

5 Years



Make reading and writing a part of every day.

Five-year-olds often:

- draw pictures and try to use letters and sounds to write names, lists or labels.
- like to learn about new things.
- can name shapes and colors.
- know many of the letters in the alphabet, and matching sounds.

By age five, children have developed nearly 90% of their adult brain size. Now they need plenty of brain exercise. Read, play games, talk, listen to music, tell stories, draw and paint as often as possible.

Five-year-olds love to make up stories, tell jokes, and sing songs.

Read or say nursery rhymes and sing songs together.

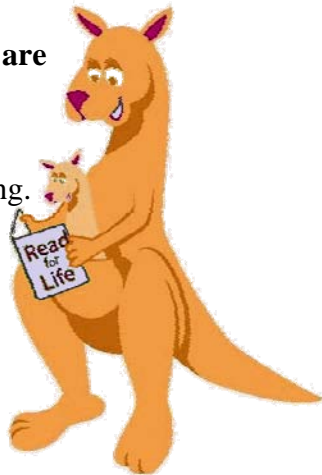
Share books with your five-year-old that are full of real life: science, nature, how things work, families.

Five-year olds can recognize letters in print and know their sounds. Encourage this early reading, but do not worry about mistakes they make.

Talk about the books you are reading together.

Read chapter books that you can't finish in one sitting. Your child will anticipate the next installment.

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



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Visit your local library and local bookstore as often as possible. Ask your librarian for suggestions of beginning chapter books.

Some good books for a five-year-old:

Sylvester and the Magic Pebble
by William Steig

Officer Buckle and Gloria
by Peggy Rathmann

Frog and Toad Are Friends
by Arnold Lobel

A Chair for My Mother
by Vera Williams

Too Many Tamales
by Gary Soto

Winnie-the-Pooh
by A.A. Milne

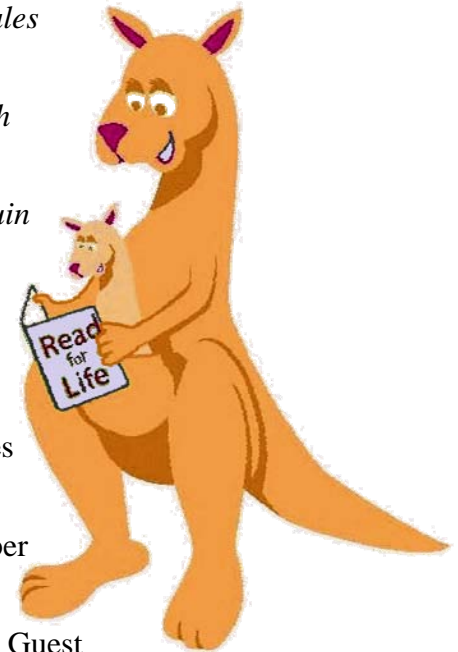
Tacky the Penguin
by Helen Lester

The Mitten
by Jan Brett

Chester's Way
by Kevin Henkes

Ira Sleeps Over
by Bernard Waber

Iris and Walter
by Elissa Haden Guest



Favorite versions of fairy tales such as: *Little Red Riding Hood*, *Goldilocks*, *Henny-Penny*, *The Three Billy Goats Gruff*



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Funded by Proposition 10.