READ ALOUD TO YOUR CHILD, NO MATTER THE AGE AND HER BRAIN WILL GROW PAGE BY PAGE

PARENT
• Talk back and forth with your baby; make eye contact
• Cuddle, sing, talk, play, read
• Point at and name things: nose, ball, dog...
• Follow baby’s cues for “more” or “stop”
• Play games such as “peek-a-boo” or “pat-a-cake”

CHILD
• Holds head steady
• Sits in lap without support
• Grasps book, puts in mouth
• Drops, throws book

NEW SKILLS
• Smiles, babbles, coos
• Likes and wants your voice
• Likes pictures of baby faces
• Begins to say “ma”, “ba”, “da”
• Responds to own name
• Pats picture to show interest

WHAT TO READ
• Let your child choose which book to read
• Find stories about things your child likes
• Board and cloth books; books with baby faces; nursery rhymes

NURSE MARIAN’S BOOK LIST
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR READING ALOUD

BOARD BOOKS WITH PHOTOGRAPHIC IMAGES OF BABIES ALONG WITH FAMILIAR OBJECTS SUCH AS CLOTHING, FOOD, PETS, OUTDOOR.
• Peek-a-Boo! (Baby Faces Board Book) by Roberta Grobel Intrater
• All about Me! by Dorling Kindersley
• Baby Talk by DK Publishing
• Touch and Feel: ABC by DK Publishing
• Happy Baby 123 by Roger Priddy
12-24 MONTHS
PARENT GUIDE TO READING ALOUD

WHEN YOUR CHILD IS YOUNG, BEFORE HE TURNS FIVE
SHARE BOOKS TOGETHER AND WATCH HIM THRIVE

PARENT
• Smile and answer when your child speaks or points
• Let your child help turn the pages; keep naming things
• Use books in family routines; nap time, playtime, bedtime; on the potty; in the car, bus
• Use books to calm or distract your child while waiting

CHILD
• Holds and walks with book
• No longer puts book in mouth right away
• Turns board book pages

NEW SKILLS
• Says single words, then 2- to 4-word phrases
• Gives book to adult to read
• Points at pictures
• Turns book right-side up
• Names pictures, follows simple stories

WHAT TO READ
• Let your child choose which book to read
• Find stories about things your child likes
• Board books; rhyming books; picture books, books that name things

NURSE MARIAN’S BOOK LIST
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR READING ALOUD

BOARD BOOKS WITH PHOTOGRAPHIC IMAGES OR SIMPLE, COLORFUL ILLUSTRATIONS. TEXT IS DESCRIPTIONS OR SIMPLE STORIES THAT RHYME.

• Animals: Animales (Bright Baby) by Roger Priddy
• My First Number Board Book by DK
• My First Body Board Book by DK
• Baby Touch and Feel Animals by Dorling Kindersley
• Dinosaur Roar! By Paul & Henrietta Stickland
• Can You Find Colors? (Rookie Toddler) by Scholastic, Inc.
• 5 Busy Ducklings (Rookie Toddler) by Children’s Press
• From Head to Toe by Eric Carle

WHEN YOUR CHILD IS YOUNG, BEFORE HE TURNS FIVE
SHARE BOOKS TOGETHER AND WATCH HIM THRIVE
2-3 YEARS
PARENT GUIDE TO READING ALOUD

READ ALOUD TO YOUR CHILD, NO MATTER THE AGE AND HER BRAIN WILL GROW PAGE BY PAGE

PARENT
• Ask “Where’s the dog?” or “Why is that?”
• Be willing to read the same book again and again
• As you read, talk about the pictures
• Keep using books in daily routines

CHILD
• Learns to turn paper pages, 2 to 3 pages at a time
• Starts to scribble

NEW SKILLS
• Adds 2-4 new words per day
• Names familiar objects
• Likes the same book again and again
• Completes sentences and rhymes in familiar stories

WHAT TO READ
• Let your child choose which book to read
• Find stories about things your child likes
• Rhyming books; picture books that tell stories; search and find books

NURSE MARIAN’S BOOK LIST
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR READING ALOUD

BOARD OR PAPER BOOKS WITH PHOTOGRAPHIC IMAGES OR SIMPLE, COLORFUL ILLUSTRATIONS. TEXT HAS BASIC VOCABULARY AND SHORT SENTENCES, ESPECIALLY RHYMING.

