

# 2 Years



**Make reading a part of every day.**

**Two-year-old's brains are developing very quickly.** The brain is 90% of adult size by age 5. Nourish your child's healthy brain development.

**Two-year-olds are very independent** and may want to do things all by themselves, including choosing books and telling the story their own way.

**Two-year-olds can learn a lot.** Reading new stories and poems adds new words to your toddler's speech.

**Two-year-olds learn from stories they hear.** They learn about their world and about getting along with others.

**Don't force reading.** If your toddler wants to stop or do something else, that's OK.

**Use reading as a beginning for conversations.** Here's an example: "Oh, look! There's a picture of the moon. Do you remember when we saw the full moon last week?"

**Try turning off the TV.** Play with your child. When he or she is tired, cuddle and tell or read stories.

**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](http://www.readforlife.org)



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**Visit your local library** and local bookstore as often as possible. Many libraries have story times for toddlers.

**Choose books with:**

- lots of everyday objects
- simple stories
- the same words repeated over and over
- humor

**Some good books for a two-year-old:**

*Round Is a Mooncake: A Book of Shapes*  
by Roseanne Thong

*I Had a Hippopotamus!*  
by Hector Viveros Lee

*Jesse Bear What Will You Wear?*  
by Nancy Carlstrom

*Sam Who Never Forgets*  
by Eve Rice

*Fire Truck*  
by Peter Sis

*The Snowy Day*  
by Ezra Jack Keats

*Little Gorilla*  
by Ruth Bomstein

*Sheep in a Jeep*  
by Nancy Shaw

*Good Night Owl*  
by Pat Hutchins

*On Mother's Lap*  
by Ann Herbert Scott

*Mother, Mother, I Want Another*  
by Maria Robbins

