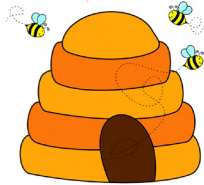


Rhymes and songs to share with your child

Young children love to be held, tickled, bounced and sung to. Try these simple songs and rhymes as an introduction to language development. Don't worry if you can't sing on key – your baby won't mind. He or she will love just being with you.

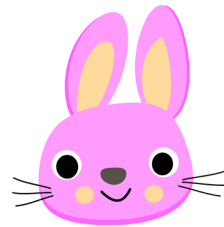
The Beehive

Here is the beehive. (Hold up fist)
Where are the bees?
Hidden away where nobody sees.
Watch as they come out of the hive –
One, two, three, four, five. (Extend each finger as you count)
They're alive! BZZZ! (Make buzzing sounds and tickle your child)



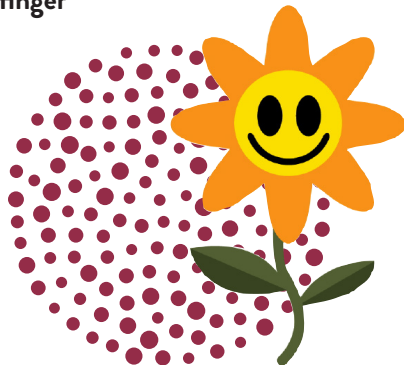
Sleeping Bunnies

(Children lie down on the floor, pretending to sleep)
See the little bunnies, sleeping until noon.
Can we wake them with a merry tune?
Oh, so still ... are they ill?
Wake up sleeping bunnies, hop, hop, hop!
(Stand up and jump up and down until the end of the song when "stop" is sung)
Wake up sleeping bunnies, hop, hop, hop!
Wake up sleeping bunnies, hop and stop!



Round and Round the Garden

(Circle your child's palm with your finger while you sing the song)
Round and round the garden
Like a teddy bear.
(Walk your fingers up child's arm)
One step, two step
Tickle you under there.
Round and round the garden
In the wind and rain.
One step, two step,
Tickle you once again.



Reading begins at home

Exposure to books, songs and rhymes is essential for a young child's growing brain. Research shows that reading even one book a day can make an enormous impact on a child's readiness to learn to read.

Here are 5 simple, but powerful, ways that parents and caregivers can help young children get ready for reading. You can make these practices part of your everyday activities to help young children learn early literacy skills.

Talking

Talking with young children helps them to develop pre-literacy skills. Encourage your child to retell stories which will help them understand story structure. Conversations with young children help them to express themselves, understand the world around them, and learn new vocabulary.

Singing

Singing slows down language and stresses the difference between syllables and intonation. This helps young children hear the smaller sounds in words which will later help them sound out words as they learn to read.

Reading

Reading to young children builds their vocabulary skills, allows them to develop letter awareness, and teaches them to enjoy reading and love books. It is a wonderful way to bond with your baby or young child.

Writing

Writing can be anything from drawing and scribbling to practising the shapes that make up the alphabet, and it is a great way to build fine motor skills. Children will grow to learn, and understand, that written words represent ideas, objects, places, and events.

Playing

Imaginative play is a key component of brain development and language acquisition. Play is not only fun, but is how children learn and understand new concepts, ideas and the world around them.

RAISE A READER



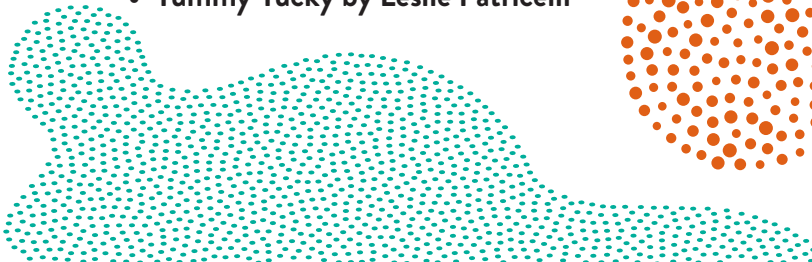
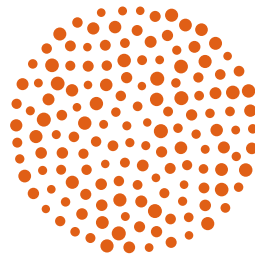
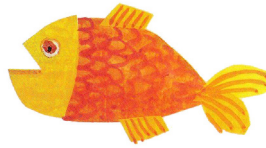
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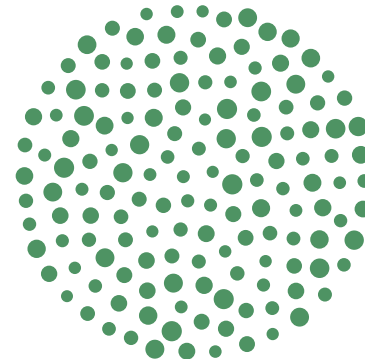
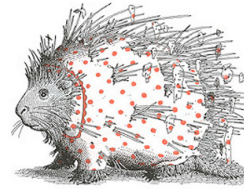
25 great books to share with your baby

