

# 1000

more!

## great books TO READ TOGETHER

PRESENTED BY THE EDMONTON PUBLIC LIBRARY



babies



toddlers



preschoolers



read. talk. play.


EARLY LITERACY AT EPL

## This book belongs to:

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Celebrate EPL's Centennial by exploring *100 More Great Books to Read Together*.

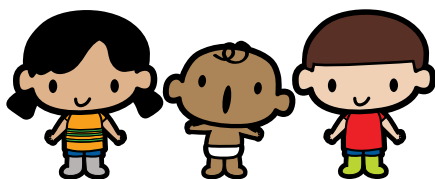
In honour of 100 years of service in Edmonton, 1913 – 2013, library staff have chosen 100 of our favourite stories for you to share with the young children in your life!

Just like EPL's original list of recommended stories, *100 Great Books to Read Together*, these books are also divided into three sections to help guide you in choosing stories for different life stages: Babies, Toddlers and Preschoolers. Our new booklet also contains a variety of stories including Canadian , Aboriginal and true stories that we want to share with Edmonton families. All of these books, along with many others, are available at EPL locations around the city. For help finding any library materials, simply ask an EPL staff member.

Congratulations for picking up this booklet of recommended stories; **reading is one of the most important activities you can do with your child.** Sharing stories together enhances children's early literacy skills and creates memories that last a lifetime. We hope that this booklet inspires many wonderful reading adventures for you and the young children in your life; your next favourite story is just waiting to be discovered.

**Happy Reading!**

# ABOUT EARLY LITERACY



## **What is early literacy?**

Early literacy is everything children know about reading and writing before they can read and write.

## **Why is it important?**

The first three years of life directly impact later development and learning. Children who enter school with strong early literacy skills will have more success, confidence and enjoyment in school.

## **What Can I Do for My Child?**

Here are five simple and powerful practices that caregivers can incorporate into everyday activities to help children learn early literacy skills:

### **READING**

Reading together is the single best way to help children develop early literacy skills. Read together every day and talk about the books you read.

### **TALKING**

Conversations between caregivers and children are a great way to help children learn information and new words. Give your children lots of opportunities to talk, follow their lead and respond to what they say.

### **PLAYING**

Children learn how to express themselves and the meaning of words by playing. Play comes naturally to young children and is one of the primary ways they learn. All you need is a little space, simple props and imagination!

### **SINGING**

Singing helps children hear the sounds that make up words and is a great way to capture their attention. Sing with your children any chance you have, such as at home, in the car or during a walk. You don't need a perfect voice, just some enthusiasm!

### **WRITING**

Reading and writing go together. Writing for children usually begins with scribbles which develop into letters as they improve their motor skills. Talk to your children about what they draw, ask questions and respond to what they say.

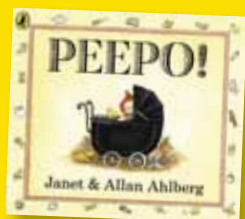
# BABIES



**Snuggle up and read together** because it's never too early to start reading with your baby. These great books are perfect to share with babies, even newborns.

**Peepo!** JANET AND ALLAN AHLBERG

Learn new words as you follow baby through his day. Babies will love the holes on the pages that allow them to peep into the next scene of the story.

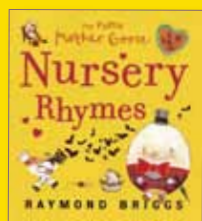


**Hug** JEZ ALBOROUGH

Bobo sees all the other animals getting hugs, but where is his hug? With a little help, this baby chimpanzee finds what he has been looking for.

**The Ways I Will Love You** 🍁

RACHEL BOEHM (Illustrated by Mary Jane Gerber)  
Gentle rhyming words describe the many different ways a parent can nurture a child. Cuddle together and pick out familiar objects and activities.



**Tickle Time!** SANDRA BOYNTON

Follow four fluffy cats as they dance, rhyme and tickle their way through this interactive book.

