Some good books to share

- Cousins, Lucy. **Where is Maisy?** Candlewick, 2010.
- Crews, Donald. **Freight Train.** Greenwillow, 1978.
- Fleming, Denis. **Mama Cat Has Three Kittens.** Henry Holt, 1998.
- McMullen, Kate. **If You Were My Bunny.** Scholastic, 1996.
- Miller, Margaret. **Baby Faces.** Little Simon, 2009.
- Opie, Iona. **My Very First Mother Goose.** Candlewick, 1996.

How to Raise a Reader

A READING CLUB FOR CHILDREN FROM
BIRTH TO THEIR 6TH BIRTHDAY

How to earn a free book:

- Sign up your child under age 6 for Born to Read
- Sign your under age 6 child for a library card.
- Receive 10 punches on your BTR card.

How to earn Born to Read punches:

- Attend story time with your 0-5 child.
- Check out parenting book or books for your 0-5 child.
- Well child check-up (with proof).
- Immunizations (with proof).
- Attend WIC meeting.
- Pre-natal doctor visit.
- Check children’s or parenting books out using your child’s library card.

An initiative of the Association for Library Service to Children of the American Library Association.
For more information please visit the ALSC website at [http://www.ala.org/alsc](http://www.ala.org/alsc)
The joy of sharing books is a gift you can give children from the time they are born. Chanting nursery rhymes, singing songs, and reading stories can comfort and entertain even the youngest child.

Early literacy (reading and writing) does not mean early reading instruction or teaching babies to read. It is the natural development of skills through the enjoyment of books, the importance of positive interactions between babies and parents, and the critical role of literacy-rich experiences.

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Literacy development begins at birth and is closely linked to a baby’s earliest experiences with books and stories. Babies learn language through social literacy experiences - parents interacting with them using books. These experiences also serve to associate books with parental affection, attention, and approval.

Parents, child care providers, teachers, librarians, and other adults interested in the development of young children have a wealth of good books from which to choose.

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Here is a list of some of the best books to share with easy-to-do tips developed by members of the Association for Library Service to Children, a division of the American Library Association.

Sharing books...
❤ Helps create a special bond between parents and children.
❤ Introduces children to art through the illustrations.
❤ Enhances children’s listening.
❤ Introduces children to a wide variety of experiences.
❤ Helps prepare children for learning to read.
❤ Improves and enriches the quality of children’s lives.
❤ Provides fun and enjoyment for children and adults.

When to share books...
❤ Begin before your child is born.
❤ Set aside a special time each day, such as nap time, bedtime, or after meals.
❤ Share books when you and your child are in a relaxed mood.
❤ Limit sharing time if your child becomes fussy or restless.
❤ Take advantage of “waiting” times to share books—on trips, at the doctor’s office, in line at the grocery store.
❤ Soothe a child who is sick or cranky.

How to share books...
❤ Find a comfortable place to sit (a rocking chair is wonderful).
❤ Recite or sing rhymes from you favorite books.
❤ Turn off other distractions—television, radio, or stereo.
❤ Hold the book so your child can see the pages clearly.
❤ Involve your child by having him or her point out objects, talk about the pictures, or repeat common words.
❤ Read with expression.
❤ Vary the pace of your reading—slow or fast.
❤ Find other titles by the authors and illustrators included in this list.
❤ Have your child select books to read.
❤ Reread your child’s favorite books whenever asked.

And remember...
❤ Be enthusiastic about books.
❤ Be an example for your child—let her or him see you read books, too.
❤ Keep a wide selection of reading materials at home.
❤ Be aware of your child’s reading interests.
❤ Give books as presents.
❤ Begin to build a child’s home library.
❤ Get to know the children’s librarian at your local public library.
❤ Use your local library regularly and register your child for a library card.