

Royal Readers™

A Program of the Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade/Monroe

Reading with Infants and Toddlers

Reading with your baby is a one-on-one activity that you can turn into special time. Not only will you inspire a love of books from infancy, but this is an important way to grow a baby's vocabulary.

Reading with Babies

- Make reading together a close cuddly time. Reading before bed may be the perfect time to hold your baby on your lap and cuddle together while you read.
- Don't worry about reading a book start to finish. It is great if you can, but if your child wants to stop and hold or chew on the book, that is okay. That is another way infants take in information about their world.
- You don't need to read the book, you could point and name pictures in the book or make up your own story.
- Increase the length and complexity of books as your child shows interest. By about one year of age, some babies will enjoy hearing a short book with a storyline.

How to Choose Books for Babies

- Books for babies should be easy for them to hold and manipulate.
- Books in heavy cardboard (board books), cloth, plastic or even wood are popular and hold up to a baby's use.



sources

<https://www.brighthorizons.com/family-resources/the-importance-of-reading-to-babies-and-infants>

<https://www.parents.com/baby/development/intellectual/benefits-of-reading-to-your-newborn/>

<https://www.zerotothree.org/resources/1833-read-early-and-often>

<https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2014/06/24/325177669/never-too-young-pediatricians-say-parents-should-read-to-infants>