

Stages of Reading in Young Children

Birth – 2 months

Books that include

- Nursery rhymes
- Lullabies

Suggested Titles:

Baby Dance by Ann Taylor

The baby's good morning book by Kay Choraó.

The Baby's Lap Book by Kay Choraó

The baby's playtime book by Kay Choraó

Chicka Chicka Boom Boom by Bill Martin, Jr.

Cuddly Critters: Animal nursery rhymes by Terry

My first nursery rhymes by Bruce Whatley

Neighborhood Mother Goose (Greenwillow Books)

Read-Aloud Rhymes for the Very Young by Jack Prelutsky

Sleepytime Rhyme by Remy Charlip

Tomie's Little Mother Goose by Tomie dePaola

2-4 months

Books that include

- Rhymes and songs
- Bold color or black & white pictures

Suggested Titles:

All the pretty little horses: a traditional lullaby by Linda Saport

Animal Crackers, A Delectable Collection of Pictures, Poems, and Lullabies for the Very

Young by Jane Dyer

The ants go marching by Ann Owen

Black & white by Tana Hoban

Counting Kisses by Karen Katz

Diddle Diddle Dumpling by Tracey Campbell Pearson.

Give the dog a bone by Steven Kellogg

Hush, little baby by Brian Pinkney

Polar Bear, Polar Bear, What Do You Hear? by Bill Martin Jr.

The Sleep Book by Dr. Seuss

What's on My Head? By Margaret Miller

White on Black by Tana Hoban

4-8 months

Books that include

- personal photos of baby and family
- touch-and-feel pages
- daily routines
- illustrations that are labeled (food, toys, parts of body)

Suggested Titles:

Barnyard Banter by Denise Fleming

Curious George, the movie: Touch and feel book (Houghton Mifflin)

The everything book by Fleming, Denise

Fish Eyes: A Book You Can Count On by Lois Ehlert

Good night, Harry by Lewis, Kim

My first word book (DK Publishers)

My Very First Word Book by Angela Wilkes

Pat the Bunny, Let's Find Bunny by Dorothy Kunhardt

Time for Bed by Mem Fox

8-12 months

Books that include

- word and phrase repetition
- concepts (inside/outside, light/dark)
- action words (jumping, running)
- flaps and noise

Suggested Titles:

Best First Book Ever! By Richard Scarry

Cluck, cluck who's there? : A lift-the-flap book by Mayhew, James

Do frogs fly? : A lift-the-flap guessing book by Butterfield, Moira,

Feet are not for kicking by Elizabeth Verdick

Freight Train by Donald Crews

Good Night, Gorilla by Peggy Rathmann

Goodnight Moon by Margaret Wise Brown

In and out by Tami Johnson

My Little Word Book (PriddyBooks)

Peek-a-Moo by Marie Torres Cimarusti

Peek-a-Who? by Nina Laden

Peek-a-Zoo! by Cimarusti, Marie Torres

Roll over! : A counting song by Merle Peek

The jumping book by Maya Glass

The running book by Jennifer Way

Where is my house? : A hide-and-peek book by Simms Taback

Where's Spot by Eric Hill

12-18 months

Books that include

- toddler experiences (playing games, getting dressed)
- personal photo of activities
- simple phrases (good-bye, thank you)
- asking questions
- rhymes and songs with hand/body movements

Suggested Titles:

Caillou puts away his toys by Joceline Sanschagrin

Go, Dog, Go! By P.D. Eastman

Hand rhymes by Marc Brown

Head, shoulders, knees, and toes : and other action rhymes by Zita Newcome

Jamberry by Bruce Degen

Jesse Bear, What will you wear? By Carlstrom, Nancy White

"More More More," Said the Baby by Vera B. Williams

The Napping House by Wood, Audrey

Off We Go! By Jane Yolen

Tumble Bumble by Felicia Bond

Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star by Iza Trapani

Yip! Snap! Yap! by Fuge, Charles

18-24 months

Books that include

- current interests
- numbers, colors, shapes
- more complicated rhymes and alliteration
- feelings
- simple story/plot

Suggested Titles:

Barnyard Dance by Sandra Boynton

Corduroy by Don Freeman

Down by the Station by Will Hillenbrand

Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed by Eileen Christelow

How do dinosaurs say good night? by Jane Yolen

The Itsy Bitsy Spider by Iza Trapani

Mrs. Wishy-Washy makes a splash by Joy Cowley

Over in the Meadow by Voce, Louise

Read-Aloud Rhymes for the Very Young by Jack Prelutsky

Ten, Nine, Eight by Molly Bang

This is the house that was tidy & neat by Teri Sloat

Trains by Byron Barton

Trucks by Byron Barton

Where Do Balloons Go? An Uplifting Mystery by Jamie Lee Curtis

2 years – 4 years (prereaders)

Books that can be read with your child's participation.

Books that include

- repetition
- predictable events and phrases

10 minutes till bedtime by Rathmann, Peggy

Duck in a Truck by Alborough, Jez

It's Mine by Leo Lionni

Sheep in a Jeep by Shaw, Nancy

Are you my mother? by Eastman, P. D

The cake that Mack ate by Robart, Rose

The flea's sneeze by Downey, Lynn

The mouse on the moon by Janie Spaht Gill

You read to me, I'll read to you : very short Mother Goose tales to read together by Mary
Ann Hoberman