



*Learning to speak, read, write and communicate well begins at birth. Here's what you can do to build your children's language and literacy skills in fun everyday activities.*

# Choosing Books

Tip Sheet #5

## Why?

The kinds of books that you choose are just as important as how you share them together. Choose books that build on your child's interests, as well as books that reflect their daily experiences- going to the Doctor or a new baby in the family. The best books for your child will be ones she enjoys.

Visit your library for a great selection of books to borrow.

## Books Children Like:

### Babies

Books with large, simple pictures or black and white designs.

Board books, cloth and soft vinyl books.

Photo albums of family and friends.

### Toddlers

Interactive books (Look under the flap, touch & feel).

Nursery rhyme books.

ABC and Counting books.

Books about your child's interests (dinosaurs, cars, animals).

Concept books-colours, shapes.

Books with bright colourful pictures.

### Preschoolers:

Re-read old favourites.

Stories that have repetitive phrases or follow a pattern that invite your child to join in the reading.

Books with simple storylines.

Simple rhyming books that can be memorized.

Books with interesting pictures that encourage discussion.

### Kindergarten Children:

Re-read old favourites.

Nonfiction books about subjects that interest your child.

Introduce maps, recipe books, magazines, and newspapers.

Choose children's books that you enjoy.

### Learning More than One Language

Communicate, read to and teach your child in the language you speak best (Mom speaks French and Dad speaks English). Strong first language skills make it easier for children to learn another language.

Find ways to expose your child to the language(s) you want them to learn (attend playgroups, community or library programs, provide CDs and books).

*Building Language and Literacy at Home*

A project of the Sudbury Community Emergent Literacy Committee

Supported by:

**BestStart**  
**Meilleur d part**  
www.mysudbury.ca/beststart