

## 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, you don't have 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 shy away from some of the higher level words that are often in nonfiction books. Your child needs to hear lots of different kinds of words in order to learn to read later on.

## Here's how...

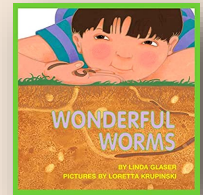


- ✦ Make time for your child to be out in the natural world. Take walks through the woods, splash in a creek, go to a park. Children this age love to explore, so get outside and enjoy some time in nature.
- ✦ Go to your local library and check out books about the things your child is interested in. Whether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

## Read



### **Wonderful Worms, by Linda Glaser**



Young children are fascinated by earthworms! Find out what worms do, how they move, and why they are so important to our life cycle. For children who want to dig a little deeper, the back pages of the book include a question and answer section.

*Wonderful Worms* is listed as an Outstanding Science Trade Book by the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA).

## Choosing Books



### **Other NSTA Outstanding Science Trade Books for curious preschoolers:**

*Flow, Spin, Grow: Looking for Patterns in Nature*, by Patchen Barss

*A House in the Sky*, by Steve Jenkins

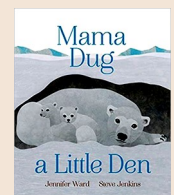
*Fur, Feather, Fin—All of Us Are Kin*, by Diane Lang

*Lovely Beasts: The Surprising Truth*, by Kate Gardner

*Mama Dug a Little Den*, by Jennifer Ward

*Paddle Perch Climb: Bird Feet Are Neat*, by Laurie Ellen

*Water Land: Land and Water Forms Around the World*, by Christy Hale



## Talk



Dig up a worm and bring it indoors on a piece of paper. Observe the worm with your child and ask some of these questions: How does the worm's skin feel? How does the worm move? Can a worm move backward? Have your child draw a picture of the worm before placing it back in the yard, preferably in a nice, cool, dirty spot!

## Write



Help your child roll "worms" out of play dough or clay. This activity will help build the muscles in your child's little fingers and hands that they need in order to grip a pencil correctly and begin writing.

You can make an easy "salt dough" by kneading together 1 cup salt, 2 cups flour, and 1 cup cold water. Find other play dough recipes online or ask your librarian to help you find one.

## Did you know...



### Why Children Need Nonfiction

- Information books and magazines can play an important part in motivating children to read.
- There are some great, high-quality information books available for children of all ages.
- Many kids enjoy information books as much as story books.
- Nonfiction 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 nonfiction now can help children prepare for reading these types of books later in life.

## Sing



### Did You Ever See an Earthworm?

To the tune of "The More We Get Together"

Did you ever see an earthworm,

An earthworm, an earthworm,

Did you ever see an earthworm

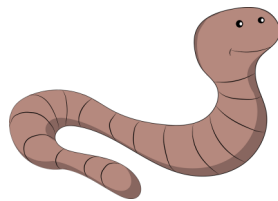
Move this way and that.

Move this way and that way,

And this way and that way,

Did you ever see an earthworm

Move this way and that?



Hear this song at

<https://kidsongs.com/lyrics/the-more-we-get-together.html/>

## At your library...



Idaho libraries are here to help you during the pandemic. In-person service depends on local health guidelines; however, most libraries offer pick-up service, online service, or 24-hour service such as free Wi-Fi. If you don't have your library's website URL, use the Idaho library locator at <https://libraries.idaho.gov/idaho-library-directory/>.