2 TO 3 YEAR OLDS

Toddlers are very busy (they have so much to learn and do!) and it can seem hard to get them to sit still for stories. Here are some tips for reading with your little ones:

**TIMING**

Try to find times when they seem most receptive – possibly after lunch, after a bath, or before they fall asleep.

**INCLUSION**

Make sure to include them in the story. Ask lots of questions and give them time to answer.

**INTERACTION**

Let your children turn the pages, point at pictures and mimic movements in the book – it is okay if they don’t sit the entire time.

**GUIDING**

Don’t worry about reading all the words – most toddler books don’t have plots anyway!

**ENJOYMENT**

Toddlers like books with rhymes and familiar items, routines, and simple words.

**REPEITION**

Read favorite stories again and again and again!

**AUTHORS TO TRY:**

Byron Barton
Sandra Boynton
Jane Cabrera
Lucy Cousins
Emma Dodd
Litwin, Eric
Lois Ehlert
Denise Fleming
Mem Fox
Kevin Henkes
Emily Gravett
Rachel Isadora
Peter Sis
Philip C. Stead
Thomas, Jan

**BOOKS TO TRY:**

**Antony, Steve**
*Please Mr. Panda*
Mr. Panda has a plate of doughnuts to share, but most of the other animals forget to say "Please."

**Brown, Margaret Wise**
*Good Day, Good Night*
A little rabbit greets each day and says good night to the familiar things outside.

**Dewdney, Anna**
*Little Excavator*
Little Excavator wants to help the big rigs transform a vacant lot into a neighborhood park, but he is too small to get the job done! That is, until he finds a job that is a perfect Little E-sized task.

**Dyckman, Ame**
*Horrible Bear!*
When Bear breaks a little girl’s kite, she thinks he is a "HORRIBLE BEAR!" -- Until she makes a mistake of her own and learns the power of saying "I'm sorry."

**Gravett, Emily**
*Old Hat*
After buying one outrageous hat after another in an attempt to keep up with the latest fashions set by his teasing animal friends, Harbet the dog learns that true happiness comes from being yourself.

**Domínguez, Angela**
*How are you?/¿Cómo estás?*
Two baby giraffes meet a baby ostrich and must guess how their potential new friend is feeling. English & Spanish

**Dens, Julia**
*Windows*
Walking his dog at dusk, one boy catches glimpses of the lives around him in this lovely ode to autumn evenings, exploring your neighborhood, and coming home.

**Denis, Kevin**
*Egg*
Three little birds crack their way out of eggs and fly away, leaving one egg sitting all alone until the three chicks come back and discover a friendly baby alligator has finally hatched.
Jenkins, Emily
*A Greyhound, a Groundhog*
A tongue twister featuring a little round greyhound and a little round groundhog who work themselves into a frenzy as they whirl around and around one another.

Phelan, Matt
*Pignic*
A pig experiences adversity but in the end enjoys a perfect summer day.

Rinker, Sherri Duskey
*Mighty, Mighty Construction Site*
Told in rhyming text, Excavator, Bulldozer, Crane Truck, Dump Truck, and Cement Mixer will all need to work together as they tackle their biggest job yet—a massive building.

Wenzel, Brendan
*Hello, Hello*
In simple text a set of animals, each one linked to the previous one by some trait of shape, color, or pattern, greet and interact with one another.

*Don’t forget to come to our story times for toddlers!*