

Bear Book Talks



Mr. Breitsprecher's Edition

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Great Book for Babies (0 - 2)

Print Motivation (Babies, 0-2)

Baby Faces, by Margaret Miller. Presents color photographs of various facial expressions.

Baby Pets, by Margaret Miller. Presents color photographs of various baby animals.

Big Book of Beautiful Babies Board Book, by David Ellwand. From bold to bashful, bewildered to beautiful, this sturdy board book bursts with babies! Sharp, silvery-toned photography captures a multitude of first expressions that will entrance readers young and old.

Come Back Hannah, by Marisabina Russo. Fast-crawling Hannah keeps Mama busy by getting into all kinds of mischief around the house.

Cookie See! Cookie Do! by Anna Jane Hays. Elmo encourages the reader to try different motions including jumping, reaching, and bending, while the flapped pages reveal other Sesame Street characters doing the same motions.

Cows in the Kitchen, by June Crebbin. While Tom Farmer is asleep under the haystack, the cows, ducks, pigs, hens, and sheep make quite a mess in the farmhouse.

Fuzzy Fuzzy Fuzzy: A Touch, Skritch & Tickle Book, by Sandra Boynton. This board book will delight babies and toddlers (and probably moms and dads too) with its multi-sensory presentation of whimsical barnyard creatures.

Goodnight Moon, by Margaret

Great Early Literacy Books for Babies (0-2)

Babies are fascinated by books featuring infants, baby animals, and facial expressions. Young babies (less than 1 year) still have developing eyesight. Newborns cannot see further than 12 inches or so; keep this in mind when sharing books. Here are some suggestions for books that will introduce early literacy skills to babies from 0-2 years old. To help you get started sharing early literacy skills, we have provided each book suggestion along with an early literacy skill that book can support.

However, it isn't really the book that builds early literacy skills, its how the book is used. Please be enthusiastic and get your child involved when reading books together. You will both enjoy this special time you share together!

This is not a "definitive" list - the value a child gets from a book depends on how the book is shared. If you have a favorite book for baby, we'd love to hear from you.

Six Early Literacy Skills

The American Library Association has identified these six key skills that will prepare children to become readers when they enter school:

- **Print Motivation.** Being excited about and interested in books.
- **Phonological Awareness.** Playing with the sounds in words.
- **Print Awareness.** Noticing print everywhere, knowing how to handle a book, and following words on a page.
- **Narrative Skills.** Telling stories and describing things.
- **Enriched Vocabulary.** Knowing the specific names of things.
- **Letter Knowledge.** Knowing the difference between how letters look, their names, and their sounds.

Wise Brown. Goodnight to each of the objects in the great green room: goodnight chairs, goodnight comb, goodnight air.

I Kissed the Baby, by Mary Murphy. Various animals tell how they saw, fed, sang to, tickled, and kissed the new duckling.

I Like it When, by Mary Murphy. A little penguin shares its favorite things with the one it loves most.

I Love Colors, by Margaret Miller.

"Hey, baby! Look at these these beautiful colors! Which ones are your favorites?"

"More, More, More," said the Baby: 3 Love Stories, by Vera B. Williams. Baby wants the toss-in-the-air and chase games to continue forever!

Peek-A-Boo, by Roberta Grobel Intrater. Toddlers love looking at other children, in this book, they are playing a timeless game that babies

love.

Peekaboo Baby, by Margaret Miller. "Hey, baby! Look at these babies playing peekaboo!"

Peek-A-Who? by Nina Laden. The reader can look through die-cut pages for a visual clue to complete a game of peek-a-boo.

Star Baby, by Margaret O'Hair. Easy-to-read, rhyming text explores the world of babies, as they do such things as point, scoot, rock, and hug.

Touch and Feel Farm Animals, by Reader's Digest Children's Books. Fuzzy farm kids can read about five of their favorite farm babies--chicks, piglets, lambs, calves, and ducklings--and pet them, too!

Who Are They? by Tana Hoban. Share these animals and their babies with your baby. It is never too early to look and talk together!

Phonological Awareness (Babies, 0-2)

The Baby's Lap Book, by Kay Choraó. An anthology of familiar nursery rhymes.

Diddle Diddle Dumpling, by Tracey Campbell Pearson. Fun book that retells nursery rhymes using modern children in home settings, rather than fantasy characters in historical costumes.

Maybe My Baby, by Irene O'Garden. A parent wonders what a baby will grow up to become.

Moo, baa, la la la! by Sandra Boynton. Serious silliness for all ages.

My Very First Mother Goose, edited by Iona Opie. A collection of more than sixty nursery rhymes including "Hey Diddle, Diddle,"

"Pat-a-Cake," "Little Jack Horner," and "Pussycat, Pussycat."

Pio Peep!: Traditional Spanish Nursery Rhymes, by Alma Ada. A collection of more than two dozen nursery rhymes in Spanish, from Spain and Latin America, with English translations.

Please, Baby, Please, by Spike Lee and Tonya Lewis Lee. Amusing illustrations of an infant at bedtime, bathing, eating, and at the park, while her mostly unseen parents plead for her to cooperate and behave.

Sleepytime Rhyme, by Remy Charlip. Illustrations and rhyming text conveys a mother's love for her child.

This Little Chick, by John Lawrence. A little chick shows that he can make the sounds of the animals in his neighborhood.

Time for Bed, by Mem Fox. As darkness falls parents everywhere try to get their children ready for sleep.

Narrative Skills (Babies, 0-2)

All About Baby, Stephen Shott. Shows young children sleeping, crawling, sitting up, playing with toys, and clapping their hands

Blankie, by Leslie Patricelli. Meet Blankie, the best companion a toddler could have.

