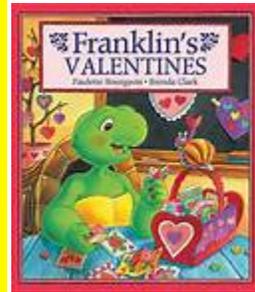
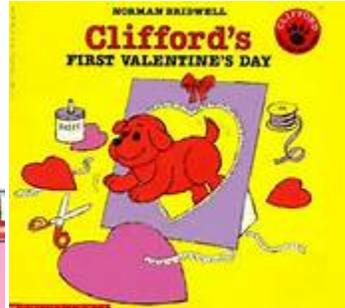
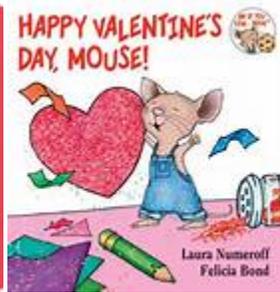
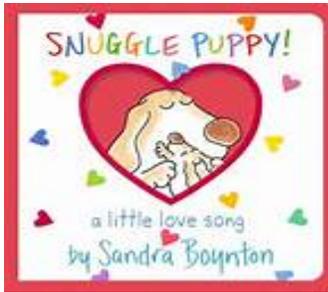


# EARLY LITERACY AT HOME



## READING TIPS FOR PARENTS OF PRESCHOOLERS

### **Read together every day**

Read to your child every day.

### **Give everything a name**

Build your child's vocabulary by talking about interesting words and objects. For example, "Look at that airplane! Those are the wings of the plane. Why do you think they are called wings?"

### **Say how much you enjoy reading**

Tell your child how much you enjoy reading with him or her. Talk about "story time" as the favorite part of your day.

### **Read with fun in your voice**

Read to your child with humor and expression. Use different voices. Ham it up!

### **Know when to stop**

Put the book away for awhile if your child loses interest or is having trouble paying attention.

### **Be interactive**

Discuss what's happening in the book, point out things on the page, and ask questions.

### **Read it again and again**

Go ahead and read your child's favorite book for the 100th time!

### **Talk about writing, too**

Mention to your child how we read from left to right and how words are separated by spaces.

### **Point out print everywhere**

Talk about the written words you see in the world around you. Ask your child to find a new word on each outing.

## READING TIPS FOR PARENTS OF TODDLERS

### **Don't expect your toddler to sit still for a book**

Toddlers need to **move**, so don't worry if they act out stories or just skip, romp, or tumble as you read to them. They may be moving, but they are listening.

### **Recite rhymes, sing songs, and make mistakes!**

Pause to let your toddler finish a phrase or chant a refrain. Once your toddler is familiar with the rhyme or pattern, make mistakes on purpose and get caught.

### **Choose engaging books**

Books featuring animals or machines invite movement and making sounds. Books with flaps or different textures to touch keep hands busy.

### **Keep reading short, simple, and often**

Toddlers frequently have shorter attention spans than babies. Look for text that is short and simple. Read a little bit, several times a day.

### **Every day is an adventure when you're a toddler**

Choose books about everyday experiences and feelings. Your child will identify with the characters as they dress, eat, visit, nap, and play.

### **Ask questions**

Take time to listen to your toddler's answers. Encourage your toddler to tell you what he or she thinks. You'll build language skills and learn what makes your toddler tick at the same **time**.