

Babies First Book List

Many educational studies show that when parents read to their children from the time they are babies, children learn to read earlier and are better readers later in school. Having books and magazines at home is important. But how do you know what books to choose for your child? Here are some tips for getting good books for young children of all ages.

The following books are suggested readings for your baby 1. As your baby ages, you can promote learning and sociocognitive development by reading books that target your babies emerging skills. There are many books that might fit into these categories; the suggestions listed here are examples of available books.

When to get and give books

Anytime is a great time for a new book! Give books for special occasions or everyday treats. Encourage your child to choose a book as a souvenir on a family trip. Encourage grandparents or other relatives to help build your child's personal library, and let the giver have the pleasure of reading the book to your child for the first time. Buy books as gifts for baby showers, children's birthday parties, or holiday gifts. No matter when you give your child a book, you are helping build a love of reading.

Characteristics of good books

Books for babies to 1 year:

- Thick cardboard pages
- Flexible cloth or vinyl pages
- Small, chunky format
- Simple, bright pictures or photos
- Few or no words on a page
- Themes that encourage sounds (farm animals, vehicles, etc.)

Books for toddlers and twos:

- Cardboard or thick paper pages
- Repetition of words or phrases
- Pictures that tell a story without words
- A story told in a few, simple words
- Nursery rhymes or rhyming words
- Stories about familiar, everyday things
- Simple concepts like colors or shapes

Books for preschoolers:

- Increasingly more complicated stories
- Stories about different cultures and places
- Folktales
- Stories about issues children face (fears, separation, starting school)
- Rhyming text or poetry
- Humorous plots or characters
- Non-fiction subjects
- Color, letter or number themes

Note: Getting a library card is a great way to save money as well as provide great learning for your child. You can also get books in consignment stores, garage sales or organize a book exchange in your neighborhood or circle of friends.

Birth to One Month: **Looking at faces to develop vision and attachment:**

***Baby Faces** by M. Miller

***Wow! Babies!** by P. Gentieu

Padded Board Books: Baby Faces

One Month: **Nursery Rhymes:**

***Tomie's Little Mother Goose** by T. dePaola

Appley Dapply's Nursery Rhymes by B. Potter

My Very First Mother Goose by I.A. Opie & RWells

Two Months: **Book to prop with simple, high-contrast pictures so baby can practice visual skills:**

What Is That? by T. Hoban

***Black on White** by T. Hoban

***It Looked Like Spilt Milk** by C. G. Shaw

Three Months: **A book to prop or a nursery rhyme book:**

Humpty Dumpty: And Other Rhymes by I. A. Opie, R. Wells

***Read To Your Bunny** by R. Wells

Baby Animals Black and White: Black and White by P. L. Tildes

Four Months: **Animal Sounds-focus on listening/hearing:**

***Who Says Quack?** by J. Smith & P. Dunlap Grosset

Big Red Barn by M. Wise Brown

Animal-Shaped Board Books: Farm Animals by B. Watts & D. Brown

Five Months: **Chunky, chubby, cloth or vinyl book for baby to explore and manipulate, single picture on each page:**

***Baby's First Words** by L. Wik

Baby's Animal Friends by P. Dunn

Padded Board Books: All About Baby by S. Shott

Six Months: **Vinyl or cloth book, good for mouthing:**

***Red, Blue Yellow Shoe** by T. Hoban

Bath Books: Bathtime

Whale Baby by J. Labrack & D. Reagan

Kite In The Park by L. Cousins

Seven Months: **Small chunky book with brightly colored pictures:**

***Farm Animals** by P. Dunn

Touch and Feel Baby Animals -DK Books

***Baby! Talk!** by P. Gentieu

Eight Months: **Labeling baby's facial features:**

- ***Smile!** by R. Grobel Intrater
- Baby Faces** by K. Suter
- ***Peek-a-boo** by J.Ormerod

Nine Months: **Motor development is the focus of the plan:**

- Grow! Babies!** by P.Gentieu
- ***Baby's 1-2-3** by N. Ricklen
- Mommy and Me** by N. Ricklen

Ten Months: **Learning to feed self. Activity is to have baby unwrap a book:**

- ***Pots and Pans** by P.Hubbell
- ***Wrapping Paper Romp** by P. Hubbell
- Let's Eat** by A. Posner & T. Taylor

Eleven Months: **Use the home-made zip-lock bag book;**

No commercial book is needed for this plan.

