

FROM SUCCESS BY 6

10 Tips for Parents of Young Children

1. Read aloud to your child every day

- Read to babies even before they can talk
- Let your child see and touch the book
- Play with voices and the sounds of words

2. Create a print rich home environment

- Have a wide variety of books available to children
- Encourage children to look at books on their own
- Set aside a family reading area and a family reading time

3. Model reading and writing

- Make use of the family reading area on your own
- Let children see you reading for work or to learn something
- Let children see you reading for pleasure

4. Use grocery shopping to encourage reading

- Have children help you search for specific brands
- Use the aisle markers with your child to find items
- Match coupons to products

5. Cook with your child to develop literacy

- Show your child how to read a recipe
- Read the labels on ingredients together
- Make a family cookbook of favorite recipes

6. Explore books together

- As you read, point out important features about the book
- Ask your child questions
- Point out new vocabulary

7. Tell stories together

- Talk together about your family history
- Look at old vacation photos and discuss your memories of the trip
- Tape your storytelling

8. Sing and rhyme with your child

- Choose songs with rhymes and word play
- Play rhyming games with your child what other words sound like monkey?
- Challenge your child to sing or say rhymes as fast as he can and don't forget to laugh if the results come out silly

9. Write with your child

- Provide lots of writing materials chalk, markers, crayons, and pencils
- Encourage your child to draw and write on her own
- Encourage your child to write thank you notes to grandparents, make to do lists and the like

10. Visit the library often

- Make weekly trips
- Encourage your child to get her own library card.
- Take advantage of library programs such as read alouds and family book clubs



Choosing Books for Young Children

Source: *Read with Me*, a RIF Parent-Teacher Partnership

Parents, caregivers, and teachers have a wide variety of books to choose from for young children. By sharing different kinds of books with children, they can enjoy different kinds of reading experiences.

Some books help children build confidence as they join in with a repeated rhyme. Others jump-start the imagination with tales about talking animals or a grandmother who flies. Books about familiar objects, people, and events are reassuring to young children, while books with unfamiliar topics can excite them about new ideas and places.

Listed below are some examples of the kinds of books available for young children.

Books:

Type of Book: ABC and counting books

Features: Fun and colorful illustrations of the alphabet and numbers

Example Title: *Chicka Chicka Boom Boom* by Bill Martin Jr. and John Archambault, illustrated by Lois Ehlert

Type of Book: Wordless picture books

Features: A story told through pictures and few or no words

Example Title: *Good Dog, Carl* by Alexandra Day

Type of Book: Concept books

Features: Pictures or photos of familiar objects or ideas such as colors, shapes, opposites, or sizes

Example Title: *Color Dance* by Ann Jonas

Type of Book: Pattern books

Features: Repeating text and predictable plots that let children join in

Example Title: *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* by Bill Martin Jr., illustrated by Eric Carle

Type of Book: Information books

Features: Realistic pictures or photographs that introduce facts about a specific topic

Example Title: *Bugs* by Nancy Winslow Parker and Joan Richards Wright

Type of Book: Traditional rhymes and stories

Features: Nursery rhymes, fairy tales, fables, and folktales from various cultures

Example Title: *The Little Red Hen* by Byron Barton

Type of Book: Picture books

Features: Words and pictures that tell a story about realistic or imaginary characters and events

Example Title: *Abuela* by Arthur Dorros, illustrated by Elisa Kleven

Type of Book: Poetry

Features: One or several illustrated poems for young children

Example Title: *Honey, I Love* by Eloise Greenfield, illustrated by Jan Spivey Gilchrist

Type of Book: Easy-to-read books

Features: Limited vocabulary, rhyme, and repetition for beginning readers

Example Title: *The Foot Book* by Dr. Seuss

From Reading is Fundamental