

**START  
HERE!**

**READING WRITING SINGING TALKING PLAYING**

Share a board book with your baby. By around 10 months, babies who are read to can turn the pages of a book in the correct direction.

Allow your baby to pick up finger foods and other small objects using thumb and forefinger to practice precise hand movements.

Sing songs while you change a diaper or make dinner. Your baby loves the sound of your voice, whether or not you can carry a tune.

Talking throughout the day exposes your child to a lot of language. Explain what you are doing when cleaning, making dinner, etc.

Try using a scarf or washcloth to play peek-a-boo with your baby and enjoy the giggles that follow!

**Mark off the activities you complete with your child.**

Cuddle your baby while reading. Pairing reading with a comforting touch teaches your baby to have a positive association with books.

Your baby has small hand muscles, so it's easier to grasp chunky crayons. Those are best for early scribbles.

Using your rhyme card, share two rhymes with your child.

When your baby is babbling, respond as if they are having a conversation with you. They are learning that conversations go two ways.

Blow bubbles with your baby. Babies follow the movement of the bubbles, which helps with eye tracking.

**Feel free to modify these activities to fit your child's abilities.**

Have a basket of books within your baby's reach so that they can explore books often.

Have large paper and non-toxic chunky crayons readily available for your child to scribble.

Using a bouncing rhyme from your rhyme card, bounce your child when singing so that they can hear and feel the rhythm in music and in the words.

Play little games and build vocabulary. Ask your baby to point to body parts. Example - "Where is your nose?"

Have your baby watch you and your other children play games. In time, your child will want to imitate and play, too.

**ALMOST  
THERE!**

Allow your baby to put books in their mouth. This is how they explore and learn about books.

Put shaving cream or edible finger paint in a Ziploc bag to practice tracing letters or scribbling. Let them feel as if they are "writing."

Check out a music CD from the library and dance or bounce your little one to the rhythm of the song.

When reading books with familiar objects, point at the picture and talk about an experience they have had with that object. This shows the child that the picture represents real things.

Use jumbo knob puzzles or shape-sorting games to help build shape and color knowledge, along with finger dexterity.

**A LITTLE  
FARTHER!**

**Check out all of the early literacy skills you and your child have learned!**

Read board books with simple pictures and little text so that your child can focus on a particular page.

Strengthen your baby's hand and finger muscles by having them hold a rattle, grab a sponge, and crumple a piece of paper.

Using your rhyme card, do one rhyme with your child two times. Repetition is comforting and helps babies retain what they learn.

Have family pictures readily available. Point to each person and say their name to build vocabulary and connections with your baby.

Use scarves, shaky eggs, or parachutes when singing or dancing to familiar songs.

**Congratulations  
— you're  
finished!**

**ALL  
DONE!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_



**COMPLETE THE  
CLUB ONLINE BY  
JULY 31 TO BE  
ELIGIBLE FOR  
PRIZE DRAWINGS.**

**BABY  
GAMECARD**

**newborn -  
17 months**



**START  
HERE!**

**READING WRITING SINGING TALKING PLAYING**

Read print everywhere you go! Print on a cereal box or a road sign can show your toddler that words have meaning outside the context of books.

Draw pictures with your child. Scribbling is an important precursor to writing.

Make up a tune to help your child remember phone numbers, how to spell a long last name, or other important facts.

Play with words and rhymes by playing "I Spy" as you wait at the doctor's office or when driving. Start simple and then ask for rhyming words.

Use a large empty box as a playhouse to act out a story or a play! This helps build vocabulary and storytelling skills.

**Mark off the activities you complete with your child.**

Explain unfamiliar words to your child to build their vocabulary. Picture books contain around 27 rare or uncommon words per 1,000.

Use shaving cream or edible finger paint for a child to trace and make letters. Focus on letters in their name.

Singing songs with rhyming words, even silly nonsense words that rhyme, helps a child hear the smaller parts or sounds of a word.

When reading to your child, encourage them to chime in with details about the story so that reading becomes a conversation.

Blowing bubbles is fun and helps a child with eye and hand coordination when they try to reach for the bubbles.

**KEEP  
GOING!**

**Feel free to modify these activities to fit your child's abilities.**

When reading, occasionally point to the printed words on the page so that your child begins to understand that words have meaning.

Encourage your toddler to grasp crayons and provide places for them to practice the grip strength needed for learning to write.

Using your rhyme card, do one rhyme with your child two times. Repetition is comforting and helps toddlers retain what they learn.

Look at a nonfiction book. Talk about real places and things with your child, like backyard bugs or an upcoming vacation.

Use a puppet or household items to act out a favorite story with your toddler.

**ALMOST  
THERE!**

Encourage your child to turn the pages. This will demonstrate how a book is held and that English is read from left to right.

Send a card to a friend or family member by writing down what your child would like to say.

Try clapping or wiggling to the beat of a favorite song. Song rhythms can help your child learn that words are made up of syllables.

When talking with your toddler, use the correct names for things. For example, call a car without a roof a "convertible."

Read a story featuring a favorite animal and then pretend to be that animal by walking, talking and eating like that animal.

**A LITTLE  
FARTHER!**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Check out all of the early literacy skills you and your child have learned!**

Share your favorite book with your child and tell them what you like about it. Ask about their favorite books.

Make a shopping or chore list and have your child help you add items and "decorate" your list.

Use your rhyme card to share rhymes with your child. Research shows that knowing eight rhymes by the age of four will help a child in school.

Chat with your child about the first letter in their first name. Then try to find other things that start with that letter.

Have a picnic or tea party with your child. Ask your child what food to pack.

**Congratulations  
— you're  
finished!**

**ALL  
DONE!**

**COMPLETE THE  
CLUB ONLINE BY  
JULY 31 TO BE  
ELIGIBLE FOR  
PRIZE DRAWINGS.**

**TODDLER  
GAMECARD**  
**18 - 36  
months**

