

Read
with Me
12 to 24
months



Why Read?



Reading is a great way to introduce your toddler to new words and by naming pictures in a book, you will help them to learn the words for objects in real life.

Sharing a story together will also encourage your toddler to enjoy books and have better reading and language skills when they get older.

Reading tips

- Enjoy reading with your toddler everywhere. Sharing a story just before bed is a great routine to get into but you can also share books throughout the day. Try reading in the kitchen, at the park, in the car, while waiting for a bus or in the bath (just make sure the books are waterproof!).
- Turn off the TV and radio as too much background noise is distracting for both of you.
- Point to the pictures that relate to words in the story and ask simple questions like, "can you see the.....?". Give your toddler time to respond.
- Look at books with flaps to lift and sound buttons to push.
- Look at a mixture of books like non-fiction and books with photographs of real things as well as illustrated story books. You don't have to buy lots of books, just visit your local library. It's free and easy to join and children can have their own library card. Visit www.surreycc.gov.uk/libraries for more information or pop into your local library.
- Try making your own book with photos of family and friends.
- Talk about what you and your toddler have been doing or are going to do.

More tips...

- Sing and say simple rhymes and songs and encourage your toddler to do the actions with you. Most libraries run rhymetime sessions where you can meet other parents and learn some new rhymes as well as enjoying your favourites. Visit www.surreycc.gov.uk/libraries for more information or pop into your local library.
- Repeat stories and rhymes your toddler enjoys over and over. You may get bored, but your toddler won't and you'll be helping to develop connections in their brain.

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"What I Like"

- Stories with bold pictures so I can see what's going on.
- To interact with books by feeling them, lifting flaps or pressing sound buttons.
- To choose my own books.

"What I can do"

- Look at board books on my own.
- Point to pictures in a book when you say "show me" because I can understand lots of words.
- Join in with songs and nursery rhymes and do the actions myself.



This leaflet is from a series of five, each leaflet covers a different age range from birth to five years old. Children develop at their own rates and in their own ways. The ages are suggestions of typical ranges of development.

If you have any concerns about your child's development, speak to your GP, health visitor or someone at your local Sure Start Children's Centre.

You can find all the leaflets and more advice about reading with your child on the Surrey Family Information Service webpages

www.surreycc.gov.uk/earlylearning

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