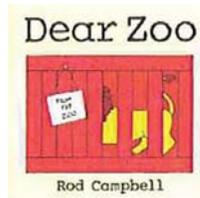


# Ready 2 Read!

## Early Talkers - Birth to Age Two

What could be more exciting than hearing your baby's first word? As that first word grows into a sentence and later into conversation, you will be watching a miracle - the miracle of language development. As a parent, you are your child's first teacher. Children learn best by doing things - and they love doing things with you. Nurture your child's language skills at every age and your child will be Ready to Read!

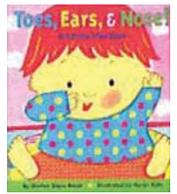
Here are ways you can help your little one get ready to read!



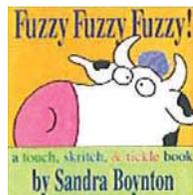
Dear Zoo  
by Rod Campbell

### Words *Vocabulary*

- Talk with your baby or toddler about what is going on around you.
- Notice what they look at, and discuss it.
- When your baby babbles or your child talks, listen carefully and answer.
- Ask your baby or toddler lots of questions.
- Share books with your baby every day. Name pictures of objects as you point to them - this helps children learn new words.



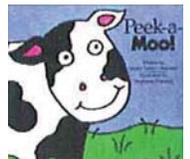
Toes, Ears, & Nose!  
by Marion Dane Bauer



Fuzzy Fuzzy Fuzzy!  
by Sandra Boynton

### Loving Books *Print Motivation*

- Begin reading books early - even when your child is a newborn.
- Make book sharing a meaningful time - make your child feel loved and special.
- Stop for awhile if your baby loses interest or gets upset. A few enjoyable minutes are better than a longer, unhappy time. Read when you and your child are relaxed and happy.
- Let your baby see you reading.
- Visit our library often.



Peek-a-Moo!  
by Marie Torres Cimarusti



Please, Baby, Please  
by Spike Lee and  
Tonya Lewis Lee

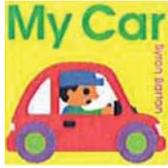
### Using Books *Print Awareness*

- Use board books or cloth books and have your child hold the book. (It's natural for babies to play with books, even chew or tear them.)
- Point to words and pictures, and use an excited voice when you talk about them.
- Read aloud every day - print labels, signs, menus. Print is everywhere!



Barnyard Banter  
by Denise Fleming

## Storytelling *Narrative Skills*



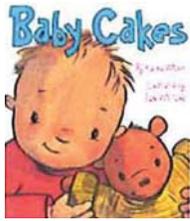
My Car  
by Byron Barton

- Talking with children develops comprehension skills that will help them understand what they read.
- Tell your child stories. Talk about what you are doing, and encourage them to tell you about things. This lets your child become an active participant in the story.
- Read favorite books again and again.



Where's Spot?  
by Eric Hill

## Sounds *Phonological Awareness*



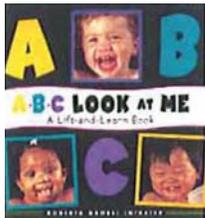
Baby Cakes  
by Karma Wilson

- Say nursery rhymes so that your child hears words that rhyme.
- Even make up your own silly, nonsense rhymes.
- Add actions as you sing a song or recite a poem. This helps children break down language into separate words.
- Singing songs is a good way to help your child hear syllables in words.
- Being able to hear the sounds that make up words helps children sound out written words as they begin to read.



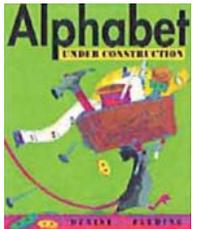
Big Fat Hen  
by Keith Baker

## ABCs *Letter Knowledge*



ABC Look at Me  
by Roberta Grobel

- Help your baby and toddler see and feel different shapes as you play. (Say, "The ball is round.")
- Read alphabet books.
- Point out letters on toys, food boxes and other objects around the house.
- Explain what is the "same" and "different" between objects.



Alphabet Under Construction  
by Denise Fleming

## Did you know...?

... That children who are read to often have larger vocabulary, higher achievement and better language skills when they enter kindergarten? The earlier a child learns pre-reading skills, the easier she will learn to read when school begins - which leads to success as a learner and reader!



