



Babies Love Books

by Janell Mattheus 04/10

Give your baby a head start on learning to read. Put your baby in your lap and read a book aloud. In the pages of the book you will find a tiny vacation of privacy and intense love. It costs nothing but twenty minutes a day and a library card.

Each baby develops at his or her own pace. To help you choose from the wealth of children's books available, we have linked titles to developmental stages documented by early childhood specialists. These are based on averages and are only a guide for your unique child. Ask the librarian for help in finding these and other titles.

 =place hold on audiobook version of this title

Newborn – 3 Months

Newborns focus best on objects about 9 inches away, preferring to look at faces, patterns and moving objects. Cradle baby in your arms, gaze into his or her eyes and gently rock while chanting or singing lullabies and nursery rhymes. Hearing is well developed at birth; your baby will enjoy listening to anything you like to read aloud, absorbing the sounds and rhythms of language. If books are part of loving parent-child interactions from an early age, children will associate the presence of books with all of the positive feelings of being held and loved.

Lullaby Books



Goodnight Moon

By Margaret Wise Brown

Call #: JP Brown

Place hold

The children's classic that says goodnight to each of the objects in the great green room: good night stars, goodnight air, good night noises everywhere.



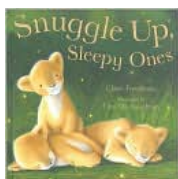
Hush, Little Ones

By John Butler

Call #: JP Butler

Place hold

Baby animals from all around the world are gently going to sleep as their parents watch over them.



Snuggle Up, Sleepy Ones

By Claire Freedman

Call #: JP Freedman

Place hold

As night falls in the jungle, all sorts of animals settle down to sleep.

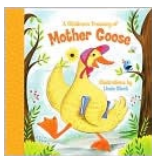


JP Gabriel
JP Krauss
JP Lloyd-Jones
JP Nakamura
JP Snyder

My Favorite Bear
Goodnight, Goodnight, Sleepyhead
Time to Say Goodnight
Song of Night
Sweet Dreams Lullaby

Andrea Gabriel
Ruth Krauss
Sally Lloyd-Jones
K.R. Nakamura
Betsy Snyder

Nursery Rhyme Collections



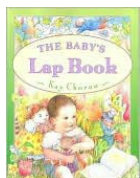
Place hold

A Children's Treasury of Mother Goose

By Linda Bleck

Call #: J398.8 Chi

Baby-proof stiff pages and bright colors make this simple collection of the shortest rhymes perfect for little ones.



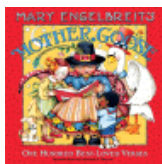
Place hold

The Baby's Lap Book

By Kay Choro

Call #: J398.8 Cho

Familiar nursery rhymes and gentle, colorful illustrations of cuddly animals and adorable babies are ideal for a little one's first book.



Place hold

Mary Engelbreit's Mother Goose

By Mary Engelbreit

Call #: J398.8 Eng

Nearly one hundred nursery rhymes illustrated in Mary Engelbreit's whimsical style.

J398.8 Mot

Tomie dePaola's Mother Goose

Tomie dePaola

J398.8 MyV

My Very First Mother Goose

Iona Opie

J398.8 Nei

The Neighborhood Mother Goose

Nina Crews

J398.8 Sle

Sleepytime: Bedtime Nursery Rhymes

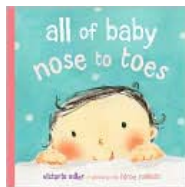
Terry Pierce

3 – 6 Months

By three months most babies have well developed vision and can hold their heads up. Achieving these physical milestones means your baby is ready to look at books. Books with large, clear pictures of familiar objects, especially other babies, make good choices for this age. By four months babies have sensations in their individual fingers and toes. This is a good time to introduce tickling rhymes.



Books About Babies



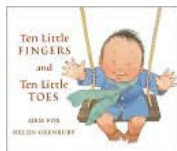
All of Baby Nose to Toes

By Victoria Adler

Call #: JP Adler

Rhyming text celebrates all the wonders of a beloved baby from nose to toes.

