

# What Young Children Like in Books

## 0–6 months

- Simple, large pictures of people or familiar objects
- Cloth and soft vinyl books that can go in the bath or get washed
- Stiff cardboard or fold out books that can be propped up in the crib
- High-contrast illustrations

## 6–12 months

- Board books with photos of other babies
- Brightly colored board books to touch and taste
- Books with photos of familiar objects
- Books with sturdy pages that can be propped up or spread out
- Plastic/vinyl books for bath time
- Washable cloth books to cuddle & mouth
- Touch & feel books
- Small plastic photo albums of family & friends

## 1–2 years

- Sturdy board books that they can carry
- Books with photos of children doing familiar things like sleeping or playing
- Goodnight books for bed time
- Books about saying hello and good-bye
- Books with only a few words on each page
- Books with simple rhymes or predictable text
- Animal books of all sizes and shapes

## 2–3 years

- Wordless picture books
- Books about saying hello & good-bye
- Lift the flap books
- Books with bold, colorful pictures
- Stories about familiar items & routines



- Books that tell simple stories
- Simple rhyming books that they can memorize
- Bed time books
- Books about counting, the alphabet, shapes, or sizes
- Stories about animals, vehicles, playtime, food
- Stories featuring their favorite TV characters

## 4–5 years

- Books that tell stories
- Books that make them laugh
- Pop-up books
- Books with simple text and repetition that they can memorize
- Stories about kids their own age
- Books about going to school and making friends
- Books that have playful language, rhymes, and funny-sounding words
- Alphabet, counting & vocabulary books
- Books about the real world – trucks, dinosaurs, insects
- Stories about animals
- Stories with predictable outcomes