# Ready 2 Read!

## Talkers - 2 and 3 Year Olds

Children learn best by doing things - and they love doing things with you. It is important at this age to continue to talk with your toddler about all of life's experiences. Share a variety of new books and old favorites with your child each day, sing songs and share rhymes as they pop into your head and be sure to speak in the language that is most comfortable for you. Your toddler will store away all those new words and will start to build an amazing vocabulary.

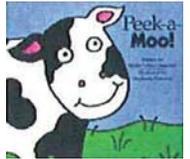
Here are ways you can help your toddler get ready to read!

### Words *Vocabulary*

- Talk with your child about what is going on around you. Talk about feelings.
- When your child talks with you, add more detail to what she says.
- Read and speak in the language most comfortable for you.
- Read together every day. Discuss the story and pictures - this helps children learn new words.



Brown Bear, Brown Bear.  
What Do You See?  
by Bill Martin Jr/Eric Carle



Peek-a-Moo!  
by Marie Torres Cimarusti

### Loving Books *Print Motivation*

- Make book sharing a meaningful time - make your child feel loved and special.
- Let your child see you reading.
- Visit our library often.
- Children who enjoy books will want to learn how to read!



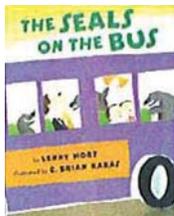
This Uddle Piggy  
by Jane Manning



Peekaboo Morning  
by Rachel Isadora

### Using Books *Print Awareness*

- Let your child turn the pages, hold the book, and even read or tell the story.
- Point to words as you say them, especially words that are repeated.
- Read aloud every day - print labels, signs, menus.
- Print is everywhere!
- Hold the book upside down. See if your child turns the book around.



The Seals on the Bus  
by Lenny Hort



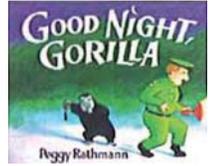
Chugga-Chugga  
Choo-Choo  
by Kevin Lewis

## Storytelling *Narrative Skills*



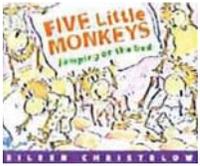
Bark George  
by Jules Feiffer

- Tell your child stories.
- Ask your child to tell you about something that happened today.
- Stories help children understand the concept of “order”: First, next, last.
- Read a book you’ve read before. Let your child be the reader while you listen.
- Encourage interaction - this lets your child become an active participant in the story. Do this by asking “What?” question, repeating what your child says, and expanding on it.



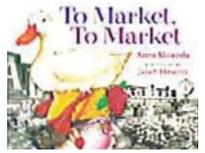
Good Night, Gorilla  
by Peggy Rathmann

## Sounds *Phonological Awareness*



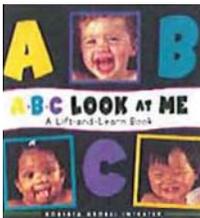
Five Little Monkeys  
Jumping on the Bed  
by Eileen Christelow

- Say nursery rhymes so that your child hears words that rhyme. Even make up your own silly, nonsense rhymes.
- Play word games such as, “What sounds like ‘ran’?” or “What starts with the same sound as ‘ball’?”
- Singing songs is a good way to help your child hear syllables in words.
- Being able to hear the sounds that make up words helps children sound out written words as they begin to read.



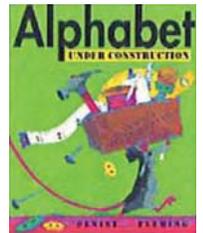
To Market, To Market  
by Anne Miranda

## ABCs *Letter Knowledge*



ABC Look at Me  
by Roberta Grobel

- Help your toddler see different shapes, including the shapes of letters.
- Write your child’s name, especially the first letter.
- Read alphabet books with clear letters and pictures. Point out the letters in the book or on other objects around the house.
- Make letters from clay or use magnetic letters.
- Explain what is the “same” and “different” between objects .



Alphabet Under  
Construction  
by Denise Fleming

## Did you know...?

... That children who are read to often have larger vocabulary, higher achievement and better language skills when they enter kindergarten? The earlier a child learns pre-reading skills, the easier she will learn to read when school begins - which leads to success as a learner and reader!



# Ready 2 Read!

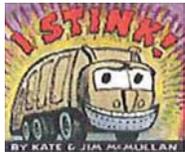
## Pre-Readers: 4 and 5 year olds

Children learn best by doing things - and they love doing things with you. At this age it is a good idea to start to spell and write out your child's name. Write down words your child says to show they can be written out. Encourage your child to tell you stories, and share stories that you know.