**The Puffin Mother Goose Nursery Rhymes**

RAYMOND BRIGGS

Rhymes are a great way to introduce even the youngest children to stories. Share the stories of *Humpty Dumpty*, *Little Miss Muffet* and others with your baby in this colourful book of traditional nursery rhymes.

**Time for Bed** MEM FOX (Illustrated by Jane Dyer)

Beautiful watercolour paintings depict parents in the animal kingdom putting their children to bed. Fox's soothing words will lull your baby to sleep.



**Orange Pear Apple Bear** EMILY GRAVETT

What do an orange, a pear, an apple and a bear have in common? Find out in this rhyming book about shapes, colours and sequences.

**A Good Day** KEVIN HENKES

A bird, dog, fox and squirrel come across bad luck. Instead of being sad, the animals overcome their setbacks and have a good day.

**Uh-oh! Oh no!**

ANN HODGMAN (Illustrated by Lucy Barnard)

When baby accidentally drops a sippy cup on the cat, a chain of silly messes ensues! Babies will love hearing mom and dad repeat the title phrase each time another accident happens.



**Night Cars** TEDDY JAM (Illustrated by Eric Beddows) 🍁

A tired, but sleepless, little boy learns about the hustle and bustle of the city streets below from the safety of his father's arms.

**Eats** MARTHE JOCELYN (Illustrated by Tom Slaughter)

Bold, simple illustrations in bright colours depict animals with their favourite foods.



**Meet other new parents** and caregivers at EPL storytimes



## did you know...

**Songs are a natural way to learn about language.** Singing helps young children understand the sounds in words.



### **Ten Tiny Babies** KAREN KATZ

Count to ten with these silly, noisy, cuddly bouncy babies.



### **The Baby Goes Beep**

REBECCA O'CONNELL (Illustrated by Ken Wilson-Max)

Beep, boom, splash and smooch along with the baby on his busy day. Have fun saying the simple sounds with your own baby.



### **Tubby** LESLIE PATRICELLI

At the end of the day, baby needs to get clean. There are toes to count and bubble faces to make, all while having fun in the tub!



### **Good Night, Gorilla** PEGGY RATHMAN

As the Zookeeper tucks all the animals into their beds, one little gorilla sneaks along behind him and creates mischief.



### **Hamsters Holding Hands** KASS REICH

Ten adorable little hamsters have all sorts of hamster fun! Can learning to count get any better?



### **Yawn** SALLY SYMES (Illustrated by Nick Sharratt)

Sean's yawn gets passed around from animal to animal. Rhyming text and a big hole that passes through the entire book makes this story fun for babies.



### **Snug** CAROL THOMPSON

Cozy up with this bedtime book about babies and animals snuggling down for bedtime. Colourful illustrations will catch your baby's attention.



### **Nighty-Night: A Bedtime Song for Babies**

RICHARD VAN CAMP

Say nighty-night to your little one by sharing this soothing lullaby together. Your baby will love listening to the rhyming language and looking at the photos of babies.



### **One, Two, Buckle My Shoe** SALINA YOON

Simple, colourful illustrations will attract baby's eye in this counting book.

At \_\_\_\_\_ months,

My favourite **place to read** is:

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My favourite **book** is:

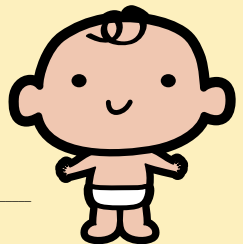
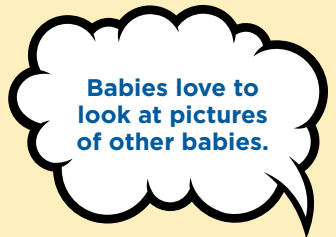
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My favourite **song** is:

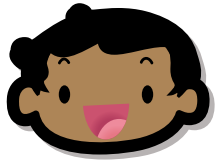
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I **love it** when:

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# TODDLERS



**Toddlers respond to books with repeated words, bright colours and pictures of things they recognize, such as animals or household objects.**

## **Goodnight, Sweet Pig**

LINDA BAILEY (Illustrated Josée Masse)

Pig number one just wants to sleep, but pigs two through ten have different plans. Help this sweet, tired pig count all the unexpected guests at the late-night pig party.



