

18 Months



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Make reading a part of every day.

Many toddlers have a short attention span. That's OK! Reading time can be short, or they may want to switch books or rush to favorite pages quickly. Be patient; reading aloud will increase their attention.

Toddlers see the details in pictures. They like to point and name and ask "What's that?" over and over again.

When they point to a familiar object, expand on it by telling them how to use it or what it does.

Toddlers can talk with you! Use books to begin conversations and talk about things you've done together.

Toddlers need to see words and pictures everywhere. Have books, magazines and catalogs to read and look at.

Talk about the pictures you see with your child.

Write and talk about writing. A child's scribbles are early writing – give him or her lots of scratch paper and teach your child not to write in books.

Go to the library often.

Choose books with:

- lots of everyday objects
- simple stories
- predictability
- humor

Read for Life is a Family Based literacy program in Tulare County that encourages parents to provide the foundation for reading beginning at birth.
www.readforlife.org



Visit your local library and bookstore as often as possible. Go to storytimes whenever you can.

Try turning off the TV! Your child will learn much faster by interacting with you and friends or siblings.

Some good books for a one-and-a-half year old:

Good Night Gorilla
by Peggy Rathmann

Zoom City
by Thatcher Hurd

Guess How Much I Love You!
by Sam McBratney

Chika Chicka Boom Boom
by Lois Ehlert

Mice Squeak, We Speak
by Arnold Shapiro

Pretend You're a Cat
by Jean Marzollo

Trucks
by Byron Barton

Freight Train
by Donald Crews

Who Said Moo?
by Harriet Ziefert

Benny Bakes a Cake
by Eve Rice

On Mother's Lap
by Ann Herbert Scott

The Very Hungry Caterpillar
by Eric Carle

