

My baby can't read!

By sharing books with your baby she is learning that books are important to you. This will make her want to read later, when she is bigger.

This is one of the six skills, called **print motivation**, that researchers say children need to be ready to read!



My baby can't read!

That's ok, most babies can't!
Baby brains are wired for learning.

By showing her new things, like pictures in a book, you are helping to stimulate her brain.



My baby can't read!

This program has lots of things to do with your baby in addition to reading.
(Show the game board.)

For example, when you sing to your baby she is learning that words are made of smaller parts. This is called **phonological awareness** and is one of the six skills that children need to know before going to school.

She is getting ready to read.



My toddler can't read!

By showing her new things, like pictures in a book and telling her their names, Means she will have a bigger **vocabulary**.

The more words she knows the better! This will help her when she reads because it is easier to read a word you know.

New Words

My baby can't read! She CHEWS books.

Don't worry about that. Babies learn by putting things in their mouths. She will be able to look at the pictures with you. By handling the book herself she will learn how it works. This is called *print awareness* and is one of the skills she needs to get ready to read!



My baby can't read! She can't even sit up!

Babies love to be held. When you hold her and share a book with her she is developing positive feelings toward books. This is called ***print motivation***.

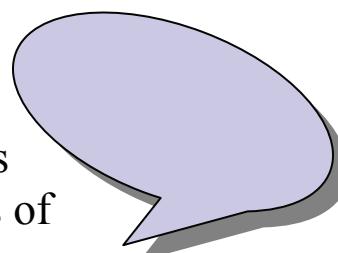


It is a skill that they need before learning how to read.

My baby can't read! She can't even talk!

That's ok! Much of this program has to do with helping your child develop his language. There are all kinds of things that count toward the game that are things you already do! Talking to your baby A LOT is a very important part of helping her grow up to be a reader!

(Point them out on the gameboard.)



My baby can't read! She can't even talk!

For young ones like yours, you do the talking and responding to the noises he makes.

Point things out like shapes.



Help him learn how things are alike and different. This is the beginning of ***learning letters***, one of the skills that children need to help them get ready to read. Talk about everything you do!

My baby can't read!

YOU read books and do these other activities with your child. For example, fingerplays, songs and rhymes that you say over and over are helping to develop your baby's memory and brain! This is part of the reading program.



My toddler can't read! He can't even sit still!



That's fine! Show your child books when he is calm and able to focus. Even starting out with a minute is good. If he doesn't want to look at the book, stop and try again later.

Keep it enjoyable for both of you!

My toddler can't read! He can't even sit still!

Don't worry about that. Take advantage of play to teach new words, using books and things you have around the house.

This reading game includes activities that encourage TALK which is one of the most important things you do with your child!



My baby can't read. I don't even have time to read to my other children!

The game board for babies is shorter than the one for older kids and includes lots of things you can do that will help your child be ready to read. Sing songs, do fingerplays and you're playing the game!



My baby can't read!

Twenty minutes can include singing and rhymes! Lots of nursery rhymes and songs are in books and CDs. Rhyme is part of a skill, called **phonological awareness**— knowing that words are made up of sounds and can be manipulated. Children need to have this ability before they are ready to read.



My toddler can't read! He can't even sit still!

Find books with pictures of your child's favorite things. There are many board books with trucks, animals, dolls and babies.

Touching books and turning pages will help your child become comfortable with books.

You are helping your child develop **print motivation** and **print awareness**, two skills needed for your child to later learn to read.



My toddler can't read! He can't even sit still!

Encourage your child to have a board book in his hands everywhere you go. Keep some in your diaper bag and in the car. That way, you can take advantage of every moment that your child is sitting still!



My baby can't read, but my older child can.

You can share some books with both children together. Ask your older children to look at books with the little ones.

