



12-18 MONTHS OLD

What is Baby Doing?

- No longer puts books in mouth right away
- May carry books around
- Can hold a book with help
- Turns board book pages, often several at a time
- Points to pictures with one finger
- Points when asked, “Where is...?”
- Turns book right side up
- Hands book to adult when they want to read
- May make some sounds for particular pictures (animals)

Reading With Toddlers



For Young Toddlers Choose:

- Sturdy board books, small enough for a child to carry.
- Books with pictures of children doing familiar activities like sleeping, eating or playing.
- Goodnight books at bedtime.
- Books with few words on each page.
- Books with brightly colored and interesting drawings.
- Touch-and-feel books.
- Animal books of all sizes and shapes.

WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH YOUR YOUNG TODDLER?

- Leave books in baby’s reach; keep a basket on the floor and change the books occasionally
- If your toddler brings you a book to look at, try to take a few minutes to do so
- Take turns turning pages or holding the book - It’s OK to skip pages or go in the wrong order
- Feel like they don’t stay on a page long enough to talk about the pictures? That’s ok! Use words like “open”, “close”, “flip” or “turn” as they move through the book and explore.
- Talk about the pictures. Comment on the things your child points out
- Ask “What’s that?” or “Where’s the ...?” and give child time to answer—but don’t ask too many questions!
- Sing nursery rhymes and do poems with actions/fingerplays (e.g. “Itsy Bitsy Spider”)

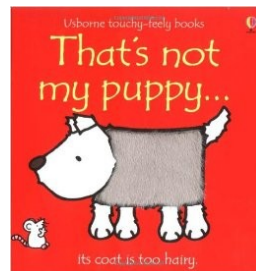
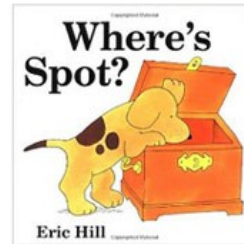
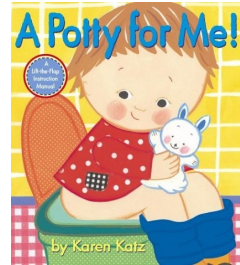




18-24 MONTHS OLD

- Turns board book pages easily, one at a time
- Carries book around the house
- Carries book to favourite reading spot when it's time to read (asking you to read to them or responding when you say "Let's read a book")
- Names familiar pictures
- Fills in words in stories
- "Reads" to doll/toy
- Recites part of well-known story
- May sit for a long time or a short time, depending on the day and the book

Reading With Toddlers



For Young Toddlers Choose:

- Sturdy board books, small enough for a child to carry.
- Books with pictures of children doing familiar activities like sleeping, eating or playing.
- Goodnight books for bedtime.
- Books with few words on each page.
- Books with brightly colored and interesting drawings.
- Books with simple rhymes or predictable text.
- Touch-and-feel books.
- Animal books of all sizes and shapes.

WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH YOUR YOUNG TODDLER?

- Relate books to child's experiences (after a visit to the park, go to the library and look for books about the park)
- Use books in routines, like bedtime and bath time
- Ask "What's that?" or "Where's the..." and give child time to answer—but not too often.
- Pause and let your child complete a sentence in the book that repeats
- Take turns turning pages or holding the book
- It's OK to skip pages or go in the wrong order
- Sing nursery rhymes and do poems with actions/fingerplays (e.g. "Itsy Bitsy Spider")

