

FIRST BOOKS FOR BABIES

QUESTIONS ABOUT READING TO YOUR CHILD



WHY READ TO BABIES?

Babies start learning words, determining the differences in sounds, and getting the connection between pictures and words **BEFORE** they can talk. If they miss out on these early experiences, it will affect their language and their future reading!

MY BABY (OR CHILD) WON'T SIT STILL FOR A STORY.

Don't give up! You should still read to them.

- Sit in a quiet room and show them the pictures as you read.
- Be sure there are no distractions (like TV or radio).
- Babies often try to chew on books, and toddlers love to pound on the page while repeating the word for a picture. It is all part of growing familiar with books.
- Of course, the best way to share a book is to hold your child close and cuddle as you read.



I REALLY DON'T LIKE TO READ. I HAD TROUBLE WITH READING MYSELF!

Then you probably want to make sure your child does not experience the same difficulties. Most children's books are not difficult to read. Ask your librarian to help you select appropriate books. Reading aloud is one of the most important factors in helping your child become a good reader.

HOW OFTEN SHOULD I READ TO MY CHILD?

Every day! It is one of the most lasting and important gifts you can give.



WHAT ELSE CAN I DO TO HELP MY CHILD AS A FUTURE READER?

Talk to your children. Answer their questions. Ask them questions. Really listen when they want to talk to you. Take them places and talk about what they are seeing or doing. Let them see **YOU** reading. Talk about the importance of reading for enjoyment! Most importantly, let them know you love them and care about their ideas and thoughts!

**YOU ARE YOUR CHILD'S
FIRST TEACHER.**

Read to
your baby,
your toddler,
your child!

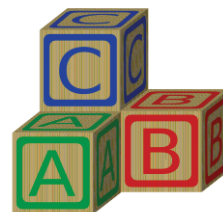


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CONGRATULATIONS!

FBFB, Shepherdstown Public Library, Jefferson County Reading Council, and WVUH Jefferson Medical Center congratulate your family on the birth of your new baby. Please accept this gift to start your child on a life-long path of reading enjoyment.



For more information, please call
Shepherdstown Public Library Children's Department at 304-876-2783
or visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/firstbooksforbabies/