



## Reading with Infants and Toddlers

### A Step Ahead Book List:

- THE VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR  
by Eric Carle
- WE'RE GOING ON A BEAR HUNT  
by Michael Rosen
- THE NAPPING HOUSE  
by Audrey Wood
- THE HAPPY EGG  
by Ruth Krauss
- YUMMY YUCKY  
by Leslie Patricelli
- SHEEP IN THE JEEP  
by Nancy Shaw
- BABY HAPPY BABY SAD  
by Leslie Patricelli
- GREEN EGGS AND HAM  
by Dr. Seuss
- THE FAMILY BOOK  
by Todd Parr
- DIARY OF A WORM  
by Doreen Cronin
- ARE YOU MY MOTHER  
by P.D. Eastman
- WALTER THE FARTING DOG  
by William Kotzwinkle & Glenn Murray
- COOKIE COUNT: A TASTY POP-UP  
by Robert Sabuda
- I HOPE YOU DANCE  
by Mark Sanders and Tia Sillers
- THE BIG SHINY SPARKLY FIRST  
WORDS BOOK by Susie Lacombe
- FIRST 100 WORDS  
by Priddy Baby Books
- I KNOW A RHINO  
by Charles Fuge
- BABY BELUGA  
by Raffi
- BROWN BEAR BROWN BEAR WHAT DO  
YOU SEE by Bill Martin Jr & Eric Carle
- A POCKET FOR CORDUROY  
by Don Freeman
- HAPPY BIRTHAY, MOUSE  
by Laura Numeroff
- DUCK AND GOOSE  
by Tad Hills
- ARE YOU A COW?  
by Sandra Boynton
- DEAR ZOO  
by Rod Campbell
- TEN LITTLE FINGERS AND TEN LITTLE  
TOES by Helen Oxenbury
- BABY SIGNS  
by Joy Allen
- LOOK LOOK  
by Peter Linenthal
- YOUR BABY'S FIRST WORD WILL BE  
DADA by Jimmy Fallon
- MR. BROWN CAN MOO CAN YOU  
by Dr. Seuss
- MOO BAA LA LA LA  
by Sandra Boynton
- LLAMA LLAMA RED PAJAMA  
by Anne Dewdney
- GOODNIGHT MOON  
by Margaret Wise Brown
- WHERE IS BABY'S BELLY BUTTON by  
Karen Katz
- PEEK-A-WHO  
by Nina Laden
- PRESS HERE  
by Herve Tullet
- GLOBAL BABIES  
by Global Fund for Children
- MOMMIES SAY SHH  
by Patricia Polacco
- DON'T TOUCH THE BUTTON  
by Bill Cotter

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### Tips and Tricks from NAEYC:

Reading to babies is an intimate, shared experience that boosts development and learning. Making time for story sharing in busy infant settings is essential for children's vocabulary development and later reading ability. Being intentional about embedding literacy experiences in babies' everyday routines creates joyful, loving moments in the short-term and builds critical skills in the long-term.

Here are some tips that can make reading easier for you and more beneficial for the infants and toddlers in your care.

- Make books readily accessible to both you and mobile babies by placing several baskets or trays of books on the floor in different locations around the room.
- Make books part of daily routines, such as when lulling a baby to sleep or feeding a baby.
- Make homemade books featuring familiar family members, including pets.
- Read aloud in a casual, conversational manner, pausing to point to the illustrations and label the objects and characters.
- Read to children in their home language, if you are fluent in it.
- Ask questions, even of preverbal children. Wait for children to respond in their own ways (facial expressions, body movements, sounds) before you start talking again.
- Talk to children about the story—for example, "See the baby pat the bunny?"
- Use an animated voice when reading to babies. This is a good way to show that you're interested and you enjoy reading! If you're engaged, babies will be too.
- Find books that provide sensory experiences, like touch and feel books or books with flaps, noises, and pop-ups.
- Help children learn to turn the pages of a book. Reading should be interactive.
- Read for as long as the child is interested. It's fine to not finish the book.
- Make a cozy and inviting reading area using pillows and other comfy cushions, as well as lots of books—and use your reading area regularly.
- Find books about familiar songs or finger plays.
- Try to read to each child every day.
- Most importantly, have fun!