

Did you know ...



Early literacy is what children know about reading and writing *before* they actually learn to read and write. Helping your child develop early literacy skills will build a foundation for reading so that when they are taught to read they are ready. You can start at birth!

Reading aloud with your kindergartener every day and teaching them about the world around them are practices that help prepare children to learn to read.

This monthly newsletter will help you become more familiar with early literacy skills, and it contains tips and activities you can try at home with your child. "The Bookworm" is published monthly for three age groups: Babies and Toddlers, Preschool, and Kindergarten. You can find more "Bookworms," as well as versions in Spanish, at <https://libraries.idaho.gov/publications/bookworm/>.

Here's how ...

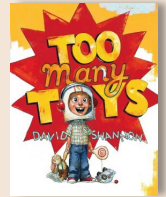


- ✦ Choose a quiet spot for you and your child to read aloud 15 – 20 minutes each day.
- ✦ Keep books and other reading materials where your child can reach them.
- ✦ Take books and writing supplies with you when you leave home so that your child can read and write wherever you go.
- ✦ Show your child how you read every day for fun and work (novels, newspapers, magazines, etc.).
- ✦ Visit the library or bookstore with your child to attend storytimes and choose books to read at home.

Read



Too Many Toys by David Shannon



Spencer has **too many toys!** His father trips over them, his mother falls over them, and the house is overflowing with junk. Although he finally agrees that he needs to give some of them away, there is one toy that Spencer absolutely cannot part with. Can you guess what it is?!

More great books from the author to read aloud:

A Bad Case of Stripes

Duck on a Bike

Good Boy, Fergus!

David Goes to School

The Rain Came Down

Alice the Fairy

...and more! Visit your local library to see what is available to check out.

Choose Books



More books like *Too Many Toys*:

The Boy Who Wouldn't Share by Mike Reiss

I Love My New Toy by Mo Willems

More by I. C. Springman

Pigsty by Mark Teague

Robot Zot by Jon Scieszka

Stuff by Margie Palatini

There's a Bear on My Chair by Ross Collins

What to Do with a Box by Jane Yolen

Talk

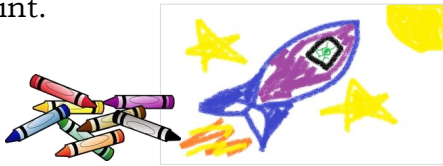


Studies show that when parents and caregivers talk with their children throughout the day, those children learn more words and are better able to learn to read. Asking your child questions about their day, explaining what you're doing as you do it, and talking about what you see as you're out and about are ways to talk *with*, rather than *at*, your child.

Write



Give your child some crayons and blank paper, and ask them to draw a picture of their favorite toy. Ask them to tell you about it, and write down what they say on the drawing. Then read it back to them while pointing to each word. Children at this age are learning to connect spoken words and printed words. Be sure to also point out punctuation marks such as periods or question marks, and talk about what they mean or how to change your voice when you see them used in print.



Sing



The More We Read Together

(To the tune of "The More We Get Together")

The more we read together, together, together,
The more we read together, the happier we'll be!
Read big books and small books, and short
books and tall books.

The more we read together, the happier we'll be!

~ from Katie Fitzgerald, *Story Time Secrets*

Hear this song at Jbrary:

[https://tinyurl.com/
More-we-read-together](https://tinyurl.com/More-we-read-together)



Play



Zoom, Zoom, Zoom

Action Rhyme

Zoom, zoom, zoom
We're going to the moon.

Zoom, zoom, zoom
We'll be there very soon.

So, if you'd like to take a trip
Just step inside my rocket ship.

Zoom, zoom, zoom
We're going to the moon.

Zoom, zoom, zoom
We'll be there very soon.

10 - 9 - 8 - 7 - 6 - 5 - 4 - 3 - 2 - 1 - 0 - Lift OFF!!!
(jump up with hands in the air)

See a version of this rhyme from Jbrary:

<https://tinyurl.com/Zoom-zoom-zoomJbrary>

At your library ...



Your library offers many free resources to help you build your child's early literacy skills such as age-appropriate books, music, storytimes, parent workshops, booklists, take-home activities, and events for the whole family!