• Hop on Pop, by Dr. Seuss
• The Nose Book, by Al Perkins and Joe Mathieu
• The Alphabet Book, by P. D. Eastman
• Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? by Bill Martin Jr. and Eric Carle
• Fifteen Animals, by Sandra Boynton
• The Going to Bed Book, by Sandra Boynton
• My Truck Is Stuck, by Kevin Lewis and Daniel Krik
• The Very Hungry Caterpillar, by Eric Carle
• The Wheels on the Bus, by Paul O. Zelinsky
WHEN YOUR CHILD IS YOUNG, BEFORE HE TURNS FIVE
SHARE BOOKS TOGETHER AND WATCH HIM THRIVE

PARENT
• Ask “What happens next?” in familiar stories
• Point out letters and numbers
• Point out words and pictures that begin with the same sound
• Together, make up stories about the pictures

CHILD
• Turns pages one at a time and from left to right
• Sits still for longer stories
• Scribbles and draws

NEW SKILLS
• Recites whole phrases from books
• Moves toward letter recognition
• Begins to detect rhyme
• Pretends to read to dolls and stuffed animals

WHAT TO READ
• Let your child choose which book to read
• Find stories about things your child likes
• Picture books that tell longer stories; counting and alphabet books

NURSE MARIAN’S BOOK LIST
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
READING ALOUD

PAPER BOOKS WITH COMPLEX ILLUSTRATIONS THAT MAY INCLUDE MULTIPLE FIGURES AND A RICH BACKGROUND. TEXT USES BOTH BASIC AND MORE ADVANCED WORDS NOT COMMONLY HEARD IN EVERYDAY LANGUAGE, AND IT MAY FEATURE DIALOGUE, LONG SENTENCES AND RHYMING.

• Animal Strike at the Zoo. It’s True! by Karma Wilson
• Bear Snores On, by Karma Wilson
• Little Blue Truck, by Alice Schertle
• The Ugly Duckling by Hans Christian Andersen (Jerry Pinkney illustrations)
• The Little Engine that Could, by Watty Piper
• The Little Red Hen, folk tale retold by various
• How Do Dinosaurs Count to Ten? by Jane Yolen
• Green Eggs and Ham, by Dr. Seuss
• Dr. Seuss’s ABC: An Amazing Alphabet Book! by Dr. Seuss
4-5 YEARS
PARENT GUIDE TO READING ALOUD

READ ALOUD TO YOUR CHILD, NO MATTER THE AGE AND HER BRAIN WILL GROW PAGE BY PAGE

PARENT
- 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
- Point out the letters in your child’s name

CHILD
- Starts to copy letters and numbers
- Sits still for even longer stories

NEW SKILLS
- Can listen longer
- Recognizes numbers and letters
- Can retell familiar stories
- Can make rhymes
- Learning letter names and sounds

WHAT TO READ
- Let your child choose which book to read
- Find stories about things your child likes
- Fairy tales and legends; books with longer stories, fewer pictures

NURSE MARIAN’S BOOK LIST
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR READING ALOUD

PAPER BOOKS ON A WIDE VARIETY OF SUBJECTS AND STYLES OF ILLUSTRATION. TEXT INCLUDES ADVANCED AND VARIED VOCABULARY, MAY HAVE COMPLEX SENTENCES AND DIALOGUE, AND STORIES MAY REFLECT SITUATIONS THAT CHILDREN EXPERIENCE IN THEIR OWN LIVES.

- All the World, by Liz Garton Scanlon
- Giraffes Can’t Dance by Giles Andreae and Guy Parker-Rees
- Animalia, by Graeme Base
- Horton Hears a Who! by Dr. Seuss
- Oh, the Places You’ll Go! by Dr. Seuss
- The Emperor’s New Clothes by Hans Christian Andersen (Virginia Lee Burton illustrations)
- The Classic Treasury of Aesop’s Fables by Don Daily
- Explore My World Series (19 titles include Tigers, Butterflies, Honey Bees, Clouds, etc.)
- Children Just Like Me: Celebrations! by Anabel Kindersley & Barnabas Kindersley