- B is For Baby by Atinuke
- Babies First Treasury by Barbara Reid
- Black On White by Tana Hoban
- Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? by Bill Martin Jr.
- City Baby by Laurie Elmquist
- Dear Zoo by Rod Campbell
- Everywhere Babies by Susan Meyers
- Freight Train by Donald Crews
- The Going To Bed Book by Sandra Boynton
- Goodnight Moon by Margaret Wise Brown
- Hello, Animals! By Smriti Prasadam
- I Kissed the Baby! By Mary Murphy
- Kisses Kisses Baby-O! by Sheree Fitch
- Little You by Richard Van Camp
- Look! Look! By Peter Linenthal
- Love You Head to Toe by Ashley Barron
- My Heart Beats by Rina Singh
- Pat-A-Cake by Annie Kubler
- Peek-a-Zoo! by Marie Torres Cimarusti
- Read Talk Play: Baby Steps to Reading by Carol McDougall
- Ten Little Fingers and Ten Little Toes by Mem Fox
- The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle
- Where is Baby's Belly Button? By Karen Katz
- Will Ladybug Hug? By Hilary Leung
 - Yummy Yucky by Leslie Patricelli



25 great books to share with your toddler

- Are You My Mother? by P.D. Eastman
- Chicka Chicka Boom Boom by Bill Martin Jr. and John Archambault
- Early Bird by Toni Yuly
- Farmyard Beat by Lindsey Craig
- From Head to Toe by Eric Carle
- Go Away, Big Green Monster! by Ed Emberley
- Good Night, Gorilla by Peggy Rathmann
- Goodnight Canada by Andrea Beck
- Grumpy Bird by Jeremy Tankard
- How Do Dinosaurs Say Good Night? by Jane Yolen
- In My Anaana's Amautik by Nadia Sammurtok
- In the Small, Small Pond by Denise Fleming
- Kitten's First Full Moon by Kevin Henkes
- Little Gorilla by Ruth Bornstein
- Llama Llama Red Pajama by Anna Dewdney
- Lola Reads to Leo by Anna McQuinn
- Maisy Goes to the Library by Lucy Cousins
- Mr. Gumpy's Outing by John Burningham
- My Heart Fills With Happiness by Monique Gray Smith
- Orange Pear Apple Bear by Emily Gravett
- Planting a Rainbow by Lois Ehlert
- The Snowy Day by Ezra Jack Keats
- Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star by Jane Cabrera
- Where the Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak
- Where's Spot? by Eric Hill



25 great books to share with your preschooler

- Actual Size by Steve Jenkins
- Amy Wu and the Perfect Bao by Kat Zhang
- Bear Snores On by Karma Wilson
- Chester by Mélanie Watt
- Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus! by Mo Willems
- Giraffe's Can't Dance by Giles Andreae
- Goodnight, Goodnight, Construction Site by Sherri Duskey Rinker
- Good Night Sam by Marie-Louise Gay
- The Gruffalo by Julia Donaldson
- Hair Twins by Raakhee Mirchandani
- I'm the Biggest Thing in the Ocean by Kevin Sherry
- I Want My Hat Back by Jon Klassen
- Last Stop on Market Street by Matt de la Pena
- Little Blue Truck by Alice Schertle
- Lost and Found by Oliver Jeffers
- The Mitten: A Ukrainian Folk Tale by Jan Brett
- Not a Box by Antoinette Portis
- Owl Babies by Martin Waddell
- The Paper Bag Princess by Robert Munsch
- Pete the Cat: I Love My White Shoes by Eric Litwin
- Picture a Tree by Barbara Reid
- Press Here by Herve Tullet
- The Very Cranky Bear by Nick Bland
- We All Play by Julie Flett
- We're Going on a Bear Hunt by Michael Rosen

