



Begin reading aloud to your newborn. It's not too early! Hold your baby on your lap and read nursery rhymes, sing songs, and play old favorites like "Pat-a-Cake" and "This Little Piggy." Touch your baby's fingers, toes, etc. while you say the rhymes. The sound and rhythm of your voice are what's most important.

When your baby shows an interest in pictures, choose durable cardboard books ("board books") with simple illustrations and bold colors. Point to the pictures and say the words.

Make your reading moments with baby cozy and pleasant. You're building the foundation for a lifetime of reading enjoyment!

## Baby Games

Dorling Kindersley Book of Nursery Rhymes .....J 398.8 G  
Mother Goose Numbers on the Loose.....J 398.8 D  
My Very First Mother Goose .....J 398.8 O

## Board Books

Baby Dance..... Ann Taylor  
Goodnight Max ..... Rosemary Wells  
The Itsy Bitsy Spider ..... Rosemary Wells  
I See (and other titles) ..... Helen Oxenbury  
My Very First Book of Animal Homes ..... Eric Carle  
My Very First Book of Shapes ..... Eric Carle  
Polar Bear, Polar Bear, What do you Hear? ..... Bill Martin  
Spot's Colors, Shapes, and Numbers ..... Eric Hill

## Recordings

Baby and Me (CD) .....J Music (B)  
Baby Face (CD) .....J Music (B)  
Baby Games (CD) ..... J Music (H)  
Baby Tutor: Alphabet (DVD) .....J 421 B  
Read, Rhyme & Clap (DVD) .....J 372.1 R  
Read, Rhyme & Cuddle (DVD) .....J 372.1 R

Ask at the Information Desk in your local branch for help locating these and similar titles.



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Your child is beginning to recognize faces, objects and voices, and can name objects. Books with one or two pictures per page are good choices. Encourage your child to identify the objects in the pictures. One year-olds may pretend to read to a toy or themselves.

Children this age like to tear pages in books, so stiff cardboard books (“board books”) are perfect for them. They are just beginning to learn how to control their bodies, to talk and walk.

Continue to encourage your child to repeat the actions and rhymes in the books. Nursery rhymes and Mother Goose rhymes work well. As you read “Row, Row, Row Your Boat,” you can pretend to row!

## Board Books

Bumble Bee ..... Margaret Wise Brown  
Katy Duck ..... Alyssa Satin Capucilli  
Opposites (and other titles) ..... Sandra Boynton  
Owen and Mzee: Best Friends ..... Isabella Hatkoff  
Spot at Home (and other titles) ..... Eric Hill

## Rhymes

Everything Book ..... Denise Fleming  
Hand Rhymes ..... Marc Brown  
Mother Goose (various titles) ..... found at JP Mother

## Other Titles

Count and See ..... Tana Hoban  
Do Lions Live on Lily Pads? ..... Melanie Walsh  
Goodnight Moon ..... Margaret Wise Brown  
Peek-A-Moo ..... Marie Torres Cimarusti  
Time for Bed ..... Mem Fox

## Recordings

100 Sing along Songs for Kids (various titles) (DVD) ..... J 782.42 O  
Favorite Toddler Tunes (CD) ..... J Music (F)

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Simple books are best for two's. Look for bright and clear illustrations. Tiny little books or unusually shaped ones appeal. Pick books about things they do every day and those about their favorite things— like their shoes! Nursery rhymes work well and they love to repeat the rhymes with you.

## Suggested Book Titles

Baby Bear, Baby Bear .....	Bill Martin
Barnyard Banter .....	Denise Fleming
A Dog Needs a Bone .....	Audrey Wood
From Head to Toe .....	Eric Carle
Freight Train .....	Donald Crews
How do Dinosaurs Get Well Soon? .....	Jane Yolen
Jesse Bear, What Will You Wear? .....	Nancy W. Carlstrom
Lunch .....	Denise Fleming
My Many Colored Days .....	Dr. Seuss
One Ted Fall Out of Bed .....	Julia donaldson
Seals on the Bus .....	Lenny Hort
Sheep in a Jeep .....	Nancy Shaw
Silly Suzy Goose .....	Petr Horacek
Ten Little Fish .....	Audrey Wood
Where's Spot? .....	Eric Hill
Wiggle .....	Doreen Cronin

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Three's often enjoy listening to stories for as long as 20 minutes in one sitting. You may find your three year-old asking for the same story over and over and over! As you read, stop and ask questions about the stories. Try books about everyday events—like eating, playing, sleeping. Also look for alphabet books, simple riddles and guessing stories.

