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NATIONAL
BOOK
tokens

WORLD
BOOK
DAY

SHARING STORIES WITH ... babies and toddlers

Any time from Breakfast to Bedtime is the right time to share a story

It's never too early to start the wonderful time spent snuggling together with a book.

From the moment babies can hear sounds, the voices of their families and carers become familiar and comforting. Gentle lullabies soothe babies, games of 'peek-a-boo' make them chuckle and the rhythmic sounds of a story or rhyme will delight them. You can start with the very youngest:

- share the songs and rhymes you remember from your own childhood
- make up a story about your day together

Just ten minutes of your busy day sharing a story or rhyme will be time well spent. If you need help to get going:

- visit your local library to join in with groups like Baby Bounce & Rhyme
- at home have a go at the songs and activities you learnt in the library
- borrow some library books to get more stories to share – the librarians will be more than happy to give you recommendations

The secret is for you and your child to ENJOY it, so try to make it FUN!

Reading to your child is an act of love

As babies begin to understand more, it is time to enjoy books together. Don't feel 'shy' about reading out loud. Your child will love it – and no one else need hear you. Sharing books and talking to children about what is going on from page to page helps little ones pick up lots of new words just by pointing and saying what they see. Gradually, toddlers will learn:

- word patterns in traditional tales: e.g. Once upon a time... , Trip trap, trip, trap over the rickety, rickety bridge
- things about stories: e.g. characters can be good or bad, happy or sad, etc.
- the differing meanings made between words and pictures
- the way books 'work' by turning pages, pointing at pictures & reading words

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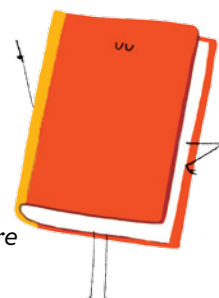
Reading with your child for just ten minutes every day can make a crucial difference. Reading for pleasure is the single biggest indicator of a child's academic success. To your children, no one will be as good as you are at enjoying books with them. Just ten minutes a day sharing a story will:

- foster a close and loving relationship between you and your child
- give you and your child a lot of shared pleasure
- develop your child's skills with both spoken and written language
- help build the foundations of learning when they set off to school

Great picture books to share with babies and toddlers

- *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle
- *Dear Zoo* by Rod Campbell
- *Each Peach Pear Plum* by Janet & Allan Ahlberg
- *Oi Frog!* by Kes Gray & Jim Field
- *The Gruffalo* by Julia Donaldson & Axel Scheffler
- *The Tiger Who Came to Tea* by Judith Kerr
- *The Bumblebear* by Nadia Shireen
- *Spex for Rex* by Yasmeen Ismail

For more recommendations of fantastic picture books to share visit worldbookday.com/reading-ideas-youll-love



SHARE
A STORY

from
BREAKFAST
to BEDTIME

JOIN OUR
CAMPAIGN!

Take
10

Reading with a child
for just TEN MINUTES
A DAY can make a
crucial difference

'I love
stories'



Celebrate stories. Love reading.