



Choosing the Right Books for Your Child

When choosing books to read aloud to children, think about their ages, attention span, and knowledge level.

Babies (0-12 mo.)

I love the sound of your voice even if I do not know all the words. I like books that rhyme. I really like books that have other babies in them.

Toddlers (1-2 yrs.)

I like books that relate to my life. I enjoy touching books and am understanding how a book should be held.

2's

If you are reading to me, thank you! I am very distractible so books need to be VERY short. I like to sing and move around. It's best if a grown-up reads to me by myself or with only a few other friends. I like to look at books with pictures that I can point to.

3's

I like books with big, bright illustrations and not very many words. I can't sit still for very long, so if I can get up and move around a little during storytime that really helps! Please tell me what different words mean if you think I don't understand them.

4's

I like books with big colorful illustrations, too. But I can listen to stories that are a little longer and have more of a plot. I enjoy books that rhyme or have repetitive phrases so I can "read" along. Books about families, friends, and feelings are good. I can relate these stories to my own life. Books have lots of new words, so please be sure to explain them to me.

5's

Now that I'm five, I like to listen to different retellings of stories I already know, like "The True Story of the Big Bad Wolf" or "Little Red Cowboy Hat." I am starting to enjoy books about other countries and other cultures so I can learn about new things. Now that I am smarter, I can learn LOTS of new big words, if you tell me what they mean.

