

HOW TO SHARE BOOKS WITH YOUR 9 to 11 MONTH OLD

- Babies enjoy books and learn from sharing books with you. You are the most important person in their world.
- They love the special one-on-one attention they get when you read, talk, sing, and play with them.
- This special time helps strengthen your bond with your baby.
- Looking at, reading, and talking about books with babies helps teach them to talk.
- Reading books with babies helps them get ready to start learning to love books.
- Set aside a few quiet minutes every day for sharing books together. This can be part of your regular bedtime routine.
- This should be a time free of TV, texting, and other distractions.
- Regular bedtime routines started with babies help prevent struggles at bedtime.
- At the end of your routine, teach your baby how to fall asleep alone. Put her in bed sleepy, but awake without a bottle. This helps prevent future night waking and dental problems.
- This may become the best time of your day!



9 to 11 MONTH OLDS CAN:

- Reach for their favorite of two books you offer.
- Hold onto a book and pat the pictures they like.
- Explore a book by putting it in their mouth, turning it upside down or, opening and closing it. They may also explore by dropping it and listening for the sound this makes.
- Copy some of the sounds you make, the looks on your face and the gestures you make.
- Pay attention to a book for a few minutes at a time. They will let you know how long they want to read with you.

YOU CAN:

- Find a quiet, cozy place to cuddle up together with a sturdy book or 2.
- Name and point to the pictures your baby looking at, touching, or talking to. You can say: *Yes, a kitty. Nice kitty. The kitty is purring.*
- Follow your baby's interest by helping her turn pages.
- Act out the story or pictures using your face, hands and voice.
- Talk about how your baby is enjoying the book. You can say: *You like that car you are patting. The car goes beep beep!*
- Make a game of copying your baby playing with books.
- This kind of back and forth play lets her know you care about what she likes and how she feels.

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High, Golova & Hopmann, Read to Me Program, Hasbro Children's Hospital, 2014

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