

**Read
with Me**
Newborn
to 12 months



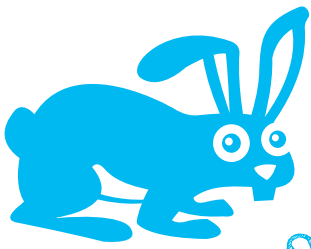
Why Read?



As soon as they're born, your baby recognises your voice and enjoys listening to you. Cuddling up and sharing a story together will encourage your baby to enjoy books and have better reading and language skills when they get older.

Reading tips

- Sit comfortably and let your baby see your face and the story you're reading or the picture or object you are talking about.
- Turn off the TV and radio as too much background noise is distracting for both of you.
- If you're looking at a book together make sure it's suitable for a baby. It should have clear, simple pictures, few or no words and be made out of board, cloth or plastic so your baby can grasp it easily.
- Tell a story that you know well, or use a picture to make up a story.
- Talk about what you and your baby have been doing or are going to do.
- Sing and say simple rhymes and songs and try and do the actions. Most libraries run rhymetime sessions where you can meet other parents and learn some new rhymes as well as enjoying your favourites. Visit www.surreycc.gov.uk/libraries for more information or pop into your local library.
- Repeat stories and rhymes your baby enjoys over and over. You may get bored, but your baby won't and you'll be helping to develop connections in their brain.
- Babies get tired easily so don't worry if they lose interest quickly. Try reading together for a short time but as often as possible.



You can't start too early!

Newborn to 12 months



"What I Like"

- Looking at bold clear picture books that have few or no words.
- Reaching out to touch things that interest me.
- Making sounds and babbling when you're speaking to me.

"What I can do"

- Turn to the sound of your voice and those of other people I know well.
- Communicate with you by giggling, getting excited or by changing my expression.
- Grasp board, cloth or plastic books that are tough and easy for me to handle.



This leaflet is from a series of five, each leaflet covers a different age range from birth to five years old. Children develop at their own rates and in their own ways. The ages are suggestions of typical ranges of development.

If you have any concerns about your child's development, speak to your GP, health visitor or someone at your local Sure Start Children's Centre.

You can find all the leaflets and more advice about reading with your child on the Surrey Family Information Service webpages

www.surreycc.gov.uk/earlylearning

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