## **LMNO Peas** KEITH BAKER

From astronauts to zoologists, follow these peas as they tell you their favourite occupations from A to Z. Talk about the different peas with your toddler and try to find the ladybug hiding on every page.

## **Animals Should Definitely Not Wear Clothing**

JUDI BARRETT (Illustrated by Ron Barrett)

Silly illustrations depict animals in various items of clothing. Those learning to dress themselves will find this book amusing.

## **Z is for Moose** KELLY BINGHAM (Illustrations by Paul O. Zelinsky)

An alphabet book with a twist! Moose is so excited that he can't wait for his turn—and keeps turning up on the wrong page. How many letters will Moose interrupt before he finds his place?

## **ZooBorns!** ANDREW BLEIMAN

(Photography by Chris Eastland)

Meet baby animals from zoos around the world and learn something new about each one.

## **The Hat** JAN BRETT

A curious hedgehog gets a sock stuck on his head and insists it's a hat—much to the dismay of the other animals.

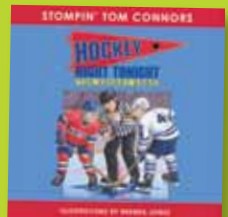
## **From Head to Toe** ERIC CARLE

Meet animals and learn about how your body can move through wonderful art and simple motions from head to toe. Children receive positive reinforcement along the way: "I can do it!"

## **Hockey Night Tonight: The Hockey Song**

STOMPIN' TOM CONNORS (Illustrated by Brenda Jones)

The rollicking song by Stompin' Tom is turned into a boardbook featuring an action-packed game between the Toronto Maple Leafs and the Montreal Canadiens—a must-read, or sing, for your littlest hockey fan.



## **Dancing Feet**

LINDSEY CRAIG (Illustrated by Marc Brown)

Get up and dance to the beat! The rhythm and rhyme of this book will have you and your toddler shimmying on your dancing feet!

## **Little Chicken's Big Day** KATIE DAVIS and JERRY DAVIS

It's a big day out for Little Chicken, but he's tired of listening to Big Chicken tell him what to do. When Little Chicken gets lost, he finds that nothing is better than hearing the voice of Big Chicken once again.

**Learning about the world helps children get ready to read.**



## did you know...

The **language in books is richer** than everyday language. Books are a great way to introduce new words and build vocabulary.

### **I Love Bugs!** EMMA DODD

Toddlers will delight in the bugs on every page of this bright, fun book.

### **In the Small, Small Pond** DENISE FLEMING

Discover all the creatures hiding in the small, small pond in spring, summer, fall and winter. You and your child will have fun making the animal noises together.

### **I'll Teach My Dog 100 Words**

MICHAEL K. FRITH (Illustrated by P.D. Eastman)

If you could teach your dog 100 words, what words would you choose? This is a great book for helping toddlers build their vocabulary. Watch out, they might just teach the dog some words too!

### **Good Night, Sam** MARIE-LOUISE GAY

Sam can't fall asleep without his dog Fred. Toddlers will love helping Sam and his older sister Stella look for Fred.



### **I Spy with My Little Eye** EDWARD GIBBS

Have fun with your toddler guessing the animal from the word and colour clues.

### **Monkey and Me** EMILY GRAVETT

A little girl and her monkey go on all kinds of adventures and still make it home in time for tea. Can you move like the animals, too?

### **Little Owl Lost** CHRIS HAUGHTON

With the helpful hand of a very earnest squirrel, little lost owl tries to find his way back to the loving arms of his mommy.

Follow your child's interests. Look for true stories about things they love.

### **Kitten's First Full Moon** KEVIN HENKES

Kitten spots what she thinks is a bowl of milk in the sky and tries with all her might to get a taste of it.

### **Choo Choo** PETR HORÁ EK

All aboard! Travel past the town, over the platform and into the woods on an old-fashioned train ride. Toddlers will love the simple words and fun sounds.

