



Good Books for Toddlers

Your curious toddler has questions about everything! Books can help you give him answers and encourage even more questions. New stories, poetry, and folktales will help expand his vocabulary and help him enjoy reading. Which books should you choose?

- Your toddler will relate to books with photos or brightly-colored pictures of real children doing real, everyday things.
- Your toddler is developing her own interests, from aardvarks to zebras, airplanes to zippers. Books about things that interest her will inspire more conversation.
- Offer “concept” books about numbers, letters, shapes, and colors. These are not only fun, but teach early math, science, and literacy skills.
- Introduce different worlds and cultures through folktales, fairy tales, and stories about children from all over the world.
- Funny is fun! Find books that use humor, from silly situations to animal antics.
- Hold your toddler’s attention with simple stories that use interesting language, rhythm, and rhyme paired with detailed, colorful illustrations.
- Board books with thick pages are easier for your young toddler to grab and hold. Some toddlers are still interacting with books by chewing on them, so board books are a durable choice. Older toddlers will be able to help you turn paper pages.
- Your active toddler will love and appreciate lift-the-flap books and touch-and-feel books.

- Get your toddler's opinion. Read what your toddler asks you to read. It may be the same book over and over again.
- Look for old favorites you remember reading, but check out what's new at the library or bookstore.

Recommended Books for Toddlers

This list will help you get started. Ask your childcare provider, librarian, or bookseller for more suggestions.

Barnyard Dance! by Sandra Boynton

Bee-bim Bop! by Linda Sue Park

Busy Fingers by C.W. Bowie

Chugga Chugga Choo Choo by Kevin Lewis

Dear Zoo by Rod Campbell

Dinosaur Roar by Paul Stickland

Fiesta! by Ginger Foglesong Guy

Gossie/Gansi by Olivier Dunrea

Green Eggs and Ham by Dr. Seuss

I Love You, Sun / I Love You, Moon by Karen Pandell

Is Your Mama a Llama? by Deborah Guarino

Jesse Bear, What Will You Wear? by Nancy White Carlstrom

Max's Bath by Rosemary Wells

My Big Animal Book by Roger Priddy

My Colors/Mis Colores by Rebecca Emberley

My Farm Friends by Wendell Minor

"My First Board Book" series by DK Publishing

Peekaboo Morning by Rachel Isadora

Red Truck by Kersten Hamilton

The Sleepy Little Alphabet: A Bedtime Story from Alphabet Town
by Judy Sierra

The Snowy Day by Ezra Jack Keats

“Spot” series by Eric Hill

Tails by Matthew Van Fleet

Ten, Nine, Eight by Molly Bang

The Very Hungry Caterpillar by Eric Carle

What Happens Next? by Cheryl Christian

Wheels on the Bus by Raffi and Sylvie Wickstrom