Twelve Months: **Screening is the focus of this plan:**

- ***I See** by R. Isadora
- ***Play Rhymes** by M. Tolon Brown
- Show Me!** By T. Tracy & D.LaBrosse

Thirteen Months: **Lift-the-flap, interactive book:**

- ***Where's the Baby?** By C. Christian & L. Dwight
- ***Where's Spot?** by E. Hill
- Open the Barn Door** by C. Santoro

Fourteen Months: **Baby faces showing various feelings:**

- ***Pretty Brown Face** by A. Pinkney, B. Pinkney & J.B.Pinkney
- ***Copy Cat Faces** by D. Chancellor
- Funny Faces** by N. Tuxworth

Sixteen Months: **Play dough/Stress/Temper tantrums plan:**

- ***I Touch** by R. Isadora
- You Go Away** by D. Corey & D. Paterson
- When You're Mad: And You Know It** by E. Crary, S. Steelsmith & M. Katayama

Seventeen Months: **Story emphasizing feelings:**

- I Love You Very: A Child's Book Of Love** by F. Weedn & L. Weedn Gilbert
- I Feel Happy: A Bedtime Book of Feelings** by F. Weedn & L. Weedn
- Mommy Loves Me** by D. Warren & B. Lanza
- Daddy Loves Me** by D. Warren & B. Lanza

Eighteen Months: **Activity is a pretend play picnic. Choose a book about foods, mealtime, picnics:**

Hide-And-Seek Picnic by T. Speer
Blues #1 Picnic by B. Yablonsky & K. Craig
Boom, Baby, Boom, Boom! by M. Mahy & P. MacCarthy

Nineteen Months: Sounds. **Book which includes pictures of things that make sounds:**

Train Song by C. Lukas, R. Torrey & R. Torrey
Bananas Gorilla's Sounds by R. Scarry
Bang! Bang! Toot! Toot! by R. Cowley

Twenty Months: **Motor activity: Step, jump, climb. A book about physical development**

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear by S. Scott
***We're Going On A Bear Hunt** by M. Rosen & H. Oxenbury
I Can by H. Oxenbury

Twenty-one Months: **Make a word book. Read a "word-less" book:**

***A Boy, A Dog, A Frog, And A Friend** by M.&M. Mayer
***Peter Spier's Rain** by P. Spiers
Snow Day by D. Peddle
Bedtime! By A. Kuble
Truck by D. Crews

Twenty-two Months: **Lift the flap book. Transitions:**

***What Happens Next?** by C. Christian & L. Dwight
Daddy and Me Lift & Look Board Books
Bug In A Rug by S. Heap

Twenty-three Months: **Social/Emotional. Beginning conversational skills:**

***Busy Bugs, Lazy Bugs** by D.A. Carter
***Goodnight Moon** by M. Wise Brown
HUG by J. Alborough
***I Like Me** by N.L. Carlson
***Max's Bath** by R. Wells

Twenty-four months: **Screening and visit to the Doctor:**

It's Great to be Two by F. Pragoff
***The Berenstain Bears Go To The Doctor** by S. & J. Berenstain
Jonathon Goes To The Doctor by S. K. Baggette & W. J. Moriarty
Freddie Visits The Doctor by N. Smee
***Max's Ride** by R. Wells
***In and Out, Up and Down** by J. Henson
***Opposites** by S. Boyton
***Oh My, Oh My, Oh Dinosaurs** by S. Boyton
***The Foot Book: Dr. Seuss' Wacky Book of Opposites** by Seuss

