

Reading Together

Dialogic or “Hear and Say” Reading

How you read to children is as important as how often you read.

Children learn more from books when they are actively involved.

Ask questions like “*What do you think is going on here?*” or “*Tell me what you see on this page?*”

Follow your child’s answers with another question.

Repeat what your child says and expand on it.

Follow your child’s interests and remember to have fun!

Types of Books to Read

- Books that tell simple stories
- Books with rhymes and/or repetition
- Books with bright, bold, colorful pictures
- Counting, alphabet and simple concept books (shapes, sizes, colors)
- Board Books
- Books with familiar situations (going to the park, eating dinner)
- Song books
- Books about feelings and actions
- Books with their favorite characters

Recommended Books for 2 & 3 Year-olds

Bang, Molly. TEN, NINE, EIGHT

Brown, Margaret Wise.
GOODNIGHT MOON

Carlson, Nancy. I LIKE ME!

Fox, Mem. TEN LITTLE FINGERS &
TEN LITTLE TOES

Gravett, Emily.
ORANGE PEAR APPLE BEAR

Henkes, Kevin. A GOOD DAY

Hines, Anna Grossnickle.
1, 2, BUCKLE MY SHOE

Martin, Bill. BROWN BEAR,
BROWN BEAR, WHAT DO YOU SEE?

Opie, Iona.
MY VERY FIRST MOTHER GOOSE

Seeger, Laura Vaccaro.
DOG AND BEAR

Shea, Bob. DINOSAUR VS. BEDTIME

Tafari, Nancy.
HAVE YOU SEEN MY DUCKLING?

This booklist was prepared,
printed, and distributed by the
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900 Jerusalem Ave.
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516-292-8920 www.nassaulibrary.org
01/09

Early Literacy
for
2 - 3 Year-olds

Books Too Good To Miss

*Recommended by the
Nassau Library System
and
Your Local Public Library*



What is Early Literacy?

Early Literacy begins with you. You can help your child be ready to read during the all important first five years of life.

Research has shown that healthy brain development from birth to five is vital to being ready to read. When you talk, read, and play with your child, you are building those vital connections in the brain and developing early literacy skills.

You may be surprised to learn that early literacy is many things; chewing on a board book, reading a story over and over, and recognizing and remembering a favorite picture book.

Children learn best by doing. Take every chance you have to read with your child, tell them stories, talk to them about your surroundings, tell them a goofy story, recite nursery rhymes, and don't forget to sing!

Early literacy is not anything like real school. So ditch the flash cards, the workbooks and the drills, and have fun! The more relaxed you are, the more your child will want to continue. The following describes the different skills that are the building blocks for getting every child ready to read.

The Building Blocks to Reading and Related Activities

Narrative Skills

Being able to describe things and tell stories.

Activity: Ask your child questions they can answer about their surroundings.



Phonological Awareness

Being able to hear and play with the smaller sounds in words.

Activity: Recite fingerplays, nursery rhymes and sing songs whenever you can.



Print Motivation

Being interested in and enjoying books.

Activity: Visit your public library often and check out books for your child and for you. Let your child see that you enjoy books too.

Letter Knowledge

Recognizing the different letters and the sounds they make.

Activity: Read alphabet books and point out the different letters and talk about their shapes and sounds.

Vocabulary

Knowing the names of things.

Activity: Reading books together provides your child with an enhanced knowledge of words; even better than from conversation or TV.

Print Awareness

Noticing print, knowing how to handle a book and knowing how to follow the words on a page.

Activity: When reading with your child, occasionally point out words and let them turn the pages. Board books work well here.

