0 TO 24 MONTHS

Getting your child ready to read is very important, and not to mention FUN! Here are four skills that will help prepare your babies to become readers.

Talk Together

Whether or not children can say words, they like listening to others and joining in with their own sounds. Read a book, talk about what you are doing, or even imitate the sounds your baby is making. Anything that encourages conversation!

Sing Together

Rhymes and songs are great ways for babies to learn. Repetition and rhythm help babies learn different sounds of language. We have many musical CDs and rhyming books in our collection.

Read Together

Even though your baby might not understand the story - reading a book, pointing out the pictures, and letting your little one interact throughout is one of the most important things you can do teach language.

Play Together

Babies learn language by interacting with others. Take time to play every day and don’t forget to visit the library for story time programs!

Authors to Try:

Linda Ashman
Molly Bang
Stella Blackstone
Sandra Boynton
Emily Bolum
Eric Carle
Lucy Cousins
Michael Dahl
Emma Dodd
Mem Fox
Taro Gomi
Joan Holub
Stephen Huneck
Karen Katz
Bill Martin Jr.
Mary Murphy
Helen Oxenbury
Leslie Patricelli
Emma Quay
Dr. Seuss
Nancy, Tafuri
Elizabeth Verdick
Karman Wilson
Jane Yolen
Salina Yoon
Andrew Zuckerman

Board Books to Try:

Boynton, Sandra
Dinosaur Dance
Velociraptor twins and an unidentified cha-cha-ing dino are featured in a dinosaur dance.

Elmquist, Laurie
Beach Baby
A gentle, poetic lullaby for baby, with memories from a perfect day on the beach.

Idle, Molly Schaar
Flora and the Chicks
Invites young readers to practice counting as a little girl named Flora attempts to keep up as more and more friendly chicks emerge from the nest.

Meer, Mara van der
Red Car, Green Car
A surprise-packed, imaginative way for preschoolers to learn about color, with clever pictures that change at the pull of a tab.

Mansfield, Andy
One Lonely Fish
Turn the page to see a new fish on each spread, and count along as each fish prepares to eat the one before it.

Patricelli, Leslie
Hair
It's important to take care of your hair, even if you only have one! But when it grows and grows, there's only one thing to do. Is Baby really ready for that first haircut?
**Books to Try:**

Beaton, Kate  
*King Baby*  
Baby is King, and all his needs must be met by his subjects, otherwise known as his parents, but soon he will grow up, and who will rule them then?

DiPucchio, Kelly  
*Littles: and How They Grow*  
A rhyming celebration of babies, or Littles, who are cared for by loved ones in every way and grow big in the blink of an eye.

Fox, Mem  
*Ducks Away!*  
One by one five little ducklings tumble off the bridge into the river below--and mother duck follows them.

Ghahremani, Susie  
*Stack the Cats*  
Cats of all shapes and sizes scamper, yawn, and stretch across the pages of this playful counting book.

Goetz, Steve  
*Old MacDonald Had a Truck*  
An update of the classic folk song, Old MacDonald, featuring farm vehicles like excavator, dump truck, and bulldozer.

McKellar, Danica  
*Goodnight, Numbers*  
Illustrations and simple text help the reader understand the numbers one to ten and recognize them as they appear all around us, especially at bedtime.

Sehgal, Kamir  
*The Wheels on the Tuk Tuk*  
In this twist on the classic song "The Wheels on the Bus," the wheels on the tuk tuk go round and round all over the city in India.

**Contact Us:**

Christiansburg Library  
125 Sheltman Street  
Christiansburg, VA 24073  
(540)382-6965

Blacksburg Library  
200 Miller Street  
Blacksburg, VA 24060  
(540)552-8246

Jessie Peterman Memorial Library  
321 West Main Street  
Floyd, VA 24091  
(540)745-2947

Meadowbrook Public Library  
267 Alleghany Spring Road  
Shawsville, VA 24162  
(540) 268-1964

Online: [http://www.mfrl.org](http://www.mfrl.org)