### **Little Pink Pup** JOHANNA KERBY

In this true story, Pink the pig is adopted by Tink the dachshund. He finds his family and his place as their pink puppy.

### **My Happy Book** KATHY KNOWLES

What brings a smile to your face? Peace, a young girl in Ghana, shares all the things that make her happy. Talk with your toddler about what makes her happy!



### **The Big Book of Words and Pictures**

OLE KÖNNECKE

Spend time with your toddler naming everything from food to animals to games in this big board book full of common words and pictures—a great way to build vocabulary!

### **Bubblegum Delicious**

DENNIS LEE (Illustrated by David McPhail)

One of Canada's best loved children's poets weaves rhymes about everything from bears and rocking chairs to giant bugs in rock bands and bubblegum delicious.



### **Zoo Clues Animal Alphabet** ALEX A. LLUCH

Guess who will appear on the next page in this ABC board book about animals around the world.



## try this...

**Build anticipation.** Ask your children what they think is going to happen next in the book.



### **There's an Alligator Under My Bed**

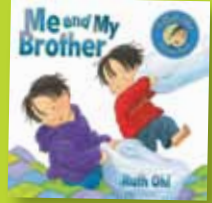
MERCER MAYER

What happens when you have an alligator under your bed and your parents don't believe you? All you need is a good plan and a few items from the refrigerator.



### **Me and My Brother** RUTH OHI

Through good times and bad, follow two brothers as they spend their day together.



### **Higher! Higher!** LESLIE PATRICELLI

Meet one young girl, one playground swing and one obliging dad who continues to push the swing higher and higher until she can "see" the zoo, the city, the north pole and beyond!



### **Not a Box** ANTOINETTE PORTIS

A rocket ship, a race car and even a mountain—with a little imagination, this box is anything but boring!



### **Are You a Horse?** ANDY RASH

Roy gets a saddle for his birthday but he doesn't even know what a horse looks like! Follow Roy on his adventure and discover a surprise ending!



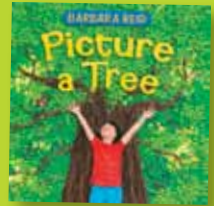
### **Ernest** CATHERINE RAYNER

Ernest the moose is too big to fit on the page! Can the chipmunk help?



### **Picture a Tree** BARBARA REID

Beautiful plasticine illustrations show all the things a tree can be—a pirate ship, a house and even a friend. What do you see when you picture a tree?



### **Goodnight, Goodnight, Construction Site**

SHERRI DUSKEY RINKER (Illustrated by Tom Lichtenheld)

As the sun sets on the big construction site, all the hardworking trucks get ready to say goodnight. Rhyming text and charming illustrations help your little one unwind and shut off their motor at the end of a long, hard day.



### **Beautiful Oops** BARNEY SALTZBERG

With a little imagination, a mistake can be the start of something beautiful. A great book for busy hands! Flip, fold and pop up the pages to find something beautiful.



### **There are Cats in This Book**

VIVIANE SCHWARZ

Join the cats in pillow fights and box games by lifting the flaps and turning the pages, but watch out for the big wave!



### **I'm the Biggest Thing in the Ocean**

KEVIN SHERRY

The giant squid is big—really big. In fact, he's convinced he's the biggest thing in the ocean and he's not too shy to tell you about it. Is he really the biggest thing in the ocean?



### **The House in the Night**

SUSAN MARIE SWANSON (Illustrated by Beth Crommes)

A comforting bedtime book that shows everyday objects magically illuminated in the night.



**Rhyming language helps children learn the different parts of words.**





# did you know...

**Parents are great role models!** If your children see you enjoy reading, they will follow your lead!



## Can You Make a Scary Face?

JAN THOMAS

Follow the ladybug as he asks readers to dance, imagine and help him out. Can you make a face scary enough to frighten away the big green frog?



## Bear Snores On

KARMA WILSON (Illustrated by Jane Chapman)

Animals gather in bear's cave to escape the cold. Despite all the fun, bear stays asleep; but for how long?



