



EveryCHILD Ready to READ[®] @ your library[®]

Resources for Caregivers with Babies (0-18 M)

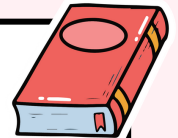
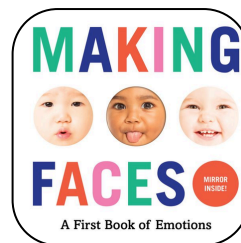
READING

Aim for 20 minutes every day

Tip: Read in smaller segments throughout the day if you can't read for 20 minutes straight such as bath time, bedtime or the doctor's office.

Tips for choosing books for babies:

- Board books are durable
- Pages with bold, bright colors
- Few words on page or wordless
- Books with faces of other babies



WRITING

Reading and writing go hand-in-hand and writing skills develop over time at different rates. Focus on fine and gross motor skill development to strengthen hand and arm muscles.

Activities to strengthen fine/gross motor:

- Painting a freezerbag
- Grasping and releasing items
- Pulling scarves from a tissue box
- Spilling water from a small container



SINGING

Singing helps children learn language because it slows words down so they can hear the individual sounds that words make. Your child loves to hear the sound of your voice so share nursery rhymes or family favorites!

Helpful Resources to Find your Favorite Songs!

- Hoopla
- Freegal
- Request CDs from your local library branch
- OCLS YouTube Channel for recorded storytimes



TALKING

Children learn language by listening to you speak. For this age group:

- Point to their body parts and name them
- Narrate your day even if they cannot respond yet



This is your nose! What a cute nose!

PLAYING

Play is an important practice to strengthen literacy because children learn about life by using and developing their imagination.

Dramatic or Pretend Play

- Helps develop vocabulary and storytelling skills
- Develops the self-confidence to try new activities and experiences
- Play helps children understand that one object can stand for another such as a stick becoming a magic wand



Resources for Caregivers with Toddlers (18-24 M)

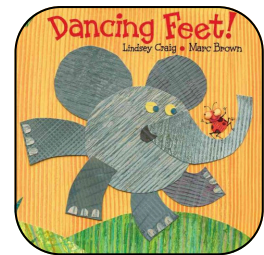
READING

Aim for 20 minutes every day

Tip: Read in smaller segments throughout the day if you can't read for 20 minutes straight such as bath time, bedtime or the doctor's office.

Tips for Choosing Books for Toddlers:

- Average attention span is 5-7 minutes for any task
- Simple sentences (1-2 per page)
- Repeated phrases or rhyme to encourage participation
- Books that include singing or movement



WRITING

Reading and writing go hand-in-hand and writing skills develop over time at different rates. Focus on fine and gross motor skill development to strengthen hand and arm muscles.

Activities to strengthen fine/gross motor:

- Peeling painters' tape
- Finger painting
- Playdoh
- Threading beads, pasta or dry cereal on pipe cleaners



Resources for Caregivers with Preschoolers (3-5 Y)

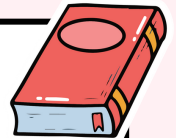
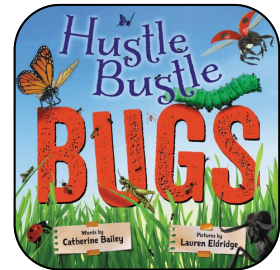
READING

Aim for 20 minutes every day

Tip: Read in smaller segments throughout the day if you can't read for 20 minutes straight such as bath time, bedtime or the doctor's office.

Tips for Choosing Books for Preschoolers:

- Longer stories with simple plots
- Look for fiction and non-fiction titles
 - Animals and transportation are some favorite topics!
- Books that relate to their lives or shared experiences
 - Going to school, having a new sibling



WRITING

Reading and writing go hand-in-hand and writing skills develop over time at different rates. Focus on fine and gross motor skill development to strengthen hand and arm muscles.

Activities to strengthen fine/gross motor:

- Cotton swab painting
- Squishy bags
- Writing Trays
- Sticker Lines
- Large crayons/pencils





SINGING

Singing helps children learn language because it slows words down so they can hear the individual sounds that words make. Your child loves to hear the sound of your voice so share nursery rhymes or family favorites!

Helpful Resources to Find your Favorite Songs!

- Hoopla
- Freegal
- Request CDs from your local library branch
- OCLS YouTube Channel for recorded storytimes



TALKING

Children learn language by listening to you speak and small moments make all the difference. For this age group:

- Ask open-ended questions
- Tell stories about your family
- Use books to start conversations
- Consider wordless picture books



PLAYING

Play is an important practice to strengthen literacy because children learn about life by using and developing their imagination.

Dramatic or Pretend Play

- Helps develop vocabulary and storytelling skills
- Develops the self-confidence to try new activities and experiences
- Play helps children understand that one object can stand for another such as a stick becoming a magic wand

