



Storytime, anytime!

9-18 months

TALK!
Halton

Sharing a story with your child can be a magical experience at any age, and it's never too early or too late to start!

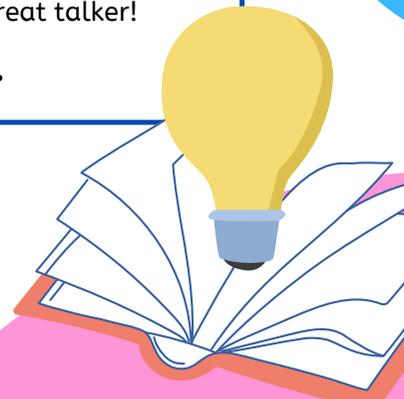
Reading aloud with children is one of the best things you can do to help develop their language and literacy skills - even 15 minutes of reading with your child each day can expose them to over 1 million written words in a year!

Sharing stories together not only inspires a love of books from the start, but it's also an important way of growing your baby's vocabulary. Every story you share will expose them to new words that they might not come across usually- all of these new words will help them become a great talker!

There's no right or wrong way to share a story - as long as you and your child are having fun.

Top Tips!

- ★ Sharing board books together is a great place to start. Board books allow your little one to get involved holding the book and turning the pages right from the start. The more involved they can be the more they'll enjoy sharing stories with you. Try books with pictures of other babies and familiar objects, such as animals.
- ★ Try holding out a choice of two books for your little one and let them choose. They're more likely to be interested, listening and able to learn new words.
- ★ The great thing about picture books is you don't have to read them word for word or even in the right order! Let your child take the lead. See what pictures they take an interest in and talk about that. It will really help their understanding to hear new words alongside the pictures.
- ★ Stories with rhymes, rhythm and phrases that repeat will help capture their attention as well as helping them to hear the sounds and syllables in words. All of this will really help them learn new words and give them a great start in learning to read when they're older.
- ★ As they get older you can start to ask simple questions about the pictures such as "Where is the moon?" and watch to see if your baby points or gestures.



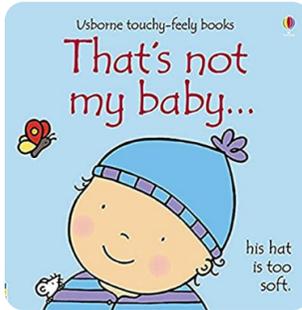
Don't get frustrated if your little one isn't always sitting quietly in your lap for story time.

The important thing to remember is that reading doesn't have to be a perfect quiet moment and your baby doesn't always have to pay attention for a whole story.

Just reading little and often will be helping to develop your little ones brain, building their language skills and starting them off towards a lifelong love of reading.

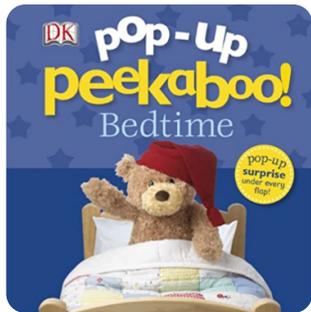
Start their life long love of reading today

Book Suggestions



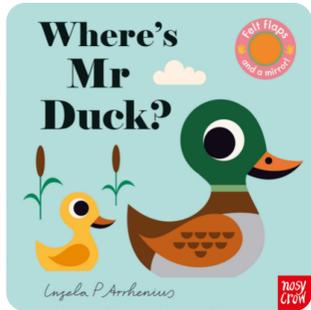
'That's not my...!' - Usborne touchy feely books

These simple and brightly coloured board books are great for getting your baby involved in a story. They're not too long and full of different textures and patterns to explore. There are now over 65 books in the collection too so you can find something that will really interest your little one.



'Pop-up Peekaboo!' - DK Books

Part of a series these pop out lift the flap books are great for capturing children's attention. They're also great for helping develop object permanence (Knowing something is still there even if you can't see it anymore). They're full of rhymes too which will really help them to learn and remember the words they're hearing.



'Felt Flaps Series' - Ingela P Arrhenius

A great series for even the most heavy handed little readers as all the flaps are made from felt! Each book also has the added surprise of a mirror at the end which your little one will love! Looking in mirrors together is great for baby's development. Try making faces and seeing if they copy you, or talk about and name the different parts of their face.

For other book recommendations take a look at



There are a wide range of books available at your local library. Libraries and visiting libraries regularly can help promote a love of reading and a love of sharing books from a young age.



To join the local library or to find/reserve a book

[click here](#)

TOP TIPS FOR SHARING STORIES

S	Shhhh!	Find a quiet space away from distractions where you can share stories together.
T	Talk	Take your time and talk about the story as you go.
O	Often	Share books together often. 5 minutes a day is better than half an hour once a week.
R	Retell	Retell your baby's favourite stories as this will really support their language development.
I	Interests	Sharing books that follow your baby's interests will really help to engage them.
E	Experiences	Relate stories to your baby's own experiences whenever you can.
S	Sounds	Bring stories to life by using silly voices and sound effects.