## On My Walk

KARI-LYNN WINTERS (Illustrated by Christina Leist)

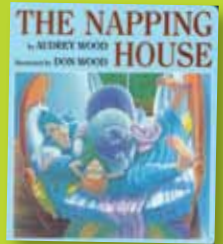
Frippity-frop, frippity-frop, drippity-drop, drippity-drop! Take a walk on a Vancouver summer day and listen to the noises all around.



## The Napping House

AUDREY WOOD (Illustrated by Don Wood)

Everyone is peacefully napping. What happens when one little flea changes everything?



**Encourage children to talk about the pictures.**

At \_\_\_\_\_ years old,

This is how I **write my name**: \_\_\_\_\_

My favourite **book** is:

\_\_\_\_\_

My favourite **song** is:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

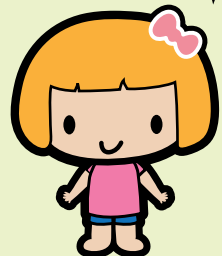
My favourite **game** is:

\_\_\_\_\_

I **love** to:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_





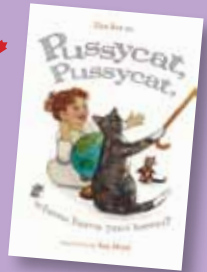
# PRESCHOOLERS

Preschoolers love books with longer plots, bigger words and more characters. Feed their imaginations by reading and discussing these great books together.

## Pussycat, Pussycat Where Have You Been? 🍁

DAN BAR-EL (Illustrated by Rae Maté)

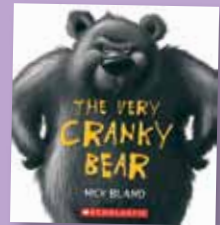
We know Pussycat Pussycat travels to London to visit the Queen, but where else does he go? The classic nursery rhyme is expanded to include more magical places, sights and adventures.



## The Very Cranky Bear 🍁

NICK BLAND

Zebra, Lion, Moose and Plain Sheep try to make a cranky bear happy in this rhyming tale. Plain Sheep finds out that she is more useful than she thought!



## Little Beauty

ANTHONY BROWNE

A special gorilla finds the one thing he's missing—true friendship with a kitten.

## True Story 🍁

MARTY CHAN (Illustrated by Lorna Bennett)

In this clever retelling of *The Boy Who Cried Wolf*, a young boy blames his two cats for all the noise, mischief and mess happening in his house.



## Grandpa's Girls 🍁

NICOLA I. CAMPBELL (Illustrated by Kim LaFave)

Join the girls as they explore the barn, fields and animals of Grandpa's farm. Grandpa has lots of stories to tell about his time in World War II and about their grandmother in this story about prairie life and family history.



## My Name is Elizabeth! 🍁

ANNIKA DUNKLEE (Illustrated by Matthew Forsythe)

Tired of everyone shortening her name to Liz, Lizzie, and even Betsy, Elizabeth makes sure everyone in her neighbourhood knows her real name.

## Owls See Clearly at Night: A Michif Alphabet *Lii Yiiboo Nayaapiwak lii Swer: L'Alfabet Di Michif* JULIE FLETT

Michif, the language of the Metis, is a blend of Cree, Ojibwe, and French. Learn the Michif words from *Atayookee* (tell a story) to *Lii Zyeu* (eyes) in this beautifully illustrated ABC book.



## Moonshot: The Flight of Apollo 11

BRIAN FLOCA

More than 40 years after the first moon landing, this story takes young readers along for one of the greatest rides in history.



**Kids love the first letter of their name. Help them spot their special letter as you read together.**

**Puppet shows** are a fun way to develop early literacy skills.



## why not...

**Have fun with the book!** Try out silly voices and funny sound effects!

### Hide and Seek: Nature's Best Vanishing Acts

ANDREA HELMAN (Photography by Gavriel Jecan)  
From sea to grasslands to mountains, discover creatures that can hide themselves in plain sight. Look hard at the vivid photographs to find these sneaky animals.

