# How Does Reading Aloud Help Your Baby?

- Books build brain power! Studies show that reading, talking, and sharing nursery rhymes with your baby all promote development of your baby's brain.
- When you read to your baby, he/she hears you using many different emotions and expressive sounds. This supports social and emotional development.
- Reading aloud encourages your baby to look, point, touch, and answer questions.
   This helps with social development and thinking skills.
- Your baby improves language skills by copying sounds, recognizing pictures, and learning words.

But perhaps the most important reason to read aloud is that it makes a connection between the things your baby loves the most:

your voice and closeness to you and books!



# Reading Tips:

- Cuddle while you're reading helps your baby feel safe, warm, and connected to you.
- Read with expresseion.
- Stop once in a while and ask questions or make comments on the pictures or text.
   For example, "Where's the kitty? There he is! What a cute black kitty!"
- Sing nursery rhymes, make funny animal sounds, or bounce your baby on your knee - anything that shows that reading is fun.
- Babies love and learn from repetition, so don't be afraid of reading the same books over and over.
- Try to read every day, such as before naptime and bedtime. Reading before bed gives you and your baby a chance to cuddle and connect. It also sets a routine that will help calm your baby.





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# How Can Bloomingdale Public Library Help You as a Parent of a Baby?

# Programs specifically for babies

#### **Baby Tales & Tunes (Drop-In)**

Ages 0-24 months with caregiver

Introduce your baby to the world of music, movement, rhymes, and books that will aid in the development of early literacy skills.

#### **Come Together (Drop-In)**

Ages 0-24 months

Every Wednesday, meet and chat with other parents & caregivers while your child socializes and explores with hands-on toys.

Will be offered simultaneously with

**Baby Tales and Tunes** when in session.

#### **Family Storytime**

All ages with caregiver

Visit our website for specific programming dates and descriptions.

## Books

Stop by the library or contact us via phone or email for help in finding great books for your baby.

Here are some great titles to get you started:

#### **Goodnight Moon**

by Margaret Wise Brown

#### **The Very Hungry Caterpillar**

by Eric Carle

#### **Time for Bed**

by Mem Fox

#### **Chicka Chicka Boom Boom**

by Bill Martin

#### **Guess How Much I Love You?**

by Sam McBratney

#### **Where the Wild Things Are**

by Maurice Sendak

#### Pajama Time!

by Sandra Boynton

#### The Wonderful Things You Will Be

by Emily Winfield Martin

## Resources

- Parent/Teacher books
- Internet access
- Music and DVDs
- Puzzles and learning games
- Magazines and LaunchPads
- TumbleBooks (online books)
- Early literacy materials
- Family programs
- Staff that can help find just the right resource or suggest books

### Chosing Books for Your Baby

- Sturdy board books are durable and have easy-to-turn pages.
- Books should have short, simple words. Bouncy rhymes will hold your baby's attention.
- Pictures should be big, bright, and simple.
- Look for pictures of everyday objects that you baby will recognize.