[Place hold](#)



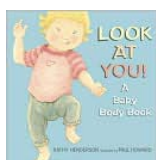
Ten Little Fingers and Ten Little toes

By Mem Fox

Call #: JP Fox

Rhyming text compares babies born in different places and in different circumstances, but they all share the same ten little fingers and ten little toes.

[Place hold](#)



Look at You! A Baby Body Book

By Kathy Henderson

Call #: JP Henderson

Lively poems capture babies' delight at exploring their own abilities and the world around them.

[Place hold](#)

JP Milord

Love that Baby

Susan Milord

JP Murphy

I Kissed the Baby

Mary Murphy

JP Peddicord

That Special Little Baby!

Jane Ann Peddicord

JP Sturges

How Do You Make a Baby Smile?

Philemon Sturges

Books to Play and Sing



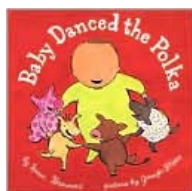
A Hug for You

By Margaret Anastas

Call #: JP Anastas

Everyone deserves a hug but the sweetest hug of all is saved for bedtime. Hug your little one to you each time the little animals in the story hug.

[Place hold](#)



Baby Danced the Polka

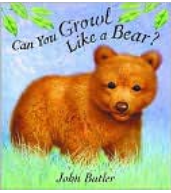
By Karen Beaumont

Call #: JP Beaumont

This happy tale invites you join in with your baby and dance along.

[Place hold](#)





Place hold

Can You Growl Like a Bear?

By John Butler

Call #: JP Butler

The rhyming text allows you to mimic a number of animal sounds to lull your little one to sleep.

JP Fuge

This is the Way

Charles Fuge

JP Katz

Ten Tiny Tickles

Karen Katz

JP Kemp

Pat-a-Cake, Pat-a-Cake

Moira Kemp

JP Trapani

Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush

Iza Trapani

Tip: A good time to share books is when baby is ready for some quiet time, such as before a nap, during nursing, or just after a bath. Watch for cues, such as crying, squirming or arching back, that indicate baby has had enough. Let your voice get soft and loud. Change the pace of your reading...slow or fast. Turn off the television, radio or CD player.

6 – 9 Months

This is a very tactile, active period – babies need books to touch, chew on, and play with. Board books are the perfect choice. The library has a good collection of board books that are catalogued “JT”. They are not included on this list because they are not shelved in order. You will enjoy sorting through them with your baby.

At this age babies become aware that words are symbols for familiar objects and they will vocalize well defined syllables such as “ba, ma, wa”. Now is the time to point to pictures while describing them and read books with bouncy rhythms and lively rhymes that will support and encourage speech and listening skills while laying the foundations for later reading.

“Point and Say” Books



Place hold

If you See a Kitten

By John Butler

Call #: JP Butler

“If you see a cuddly kitten...say, ‘Ahhh!’ If you see a pudgy pig...say, “Peee-ew!”



Place hold

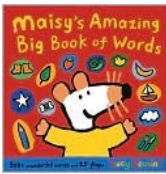
What We Do

By Reg Cartwright

Call #: JP Cartwright

Rhyming text describes the ways in which various animals move.





Place hold

Maisy's Amazing Big Book of Words

By Lucy Cousins

Call #: JP Cousins

More than 300 first words are arranged by categories such as “On the Farm”, “Let’s Cook” and “Bedtime”.

JP Daddo

Goodnight, Me

Andrew Daddo

JP Morrow

Mommy Loves Her Baby

Tara Jaye Morrow

JP Smith

One Naked Baby

Maggie Smith

Rhyme and Repetitive Verse



Place hold

I Love My Daddy

By Sebastien Braun

Call #: JP Braun

A day in the life of a bear and his cub celebrating the bond between father and child.



Place hold

This is the Baby

By Candace Fleming

Call #: JP Fleming

A mother uses all her powers of persuasion to get her baby dressed. She may be clever—but so is baby!



Place hold

Hello Baby!

By Mem Fox

Call #: JP Fox

The world is filled with beautiful babies from clever monkey babies to sleepy leopard babies. But which one is the most treasured baby of all?

