



Books!

What is It?

Reading books together is a great way to boost early literacy (learning to read and write), especially when shared with a caring adult. Exposure to different kinds of books also opens doors to new sights, experiences, and connections, helping to create strong foundations for a child's lifetime of learning.

Tips and Activities

- *Visit your local library* and introduce yourself and your child to the children's librarian. If your child is old enough, they can sign up for a library card, or you can use your own and help them explore and choose picture books to borrow. Ask the librarian to help you locate books on your child's favorite topics. While you're there, sign up for the free story hours.
- *Books are everywhere!* See where you can find a picture book to read together wherever you go. Look for them at the pediatrician's office and bring books along whenever you will be waiting at the bank, bus stop, or hairdresser. Bath time is also a great time to share books; vinyl bath books can be kept by the tub or shower for your child to grab, chew on, and play with in the water.
- *Embrace conversation!* Talking with your child increases their vocabulary and also helps them learn to read. Even your infant can talk back and forth with you; when they babble, imitate their babble back, and then introduce new sounds for them to copy.

Read All About It

- Birth - 3: *iTe Amo, te abrazo, leo contigo!/Love You, Hug You, Read to You!* by Tish Rabe
- Birth - 3: *Lola Goes to the Library* by Anna McQuinn
- 3 - 5: *Wild About Books* by Judy Sierra
- 3 - 5: *Beatrice Doesn't Want To* by Laura Numeroff
- 5 - 7: *Tomás and the Library Lady* by Pat Mora
- 5 - 7: *The Wednesday Surprise* by Eve Bunting

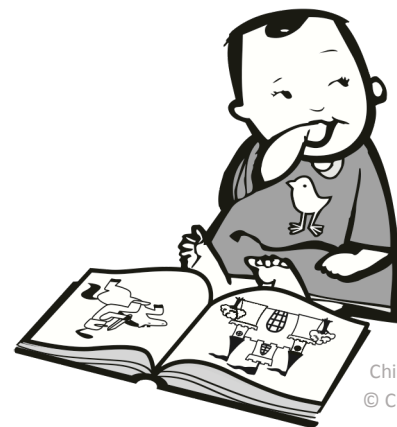
More Information

- Discounted and free books:
<https://firstbook.org/partners/>; <http://www.highlandstreet.org/programs/community-events/tadpole-10>
- Countdown to Kindergarten Parent Resources:
<http://www.talkreadplay.org>
- Massachusetts Summer Reading program:
<http://readsinma.org/>
- Early literacy tips:
<http://everychildreadytoread.org/>
- Boston Children's Museum website: www.school-readiness.org

Community Connections

Visit your local libraries, museums, zoos, parks, and other community and cultural organizations for new things to see, learn, and discover!

- Many locations offer free or discounted admission. Visit their websites for more information.
- *Free Fun Fridays* offer free admission to cultural venues across Massachusetts. For more information, go to: <http://www.highlandstreet.org/programs/free-fun-Fridays>



Child illustration
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