## Suggested Book Titles

"A" Was Once an Apple Pie .....	Edward Lear
Big Red Barn .....	Margaret Wise Brown
Can You Growl Like a Bear? .....	John Butler
Color of His Own .....	Leo Lionni
Come Along, Daisy! .....	Jane Simmons
Good Day .....	Kevin Henkes
Gossie .....	Olivier Dunrea
If You're Happy and You Know It! .....	Jane Cabrera
Little Mouse, the Red Ripe Strawberry and the Big Hungry Bear .....	Don Wood
Little White Duck .....	Walt Whippo
Maybe a Bear Ate it! .....	Robie H. Harris
Mother Goose Numbers on the Loose .....	Leo & Diane Dillon
Move Over, Rover .....	Karen Beaumont
Three Billy Goats Gruff .....	Stephen Carpenter
Very Hungry Caterpillar .....	Eric Carle
When Sheep Sleep .....	Laura Numeroff
Wiggle .....	Doreen Cronin

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From the ridiculous to dinosaurs, kids can help pick out books on topics they like now that they're four. Silly books are always a hit. Four's love to look for details in illustrations—as in *Where's Waldo?* by Martin Handford. Word play or rhythm books are fun too.

### **Suggested Book Titles**

- A Bad Case of the Stripes ..... David Shannon  
Anansi the Spider ..... Gerald McDermott  
Biggest, Strongest, Fastest ..... Steve Jenkins  
Chugga-Chugga Choo-Choo ..... Kevin Lewis  
Eating the Alphabet ..... Lois Ehlert  
Falling for Rapunzel ..... Leah Wilcox  
Going Around the Sun ..... Marianne Berkes  
Goldilocks and the Three Bears ..... Jan Brett  
Hilda Must be Dancing ..... Karma Wilson  
Hippopotamus Stew and Other Silly Animal Poems ..... Joan Horton  
The Old Tree ..... Ruth Brown  
The Pen that Pa Built ..... David Edwards  
Pumpkin Soup ..... Helen Cooper  
The Seven Silly Eaters ..... Mary Ann Hoberman  
Some Dog ..... Mary Casanova  
Very Hungry Caterpillar ..... Eric Carle  
Walking Through the Jungle ..... Debbie Harter  
What Grandmas do Best/What Grandpas do Best ..... Laura Numeroff

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Five's still want to be read to. Kids at this age also spend a lot of time by themselves looking at books, picking out words they know and sometimes reading! Funny books and stories about animals that act like people are appealing. Use books to answer their questions. At five, your child is discovering the joy of learning—a first step before school and formal education begins.

## Suggested Book Titles

Clean Your Room, Harvey Moon! .....	Pat Cummings
Click, Clack, Moo: Cows that Type .....	Doreen Cronin
Cook-a-doodle-doo! .....	Janet Stevens
Digging up Dinosaurs .....	Aliki
Enormous Carrot .....	Vladimir Vagin
Frog and Toad are Friends .....	Arnold Lobel
Gone Wild .....	David Mclimans
Henry & the Buccaneer Bunnies .....	Caryoln Crimi
Hooway for Wodney Wat .....	Helen Lester
How to Make an Apple Pie and See the World .....	Marjorie Priceman
It Looked Like Spilt Milk .....	Charles Shaw
Jabuti the Tortoise .....	Gerald McDermott
Mitten .....	Jan Brett
Over in the Jungle, a rainforest rhyme .....	Marianne Berkes
Pigs Aplenty, Pigs Galore .....	David McPhail
Strega Nona .....	Tomie de Paola
Tops and Bottoms .....	Janet Stevens

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