see what they are reading about. If there are a lot of words on each page it isn't necessary to read every one. Read the main points on each page and then ask questions to see what your child is interested in.

Don't hesitate to read the higher level vocabulary that is often in nonfiction books. Your child needs to be exposed to a variety of vocabulary words to have the background knowledge they will need to succeed in school.

## Here's how...

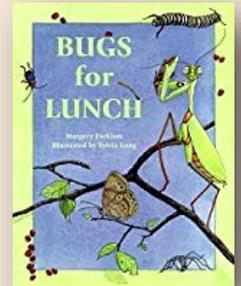


- ✦ Make opportunities for your child to be out in the natural world. Take walks through the woods, splash in a creek, go to a park. Children this age love to explore, so get outside and enjoy some time in nature.
- ✦ Go to your local library and check out books about the things your child is interested in. Whether it is dinosaurs or the solar system, libraries can provide a wealth of books about any topic.
- ✦ Ask your child questions about the book by having them look at the pictures. They provide a lot of clues about the content of the book.

## Read

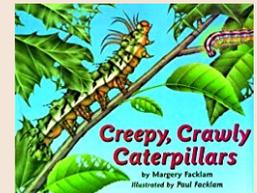


### “Bugs for Lunch” by Margery Facklam



If your lunch was a bug, who could you be? A bird? A fish? A mammal? Would *you* eat a bug for lunch?! Share these fun rhymes and beautiful pictures with your child as you learn about nature's bug-eaters together.

Some other books by the author:



## Choosing Books



### More nonfiction books to look for at your local library:

“Best Foot Forward” by Ingo Arndt

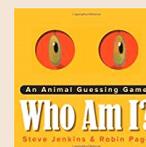
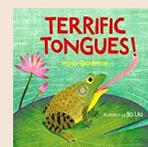
“Who Am I? An Animal Guessing Game” by Steve Jenkins

“Terrific Tongues” by Maria Gianferrari

“How Big Is an Elephant?” by Rossana Bossù

“Step by Step” by Loreen Leedy

“Prickly Hedgehogs!” by Jane McGuinness



## Talk



Explain to your child that some books tell us stories, and some books tell us information. Talk to your child about a book you read that helped you learn about something. Ask your child what he or she might want to learn about, then visit your library to find books about that topic.

## Write



**Here is an activity to strengthen the little finger muscles needed for writing:**

Provide paper and watercolor paints, washable stamp pads, or washable markers (these wipe off of fingers a bit easier). Let your child dip fingertips in wet watercolors, or color their fingertip with marker, then immediately press on paper. When prints are dry, give your child crayons, markers, or pens to draw on prints, making them into bugs, flowers, faces, etc.

Optional: Help your child label their creations, or write a sentence about each one.

*Tip: You can find inexpensive materials at your local Dollar or thrift store.*



## Play



### Ladybug, Ladybug

*(use your hand to fly around and land on body part)*

Ladybug, ladybug, fly out of the farm,  
And land right on my little arm.  
Ladybug, ladybug, fly out of the tree,  
And land right on my little knee.  
Ladybug, ladybug, fly out of your bed,  
And land right on my little head.  
Ladybug, ladybug, fly out of the rose,  
And land right on my little nose.

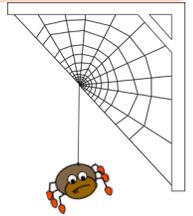


## Sing



### The Spider in the Web

*Sung to the tune:  
“The Farmer in the Dell”*



The spider in the web,  
The spider in the web,  
Spin, spin, oh watch him spin,  
The spider in the web.

The spider eats a \_\_\_\_\_ (*bug name*)  
The spider eats a \_\_\_\_\_.  
Spin, spin, oh watch her spin,  
The spider in the web.

*Add a different bug name each time you sing the song!*

Hear the tune “The Farmer in the Dell” at <https://bussongs.com/songs/the-farmer-in-the-dell>

## At your library...



Idaho Family Reading Week is an annual statewide celebration of reading as a family activity. The theme this year is “Find it at your library.” Libraries across the state are planning fun events that celebrate family reading, and showcase all the great things you can find at your local library.

Ask your librarian about special events and programs planned for Family Reading Week, November 11–17, 2018.