JP Hines

1, 2, Buckle My Shoe

Anna Hines

JP Ryder

Bear of My Heart

Joanne Ryder

JP Wilson

Sleepyhead

Karma Wilson

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Here's a Little Poem

Jane Yolen

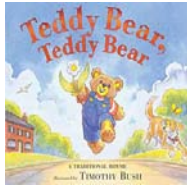
Tip: *Baby may try to grab the book as you read—giving baby something else to chew, suck, pull or tug on while you hold the book may help.*

9 – 12 Months

Babies start to use their fingers independently and can poke and point with one finger, wave bye-bye, clap hands, and make a fist. They begin to really understand that things still exist even when they are no longer visible. Pop-up toys, lift-the-flap books and games such as “Peek-a-boo” will meet with great delight at this age.



Books to Encourage Developing Motor Skills



Place hold

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear

By Timothy Bush

Call #: JP Bush

An illustrated version of the traditional rhyme which follows a lost teddy bear who tries to find his way home.



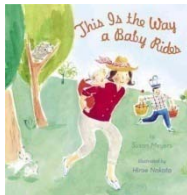
Place hold

Walk On! A Guide for Babies of all Ages

By Marla Frazee

Call #: JP Frazee

A humorous guide to walking for the first time.



Place hold

This is the Way a Baby Rides

By Susan Meyers

Call #: JP Meyers

While on a picnic, an active baby plays and stretches while imitating various animals

JP Siomades

The Itsy Bitsy Spider

Lorianne Siomades

JP Walton

What Do We Do with the Baby?

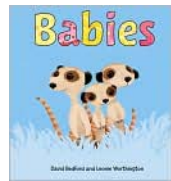
Rick Walton

JP Yaccarino

So Big!

Don Yaccarino

“Peek-A-Boo” Books



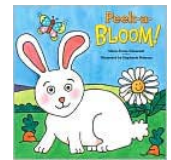
Place hold

Babies

By David Bedford

Call #: JP Bedford

Lift-the-flaps to see many things that baby animals can do.



Place hold

Peek-A-Bloom

By Marie Torres Cimarusti

Call #: JP Cimarusti

Lift-the-flaps for a colorful surprise.





Time to Play!

By Nigel Gray

Call #: JP Gray

A little girl plays peekaboo with her dogs and cats and brothers in this humorous lift-the-flap adventure.

Place hold

JP Hill

Where's Spot

Eric Hill

JP Isadora

Peekaboo Bedtime

Rachel Isadora

Librarian's Favorite Books for Babies

These books have been chosen by Youth Services Librarians of the SLCLS because of their age appropriate subjects, formats and themes, clear uncluttered illustrations, distinguished writing (when applicable) and interactive potential.



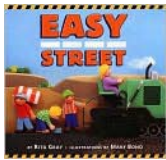
Duckie's Ducklings

By Frances Barry

Call #: JP Barry

Duckie is ready to take her family for a swim. But where are her ducklings? Turn the shaped pages to find out.

Place hold



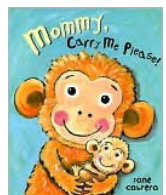
Easy Street

By Rita Gray

Call #: JP Gray

Rhyming couplets and 3-D collages describe the process of building a road.

Place hold



Mommy, Carry Me Please!

By Jane Cabrera

Call #: JP Cabrera

On each page a baby animal asks its mother, "Carry me please." And each mother carries her baby in her own way.

Place hold

JP Henkes

A Good Day

Kevin Henkes

JP Hindley

Baby Talk

Judy Hindley

JP James

Baby Brains

Simon James

JP Katz

Princess Baby

Karen Katz

JP London

A Truck Goes Rattley-Bumpa

Jonathan London

JP Ross

Mama's Milk

Michael Ross

JP Schroeder

Baby Can't Sleep

Lisa Schroeder

JP Smee

Clip-Clop

Nicola Smee



JP Stiegemeyer

Cheep! Cheep!

Julie Stiegemeyer

JP Tafuri

Whose Chick Are You?

Nancy Tafuri