Above all, at this age, be sure to engage in activities that allow your child to be physically active, be creative and have fun. With increasing motor skills and their love of moving around, 4 and 5 year olds are able to join in with fingerplays and dances. Remember that you know your child better than anyone else does. Your influence on your child's life will last forever.

Here are ways you can help your young child get ready to read!

### Words *Vocabulary*



I Stink!  
by Kate & Jim McMullan

- Talk with your child about what is going on around you. Discuss how things work, feelings and ideas.
- When your child talks to you, add more detail to what she says.
- Speak in the language most comfortable for you.
- Read together every day. When you talk about the story and pictures, your child hears and learns more words.
- Learn together by reading some nonfiction books on subjects your child likes.

Here Are My Hands



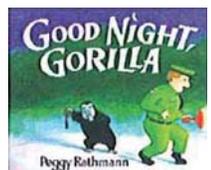
Here Are My Hands  
by Bill Martin Jr and  
John Archambault

### Loving Books *Print Motivation*



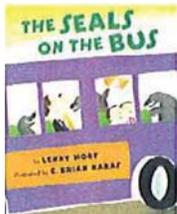
Brown Bear, Brown Bear,  
What Do You See?  
by Bill Martin Jr/ Eric Carle

- Make book sharing a meaningful time - make your child feel loved and special.
- Let your child see you reading.
- Visit our library often.
- Children who enjoy books will want to learn how to read.



Good Night, Gorilla  
by Peggy Rathmann

### Using Books *Print Awareness*



The Seals on the Bus  
by Lenney Hort

- Read aloud all types of print - labels, signs, lists, menus. Print is everywhere!
- Point to some of the words as you say them, especially words that are repeated.
- Let your child turn the pages.
- Let your child hold the book, and read or tell the story.
- Hold the book upside down. See if your child turns the book around.



Please, Baby, Please  
by Spike Lee and  
Tanya Lewis Lee

## Storytelling *Narrative Skills*



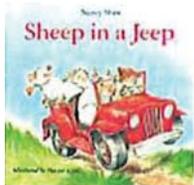
Duck on a Bike  
by David Shannon

- Listen to your child carefully when he talks.
- Ask your child to tell you about something that happened. Let him tell you about a picture he drew.
- Stories help children understand the concept of "order": First, next, last.
- Read a book together that your child already knows. Switch roles, so that you are the listener and your child tells the story.
- Ask "What" questions, such as pointing to a picture and saying, "What's that?" or "What's happening here?"
- Help your child relate what is happening in the story to a real-life experience.
- Encourage interaction - this lets your child become an active participant in the story. Do this by asking open-ended questions, such as "What do you think is happening in this picture?"



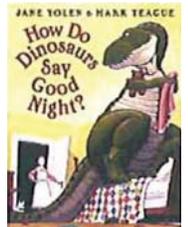
Kitten's First Full Moon  
by Kevin Henkes

## Sounds *Phonological Awareness*



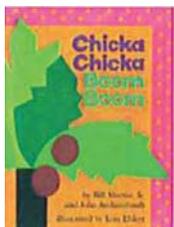
Sheep in a Jeep  
by Nancy Shaw

- Say rhymes, and ask whether two words rhyme or not. Make up your own silly, nonsense rhymes together.
- Say words with chunks left out: "What word would we have if you took the 'hot' away from 'hotdog'?" Do the reverse: "What word would we have if we put 'cow' and 'boy' together?"
- Say words with sounds left out: "What word would we have if we took the 'buh' sound away from 'bat'?"
- Sing songs. Songs have different notes for each syllable in a word.
- Read poetry together, and make up short poems together.



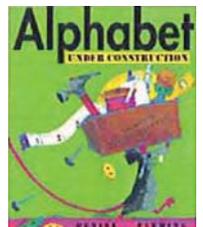
How Do Dinosaurs Say  
Good Night?  
by Jane Yolen & Mark Teague

## ABCs *Letter Knowledge*



Chicka Chicka  
Boom Boom  
by Bill Martin Jr and John Archambault

- Write your child's name.
- Make letters from clay or use magnetic letters.
- Point out letters when reading alphabet books, signs, or labels.
- Show your child that the same letter can look different.
- Write words that interest your child (like "dinosaur" or "truck") using crayons, magnetic letters or pencil and paper.



Alphabet Under  
Construction  
by Denise Fleming

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