



Preschoolers Ages 3-5 Beginning Reading at an Early Age

Preschoolers are aware of print in the world around them and on the pages of books. They may pretend to read favorite books. This “pretend” reading helps set the stage for real reading and helps children begin to think of themselves as readers.



Does your child...

1. Retell a story by looking at pictures?
2. Pretend to read a book by memorizing the words?
3. Ask questions while you are reading?
4. Make marks that



Can your child...

1. Recite nursery rhymes?
2. Predict what will happen next in the story?
3. Read or recognize “STOP” on a stop sign, brand names or other print?



Not to worry! It's okay if your child...

1. Asks a lot of questions while you read. Children learn through talking about books.
2. Can't sit still for a story. Some children listen better while drawing or playing with a toy.
3. Writes letters or words backwards. Preschoolers are still getting oriented.
4. Prefers information to storybooks. Some children do!



How you can help...

1. Encourage your child to join in while you read. Pause to let them fill in a rhyming word or repeating line: “I’ll huff and I’ll puff...”
2. Ask open ended questions, such as, “What do you think is going to happen next?” or “Why do you think he did that?”
3. Move your finger under the words as you read aloud. This will help them connect printed words to spoke words.
4. Begin teaching the letter of the alphabet, starting with the ones in your child’s name.



Book Shelf

- Concept books, such as counting and ABC books
- Pattern books with rhymes and repetition
- Simple stories with predictable plots
- Information picture books



- Start visiting the local library and building their own at home.

