

# MILESTONES OF EARLY LITERACY DEVELOPMENT

Stages	Communication and Cognition	What to Read?
<p><b>6-12 MONTHS</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Smiles, babbles, coos</li> <li>⇒ Likes and wants your voice</li> <li>⇒ Likes pictures of baby faces</li> <li>⇒ Begins to say "ma", "ba", "da"</li> <li>⇒ Responds to own name pats picture to show interest</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Board and cloth books;</li> <li>◆ Books with baby faces;</li> <li>◆ Nursery rhymes</li> </ul>
<p><b>12-24 MONTHS</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Says single words, then 2- to 4-word phrases</li> <li>⇒ Gives book to adult to read</li> <li>⇒ Points at pictures</li> <li>⇒ Turns book right-side up</li> <li>⇒ Names pictures</li> <li>⇒ Follows simple stories</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Board books;</li> <li>◆ Rhyming books;</li> <li>◆ Picture books;</li> <li>◆ Books that name things</li> </ul>
<p><b>2-3 YEARS</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Adds 2-4 new words per day</li> <li>⇒ Names familiar objects likes the same book again and again</li> <li>⇒ Completes sentences and rhymes in familiar stories</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Rhyming books;</li> <li>◆ Picture books that tell stories; Search and find books</li> </ul>
<p><b>3-4 YEARS</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Recites whole phrases from books</li> <li>⇒ Moves toward letter recognition</li> <li>⇒ Begins to detect rhyme</li> <li>⇒ Pretends to read to dolls and stuffed animals</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Picture books that tell longer stories;</li> <li>◆ Counting and alphabet books</li> </ul>
<p><b>4-5 YEARS</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Can listen longer</li> <li>⇒ Recognizes numbers, letters</li> <li>⇒ Can retell familiar stories</li> <li>⇒ Can make rhymes</li> <li>⇒ Learning letter names and sounds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Fairy tales and legends;</li> <li>◆ Books with longer stories,</li> <li>◆ Fewer pictures</li> </ul>