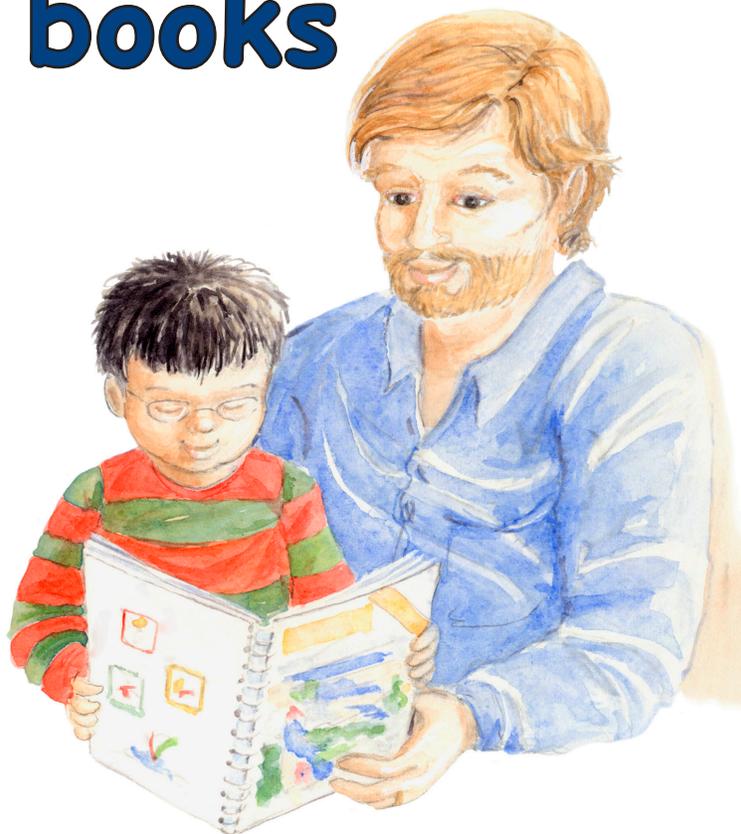


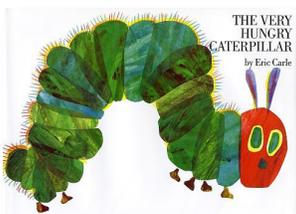
Bonding with books

Let's play and talk together

- ❖ Choose a children's picture book that you and your child will both enjoy.
- ❖ Before you open the book, talk about what is on the cover and what you think the book will be about.
- ❖ Look at the pictures together before you read the story, and talk about what you see. Point out some interesting details, e.g. "Look at all these bright colours. It makes the page look happy."
- ❖ As you read the story, move your finger along the print from left to right. If your child is interested, point out some familiar letters or words.
- ❖ Encourage your child to ask questions or make comments throughout the reading. Add your own questions and comments, and enjoy the conversation together.



A good read-together book



The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle

You will need some children's picture books with attractive pictures and interesting stories that you and your child will both enjoy.

This activity connects children with books through positive social interactions and conversation. "Reading to children—and talking with them about what's been read—is the single most valuable thing we can do to contribute to their literacy learning." (Early Childhood Knowledge Centre, 2006)

Hints for success

- ❖ Sit side by side in a comfortable place. Cuddle your child as you look at books together.
- ❖ Read slowly and use an expressive voice.
- ❖ If the book has a repeated pattern or rhyming words, invite your child to chime in and chant the words together.

Can you say the next part with me?

I liked the way the animals helped each other. Which part did you like the best?

Ways to say it

More ideas for Bonding with books

Try this way

- ❖ Look for board books that are made especially for young children to handle. Cuddle your infant or toddler in your lap as you look at a book together. Show how to hold the book right side up, and let your baby put his or her hands on the pages as you talk about them together.
- ❖ Encourage your toddler to help you turn the pages. Say "turn the page" when it is time.
- ❖ Invite your pre-schooler to choose which books you will read aloud together. Don't be concerned if your child requests the same book many times, as this is a good sign of enjoyment and early literacy learning.

Language development

Encourage your child to re-tell familiar stories, either with or without the book in hand. Listen and take an interest in the child's version of the story without expecting it to be perfect. Each re-telling helps to develop your child's memory and verbal fluency.

Creativity and imagination

Encourage your child to dramatize parts of a book by putting out props that go with the story or offering to play the part of one of the characters as you act out the story together.



Book links

Peekaboo Morning by Rachel Isadora
Peekaboo Bedtime by Rachel Isadora