Twenty-five Months: **Simple counting books and shape matching:**

***Let's Look At Sizes:** by N. Tuxworth
Bear in a Square by S. Blackstone and D. Harter
One Moose, Twenty Mice by C. Beaton

Twenty-six Months: **Gross motor and labeling of body parts:**

Hop, Skip, Jump by N. Tuxworth
***Froggy Gets Dressed** by J. London & F. Remkiewicz
***Eyes, Nose Fingers, Toes** by J. Hindley & B. Granstrom
***Uh Oh! I Gotta Go: Potty Tales from Toddlers** by B. McGrath & S. Dieterichs
***Going To The Potty** by F. Rogers & J. Judkis

Twenty-seven Months: **Colors:**

***Let's Look At Colors** by L. B. Staff & N. Tuxworth
***Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?** by E. Carle & B., Jr. Martin
Primary Cats by M. Heatwole
***Keith Haring Big** by K. Haring
***I Love Colors** by M. Miller
***Baby's Colors** by N. Ricklen

Twenty-eight Months: **Feelings, especially night time fears, sharing and bedtime:**

Can't You Sleep, Little Bear? by M. Waddell & B. Firth
***Time For Bed** by M. Fox & J. Dyer
***The New Baby** by F. Rogers
***Peter's Chair** by E. J. Keats
***There's A Nightmare In My Closet** by M. Mayer
Go Away, Big Green Monster! by E. Emberly

Twenty-nine Months: **Look and find book:**

I Spy Little Book by J. Marzollo & W. Wick
***Each Pear, Peach, Plum** by J. & A. Ahlberg
Who Ate It? by T. Gomi
Have You Seen My Duckling? by N. Tafuri

Thirty Months: **Discipline and problem solving:**

***I Was So Mad** by M. Mayer
***Will There Be A Lap For Me?** by D. Corey, N. Poydar & A. Levine
***Swimmy** by L. Lionni
***Froggy Goes To School** by J. London & F. Remkiewicz
***Good Night Gorilla** by P. Rathman
***Let's Go Froggy** by J. London & F. Remkiewicz

Thirty-one Months: **Blocks and building activity:**

Machines At Work by B. Barton
Diggers and Dump Trucks by A. Royston
***Freight Train** by D. Crews
***Zoom City** by T. Hurd

Thirty-two Months: **Matching:**

- ***Spot's Big Book of Colors, Shapes and Numbers** by E. Hill
- Let's Look At Mix and Match** by N. Tuxworth
- ***What Is Round?** by R. Kai Dotlich

Thirty-three Months: **Food and/or cooking:**

- lunch** by D. Fleming
- Eat Up, Gemma** by S. Hayes & J.Ormerod
- Feast For 10** by C. Falwell
- ABC Yummy** by L. Jahn-Clough
- Alligator Arrived With Apples: A Potluck Alphabet Feast** by C. Dragonwagon, et al.

Thirty-four Months: **Taping parent reading book:**

- ***The Very Busy Spider** by E. Carle
- ***Playtime Rhymes** by P. Lamont & S. McKeller
- ***The Itsy Bitsy Spider** by R. Wells
- ***Alphabears: An ABC Book** by K. & M. Hague
- ***Jamberry** by B. Degan

Thirty-five Months: **Patterning, sequencing and music:**

- ***Very Hungry Caterpillar** by E. Carle
- The Wheels On The Bus** by Raffi & S. Kantorovitz Wickstrom
- ***Five Little Monkeys Jumping On The Bed** by E. Christelow
- ***Roll Over** by M. Peek

Thirty-six Months: **Good preschool literature:**

- The Runaway Bunny** by M. Wise Brown
- The Little Engine That Could** by W. Piper, G. Haumann & D. Haumann
- The Tale of Peter Rabbit** by Beatrix Potter
- The Snowy Day** by Ezra Jack Keats
- Caps For Sale** by E. Slobodkina