

# Reading with your Child

3-4 years



**Bookstart**  
BookTrust



[booktrust.org.uk](http://booktrust.org.uk)

 **BookTrust**  
Inspire a love of reading

**Spending just 10 minutes  
reading together every day:**

- **Helps your child develop social and emotional skills**
- **Strengthens their bond with you**
- **Helps them grow into a confident, happy learner.**

## Hello mums, dads and carers!

We believe that reading with your child is one of the best ways to help them get ready for school.

This booklet gives you just a few of our favourite tips on reading with your child – join us online too, and discover more about the magic of sharing stories, books and rhymes.



[www.bookstart.org.uk/have-some-fun](http://www.bookstart.org.uk/have-some-fun)

# Tips to help you enjoy books together every day



**Make animal noises or sound effects - these help to bring the story to life and will make you both laugh!**



**Cuddle up together or get brothers and sisters to join in and enjoy stories and rhymes together.**



**Ask questions when you're reading together such as:  
'What can you see on this page?'  
'How do you think the characters feel?'**





**Let your child be the storyteller. They can 'read' the pictures to you and talk about what's happening on the page.**



**Find somewhere quiet away from noise, television and mobile phones.**



**If you feel comfortable, try pulling funny faces or putting on character voices - these always make children giggle!**



# Look at the pictures and start talking about them



- Can you find a dinosaur or rabbit? What else can you see?
- How many bananas are there?
- What games are the children playing?



**The more you talk together, the more words your child will learn.**

# Things to do



**Play a guessing game when you're out and about together. Ask your child what numbers or letters they can see on buses, posters and signs.**



**Let your child have fun making marks on paper with pencils or crayons. There's no right or wrong way to draw a picture - this is the very first stage of writing and drawing.**



**Encourage your child to ask lots of questions. Asking questions is one of the most important skills that a learner needs!**



# Looking for more?

- ★ Visit your local library where you can borrow books for free. See if they run a Rhymetime or Storytime session where you can meet other families and enjoy rhymes together!
- ★ Ask your health visitor for ideas on how you can support your toddler's development by sharing books together.
- ★ Find great books online with Book Trust! We have lots of ideas for books to enjoy on our website including games and online storybooks.



# Choosing Books

**Book Trust picks books that spark imaginations and are fun.**

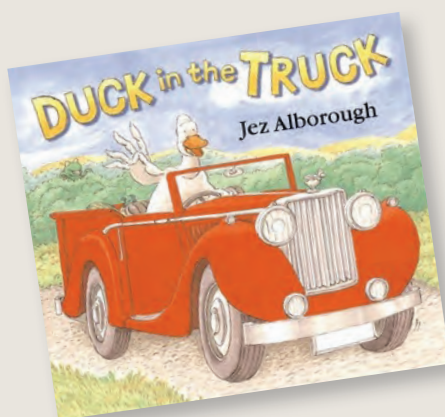
**Join us online to find loads of fantastic book recommendations!**

**[www.bookstart.org.uk/books](http://www.bookstart.org.uk/books)**



**Have fun finding more books to share on our website and enjoy reading the book in your Bookstart pack. It's okay to read the same book again and again because familiar books are comforting and build confidence.**

Here is an example of the great books you can discover on the Bookstart Book Finder!



## Duck in a Truck

“ Duck in a Truck never fails to make my 3-year-old daughter laugh. What is so lovely about the book is the balance of amusing rhyme and pictures. We just love it! ”

# Read together every day and give your child a lifelong love of books and reading.



Visit **[booktrust.org.uk](https://booktrust.org.uk)** to discover more about the magic of sharing stories, books and rhymes with your child.

## Happy reading!

**Book Trust** is a charity that works to transform lives through inspiring a love of reading. We know that reading for pleasure helps children to do well at school and increases their well-being, so we do everything we can to help to make sure that every child can enjoy stories and books.

We hope that reading will become a part of your daily routine that the whole family looks forward to.

Charity number 313343

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