Busy Monkeys, by John Schindel. Rhyming text and photographs present monkeys engaged in a variety of activities.

Everywhere Babies, by Susan Meyers. Describes babies and the things they do from the time they are born until their first birthday.

Good Night, by Debbie Bailey. This book explores the fun and chores that come with saying

"good night" and going to sleep.

Good Night, Gorilla, by Peggy Rathmann. An unobservant zookeeper is followed home by all the animals he thinks he has left behind in the zoo.

Good Night, Spot, by Eric Hill. Spot has been very busy, and it's time to get ready for bed. After a bath and drying off in his warm, fuzzy towel, Spot chooses a favorite book for a bedtime story.

Little Bo-Peep, by Tracey Campbell Pearson. The Bo-Peep in question here is a wakeful youngster at play in her crib. And the sheep: two stuffed toys whom she lets fall over the rail. Bo-Peep's sleepy-eyed parents come to the rescue.

My Mom, by Debbie Bailey. One of the "Talk About Books series," this board book features scenes to share about mothers and their babies. There are other similar books in the series about Dads, Grandmas, Grandpas, Brothers, Sisters, and Families.

Enriched Vocabulary (Babies, 0-2)

Animal Babies Around the House, by Vicki Webber. From the boundless energy of a playful golden retriever pup to the silent grace of a gliding goldfish, the delightful images and lively text will engage and delight.

Babies on the Go, by Linda Ashman. Illustrations and rhyming text show how different animals carry their babies when they are on the move.

Baby Animals, by Harriet Ziefert. Turn a dog into a cat, a panda into a pig, just by flipping the pages.

Baby Signs for Bedtime, by Linda

Acredolo. Help babies learn how to tell you what they want with baby sign language

Barnyard Banter, by Denise Flemming. All the farm animals are where they should be, clucking and mucking, mewing and cooing, except for the missing goose.

Black on White, by Tana Hoban. Black illustrations against a white background depict such objects as an elephant, butterfly, and leaf.

Counting Kisses, by Karen Katz. How many kisses does a tired baby need to change her from crying into sleeping.

Grow Up! by Nina Laden. Rhymes tell what some babies grow up to be.

I Love Animals, by Flora McDonnell. A girl names all the animals she likes on her farm, from Jock the dog to the pig and her piglets.

Oops! by David Shannon. David speaks new words as he goes through his day

Peekaboo Morning, by Rachel Isadora. A toddler plays peek-a-boo throughout the day.

Toes, Ears and Nose, by Marion Dane Bauer. Baby is bundled in a mountain of clothes! Peek under the flaps of clothing to find out what's underneath, and play this fun peekaboo book again and again!

Wake Up, Me! by Marni McGee. A young child wakes up and greets the world, getting ready to play.

Wibbly Pig Likes Bananas, by Mick Inkpen. Babies like what Wibbly Pig likes, especially with this fun interactive books where toddlers can point to what they like too.

What's On My Head? by Margaret Miller. Presents color photographs of different objects on children's heads.

Where Is Baby's Belly Button? by Karen Katz. "Where are baby's hands? Under the bubbles...where are baby's eyes? under her hat!"

Whose Baby Am I? by John Butler. Identify the parent of each adorable baby animal as you turn the page.

Wynken, Blynken and Nod, by Eugene Field. A classic lullaby poem about three fishermen who try to catch the stars in nets of silver and gold.

Print Awareness (Babies, 0-2)

The Baby Goes Beep, by Rebecca O'Connell. From playtime to mealtime, bath time to bedtime, the active toddler in this on-target picture book punctuates a day's activities with beeps, booms, splashes, and other irresistible words.

Baby Talk (Flip-a-Face). by SAMi. Colorful and stimulating, this cheery board book illustrates baby's facial expressions and identifies a word for each.

Daisy's Hide-and-Seek, by Jane Simmons. Daisy the duckling and her even duckling-er little brother, Pip, are playing hide-and-seek in this engaging lift-the-flap book.

Hooray for Fish! by Lucy Cousins. Little Fish has all sorts of fishy friends in his underwater home, but loves one of them most of all.

I Went Walking, by Sue Williams. During the course of a walk, a young boy identifies animals of different colors.

Silly Little Goose, by Nancy Tafuri. A goose tries out a few places to make her nest before finally settling on an old straw hat.

This is My Hair, by Todd Parr. Simple text and child-like drawings describe how hair can look in many different situations.

Who Said Moo, by Harriet Ziefert. A lift-the-flap book in which the reader can help Red Rooster find out which farm animal answered "Moo" when he crowed one sunny morning.

Letter Awareness (Babies, 0-2)

A You're Adorable, by Martha Alexander. A delightful ditty for your darling, a song for your sweetheart, or a valentine for any time! The popular song of the '40s is as 'heavenly' as ever, and illustrations by Martha Alexander make wandering through this alphabet a merry jaunt

Alphababies, by Kim Golding. Rhyming text and illustrations of babies in various settings present the letters of the alphabet.

Alphabet House, by Nancy Elizabeth Wallace. A large rabbit family lives in a cut-paper Alphabet House: "Come inside, / look and see, things that start / with A to Z."

Baby ABC, by FunFax. Soft-to-touch and full of crisp color photographs, this ABC book capture the expressions and moods of babies throughout their busy days.

Flora McDonnell's ABC, by Flora McDonnell. In this bright, colorful book, each letter is featured as both upper-case and lower-case using imaginative, vivid illustrations.