



Family Storyteller
From the Beginning

Tips for Reading With Babies (0 to 12 months old)

Here are some easy ways to make reading books with your baby fun for all.

Hold Baby Close to See Book. Make sure your baby can see the pictures.

Babies under 3 months old can only see the book if it is as close as 8 inches. After 4 months, you don't have to hold the book so close anymore.

Show Front and Back of Book. Show your baby the front cover. Tell her that this is the front of the book. When finished, turn it over and tell her that this is the back of the book.

Point to Pictures. Point to pictures so baby knows what you are reading about.

Name Colors and Pictures. Tell baby the names of colors and pictures as you read the book. Baby is learning even if he can't talk yet.

Get Baby's Attention. Move the book where baby can see, or tap on it to get baby to look at the book.

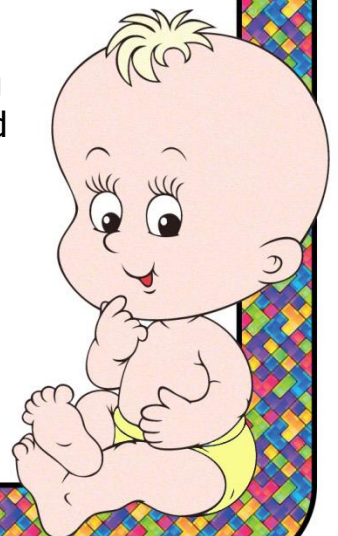
Read With Expression. Young babies pay more attention when you use a high, excited voice.

Ask Baby What Picture Is. Even if your baby is too young to talk, ask, "What's this? It's a dog."

Tell Baby What She's Looking At. Notice what your baby is looking at and tell her what it is.

Let Baby Turn Pages. Let your baby turn pages even if he does not do it just right. Don't be surprised if he tries to chew on the book. He's learning about books.

Copy Action in Book. If the book is about hugging and kissing, hug and kiss your baby. This helps your baby understand the book and makes reading more fun.



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