

### Babies & 1-year-olds

Arrhenius, Ingela. *Where's the Fox?* Beautiful illustrations for very little ones show a series of woodland animals hiding behind bright felt flaps.

Atinuke. *M is for Mango*. M is for morning and little Mo and the moi-moi in Mo's bowl that is mushy, in a cozy alphabet book set in Nigeria.

Cherry, Matthew A. *Hair Love ABCs*. Explore the ABCs of hair with gorgeous art in this companion to *Hair Love*.

de la Fuente-Lau, Shuli. *How We Eat* (series). This book celebrates all the different ways we can eat: bottles, spoons, chopsticks, GI tubes, forks, cups, and hands. Filled with gorgeous photos of diverse families from around the world, it's perfect for keeping baby's attention.

Joosten, Michael. *You Are My Rainbow*. With a rainbow of colors, this board book celebrates the love between parents and their children and many different family makeups.

Martin, Emily Winfield. *Wonderful Seasons*. From springtime fun to cozy winter, explore the adorableness of a diverse cast of babies in the beauty of all four seasons.

Mother Moon. *The Belly Song*. Sing along in this joyful celebration of your baby's perfect belly!

Nicholls, Sally. *The Nose, Toes, and Tummy Book*. From fingers that tickle to bellies that need to be gobbled up, toddlers will love playing and laughing as they learn the names of their body parts.

Penfold, Alexandra. *Let's Make Music*. Explore rhythm and sound with this wonderfully interactive book!

Portis, Antoinette. *I'm Up and I'm Still Up*. This delightful pair of books have wonderful repeated language and adorable art. First celebrate the excitement of a new day, and then, well...Mommy, Daddy, and the dog may all be tired, but Baby is happily "still up!"

### 2-year-olds

Antony, Steve. *Rainbowsaurus*. A family meets a variety of unusually colored animals on their hunt for the Rainbowsaurus!

Best, Cari. *This Baby, That Baby*. In this bouncy, playful picture book, follow two baby friends who live in facing buildings through their day—playing, singing, and napping—till they meet in the park!

Bolling, Valerie. *Together We Swim*. Told in rhyming text, a young boy learns to swim in a pool with the example and encouragement of his family.

Cheng, Charlotte. *Roar-Choo!* When a dragon gets sick, his phoenix friend rushes to help and ends up needing his help in return.

Cole, Lo. *We Want a Dog*. After going through 27 different kinds of dogs with different kinds of behaviors, do you still really want a dog?

Dominguez, Angela. *I Want More! ¡Quiero Más!* Lolo wants more flowers! More seeds! More soil! More water! ¡Más y más y más!

Harris, Shawn. *Let's Be Bees*. The only thing better than playing make believe is playing make believe with your favorite grown-up! Especially when that grown-up's imagination is as big as yours, and you both get to make all kinds of funny sounds.

Martin, Bill. *Rainbow Bear*. Come paint the world, naming every color of the rainbow while following Little Bear as he wakes up from his hibernation.

Schofield-Morrison, Connie. *Big Boy Joy*. Playtime is the best time—a time of wonder, where big boys can run free, make new friends, and imagine worlds beyond their own.

Sicuro, Aimee. *If You Find a Leaf*. Every leaf this young artist collects sparks a new idea: a Japanese Zelkova leaf becomes a boat, a Honey Locust leaf is now a swing, and an American Basswood leaf is a hot air balloon.

Smith, Lane. *Stickler Loves the World*. Stickler is a woodland creature who reminds us to appreciate the everyday wonders we often ignore.

### 3 & 4-year-olds

Azaad, Dezh. *The Carpet: An Afghan Family Story*. A day in the life of an Afghan refugee child and their family, revolving around love, family, and the carpet that connects them to home.

Conklin, Melanie. *When You Have to Wait*. Sometimes, you have to wait. The seconds drag on...each one feels like forever. But while you wait, you might notice beautiful new things.

