









*It is important to have fun playing with books before trying to read the actual story.*

-  At first I will eat it, bang it, squeeze it, and look at the cover.
-  Next, I may open it, close it, turn pages, and look at the pictures.
-  I like books with pictures or photos of my favorite people and things.
-  Then I start to look at the pictures you point to.
-  I will recognize the words and sounds you use.
-  I like to point to some pictures you name.
-  I will try to repeat what you say.
-  Finally, I will name the pictures myself.



A few favorite books are more important to a child than having many books.

There are many “interactive” books your child may love. Some have flaps, sound effects, scratch and sniff pictures, puppets, and textured pictures.

Choose books with simple, interesting pictures or photos. Your child will learn that pictures and photos are symbols for real objects. Much later, they will learn that printed words are symbols for these same objects.

Link pictures in books with real objects and experiences. For example, if you have a book about food, show your child real or play food. Pretend to eat and drink using actions.

Make your own “Favorite Picture Book”, using photos, magazine pictures, or drawings of activities, places or people your child enjoys.

Play games with books. Take turns pointing to pictures. Name the pictures your child looks at or points to. Play “hide and seek” by covering the pictures with your hand or a piece of paper.

### ***Did you know?***

The library has lots of great books, including board books that your child can borrow. You can often get great bargains on used kid’s books at thrift shops, garage sales and the library discard shelves.

*A love of books encourages life-long learning!*