

EARLY LITERACY DEVELOPMENTAL MILESTONES

Right from birth, babies are listening, looking and learning. Find and enjoy the every day moments when you can talk, sing and play with your infant. As your baby gets older, add sharing books as a part of naptime and bedtime routines.



REACH OUT AND READ
PARTNERS - FOX CITIES

	6 to 12 Months	12 to 24 Months	2 to 3 Years	3 to 4 Years	4 to 5 Years
Motor Development What is your child doing?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holds head steady Sits in lap without support Grasps book Puts book in mouth Drops or throws book 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holds and walks with book No longer puts book in mouth right away Turns board book pages 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learns to turn paper pages; 2-3 pages at a time Starts to scribble 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Turns pages one at a time, from left to right Sits still for longer stories Scribbles and draws 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Starts to copy letters and numbers Sits still for even longer stories
Communication and Cognition What is your child saying and learning?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Smiles, babbles, coos Likes and wants your voice Likes photos of baby faces Says "ma", "ba", "da" Responds to own name Pats pictures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Says single words, then 2-4 word phrases Gives book to adult to read Points at pictures Turns book right-side up Names pictures and follows simple stories 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adds 2-4 new words a day Names familiar objects Likes to read the same book over and over Completes sentences and rhymes in familiar stories 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recites whole phrases from books Moves toward letter recognition Begins to detect rhyme Pretends to read to dolls and stuffed animals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can listen longer Recognizes numbers/letters Can retell familiar stories Can make rhymes Learning letter names and sounds
What can you do?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Talk back and forth; make eye contact Cuddle, sing, read, play Point at and name things; nose, ball, baby, dog... Play games such as "peek a boo" or "pat-a-cake" 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Smile and answer when your child speaks or points Let your child help turn pages; keep naming things Use books in routines; nap time, playtime, potty, car Use books to calm child 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask "What is that?" Be willing to read the same book again and again As you read, talk about the pictures Keep using books in your daily routines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask "What happens next?" in familiar stories Point out letters/numbers Point out words and pictures that begin with the same sound Create stories from pictures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relate the story to your child's own experiences Let your child see you read Ask your child to tell the story Encourage writing and drawing
What to read?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board and cloth books; books with baby faces; nursery rhymes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Board books; rhyming books; picture books; books that name things 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Let your child pick books; Rhyming books; picture books that tell stories; search and find books 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Let your child pick books; Picture books that tell longer stories; counting and alphabet books 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Let your child pick books; Fairy Tales and legends; books with longer stories and fewer pictures