*continued on back*

## 3 &amp; 4-year-olds, cont.

Drago, Flavia Z. *Vlad, the Fabulous Vampire*. Vlad has rosy cheeks that make him look abysmally alive. Hoping to avoid rejection, he hides them behind elaborate outfits in traditional black. Until he finds out that his best friend has a pink secret of her own...

Fang, X. *Broken*. When Mei Mei accidentally breaks her ama's favorite cup, she's convinced it's the end of the world. Mei Mei can't face it. But the truth will come spilling out!

Fenske, Jonathan. *A Unicorn, A Dinosaur, and A Shark Walk into a Book*. This book's narrator attempts to tell a tale about a unicorn, a dinosaur, and a shark, but the three characters are less than impressed and uncooperative.

Fox, Janet S. *Wintergarden*. Growing and harvesting an herb garden can be fun and oh so satisfying—even in the dead of winter.

Gee Eun, Lee. *The Red Fruit*. Baby Bear is off exploring on his own. What just hit his head? Mmmm... it's a delicious red fruit. He must get more. Up, up, up, to the top of the forest and then he leeeaaaps...

Gomez, Blanca. *Bookie & Cookie*. When their usual routine is disrupted, Bookie and Cookie, best friends who live on opposite pages, learn to bridge their differences and try new things together.

Jarvis. *Thank You*. The moon brings nighttime, and the sun the day. With no yellow and blue, we'd be a world without green lights, and without itches we'd never know the relief of a scratch. There's so much to be thankful for!

Karsten, Guilherme. *Run!* Jungle animals are on the run, searching for a place to disappear. Will they be safely hidden before time runs out? Who are they running from?

Kastner, Emmy. *So Tortoise Dug*. Tortoise and Mouse are best friends and best burrowmates. When their home gets flooded, it's up to Tortoise to dig them a new place to live—and a few other friends, too. But where is Mouse?

Kurland, Jack. *The Cat Who Couldn't Be Bothered*. This cat can't be bothered. His friends always ask him if he wants to play, but he doesn't feel like it. One day, a friend asks how he is doing, and the reason he'd rather do nothing is revealed.

Maier, Brenda. *The Little Green Swing* (series). Ruby invites her brothers to help her plan and build something, but the boys do not want to plan. The wind soon blows their creations to pieces, but Ruby is working on something that will work with the wind.

Más Davidson, Rachel. *I Love You Mucho Mucho*. Rosie and her grandmother find a way to communicate despite speaking different languages.

Rammell, Kathryn. *Rory the Remarkable Dragon*. Rory isn't like the other dragons: she's remarkable, with unique abilities that other dragons don't seem to possess. But the principal is certain something is off about Rory and is determined to uncover the truth.

Salmieri, Daniel. *Next to Me*. A walk home from school is an opportunity to observe happy details: puffy clouds next to an airplane, the twisty slide next to swinging swings, a backhoe next to a big hole. There are so many interesting things to see in every moment of every day!

Tabor, Corey R. *Cranky, Crabby Crow (Saves the World)*. Everything is on the line for cranky, cranky Crow. But why, exactly, is Crow so moody?

Wen, Lenny. *Spicy Spicy Hot*. Lintang is determined to embrace the spice of sambal to connect with her Indonesian grandmother and heritage.

## Very Ready Reading Program

Seven days, seven ways: share books, songs, rhymes, sounds, words, stories, and play.

Sharing these seven ideas with kids will help them grow into readers. Focusing on one a day will keep it fun.

Will these tips help kids read as toddlers or preschoolers? Nope! That's not the goal. We want to help kids be ready to learn when they are in school. Kids learn best by playing and exploring, not in formal lessons. Introduce them to the world, talk to them, and you're doing it right! Layer routines to help you and your child succeed. Below are some of our favorite tips.

Pick one routine your family already has, like bath, wakeup, or snack times, and share a BOOK during it.

When do you give the most instructions? Set them to a SONG: kids pay better attention, and they hear how words are built with each note.

Celebrate your efforts with some good PLAYTIME with the kids! You deserve it, too.

Sign up for weekly literacy tips via text or email: [oppl.org/early](http://oppl.org/early)