

What types of books will my child like?

Young children will enjoy a variety of books such as:

- 📖 books they have chosen themselves
- 📖 books that make children laugh
- 📖 books about children who are like them and books about children who are different from them
- 📖 books that have playful or rhyming language
- 📖 alphabet books, counting books and vocabulary books
- 📖 books about the real world – trucks, homes, insects

Recommended books for young children

Feathers and Fools

by Mem Fox (First Voyager Books, 2000)

Irish Legends for the Very Young

by Niamh Sharkey (Walker Books Ltd, 2000)

Prince Cinders

by Babette Cole (Picture Puffin, 1997)

Room on the Broom

by Julia Donaldson & Axel Scheffler (Puffin, 2004)

Something Else

by Kathryn Cave & Chris Riddell (Puffin Books, 1995)

We're Going on a Bear Hunt

by Michael Rosen (Walker Books Ltd, 1993)

Should I join a Library?

Yes! You and your child can join for free. Telephone (01) 890 5523 for information, or visit Fingal County Libraries at www.fingal.ie/libraries or visit www.askaboutireland.ie/libraries/ to find your nearest library.

Joining a library is easy and it will give you free access to the books that children like best, junior book clubs and more.

Visit online resources

The Irish National Adult Literacy Association gives ideas to help your child learn at www.helpmykidlearn.ie/

Aistear is the early childhood curriculum framework. Visit www.ncca.ie/aisteartoolkit for tip sheets and podcasts on enjoying books with children, play, language, and early numeracy.

For ideas for language games with young children developed in Ballyfermot, Dublin 12 visit www.thelanguagegarden.ie



The Youngest Ages Can Turn Pages
Fingal County Libraries
Early Years Literacy Strategy

fingal.ie

Comhairle Contae
Fhine Gall
Fingal County
Council



Tips for parents and carers to develop early talking and sharing books with **young children (2½ - 6 years)**



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What is this about?

Here are some easy and fun tips that you can use to help your young child (2½ - 6 years) to talk, read and write. The more you talk, share books and play with your child, the better talkers, readers and writers they will be. Talking and reading together is a lovely way to bond with your child.

How do I start?

You need to:

1

talk to your child, sing songs, rhymes and tell stories

2

join the library, let your child choose books, ask the library staff for advice on books that may be interesting to your child and order in any books they might like

3

make a regular, relaxed and enjoyable routine for reading to your child during the day and at bedtime - even when children are able to read themselves

What else can I do to help my child talk, read and write?

- 👁️ Ask your child what she/he thinks about the book? What makes you think that?
- 👁️ Re-read pages if necessary.
- 👁️ Talk about the cover, the name of the story (title), who wrote the book (author) and who drew the pictures (illustrator).
- 👁️ Point out that we read to the end of the page, we turn the page, we read from left to right and top to bottom.
- 👁️ Ask the child to tell you the story - who, when, where, what happened and the end of the story.
- 👁️ Use toys to bring the story to life - for example, if reading The Three Bears use three teddy bears - you and your child can act out the story.
- 👁️ Provide paper, crayons, chalk and paint so that your child can draw pictures about the story.
- 👁️ Bring writing activities outdoors - write in the sand, use brushes to paint with water, make letters with sticks.
- 👁️ Let children see you reading and writing. Read in front of children. Write shopping lists and messages to friends. Explain how reading and writing help you get things done.

The more you share books and have conversations, the better!