### A Second is a Hiccup: A Child's Book of Time

HAZEL J. HUTCHINS (Illustrated by Kady MacDonald Denton)  
Happy rhymes and illustrations full of colour capture the delights of childhood and the passage of time. The concept of time (every second, minute and hour—right up to an entire year) spirals out in easy verse.

### Lost and Found OLIVER JEFFERS

A boy tries to return a lost penguin only to realize that he has made a terrific friend who may not be lost after all.

### Actual Size STEVE JENKINS

Whose hand is bigger? Younger children will love comparing these life size collages of animals to parts of their own body and older children will learn more about the animals' behaviour and habitat.

### Betty Bunny Loves Chocolate Cake

MICHAEL B. KAPLAN (Illustrated by Stéphane Jorisich)  
The first time Betty tries chocolate cake, she is smitten. She needs patience before she can have another piece; can Betty wait?

### Big Red Lollipop

RUKHSANA KHAN (Illustrated by Sophie Blackall)  
Rabina is thrilled to receive a birthday party invitation, until her mom insists she take her little sister.

### Stand Straight, Ella Kate: The True Story of a Real Giant

KATE KLISE (Illustrated by M. Sarah Klise)  
By the time Ella Kate was 13, she was already 6 feet tall! This is the true story of a girl who braved the stares and comments of others so that she could make a better life for herself and her family.

### I Want My Hat Back JON KLASSEN

Bear has lost his hat. Will politely asking all the animals in the forest if they've seen it help in his search? Preschoolers will delight in the twist ending.

### Wolf's Coming JOE KULKA

Wolf is coming! All the animals run and hide in the dark. The scary situation turns into delight when the light switch is flipped and the truth is revealed.

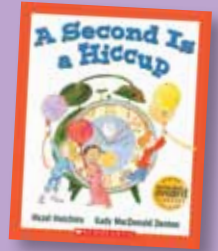
### The Imaginary Garden

ANDREW LARSEN (Illustrated by Irene Luxbacher)  
After leaving his glorious garden behind, a grandfather and his granddaughter create an imaginary garden on his balcony that's as good as the real thing.

### Lizzy's Lion

DENNIS LEE (Illustrated by Marie-Louise Gay)  
Lizzy's lion only listens to her because she knows his Secret Lion Name. Rhyming language creates a magical world full of fun, danger and lions.

Make up your own story using the pictures in a book.



Children who enjoy books will want to learn how to read.





## did you know...

Children learn best when **they feel safe and loved.**

### **Pete the Cat: I Love My White Shoes**

ERIC LITWIN (Illustrated by James Dean)  
Pete the Cat loves his white shoes, but a walk down the street turns them a rainbow of colours. Does Pete cry? Goodness, no! He keeps walking along, singing his song, and you can sing along too!

### **My Kokum Called Today**

IRIS LOEWEN (Illustrated by Gloria Miller)  
Kokum (grandmother in Cree) calls to invite a girl and her family to a round dance on the reservation. As she packs for the trip, she remembers all the fun things she does at Kokum's house.

### **Spork**

KYO MACLEAR (Illustrated by Isabelle Arsenault)  
His mom is a spoon and his dad is a fork—making Spork a misfit on the table. A sweet tale about being unique!

### **I Will Not Read This Book**

CECE MENG (Illustrated by Joy Ang)  
Nothing will make this little boy read his book, no matter how outrageous circumstances get. Preschoolers will giggle as the situation gets sillier and sillier.

### **Big Bear Hug**

NICHOLAS OLDLAND  
Bear loves his forest so much that he hugs everything in sight, especially trees. What will he do when a threat comes to his beloved home?

### **One**

KATHRYN OTOSHI  
Red is a bully that makes the other colours feel scared. One day, the number 1 comes along and stands up to Red. Soon the other colours stand up and 1 becomes 6, and Red isn't that scary anymore.

### **Perfect Snow**

BARBARA REID  
Canadians know the conditions for perfect snow for making all kinds of winter forts and snowmen. With her trademark plasticine artwork, Barbara Reid brings Scott and Jim's winter creations to life.

### **The Snow Day**

KOMAKO SAKAI  
It's a snow day and kindergarten is cancelled for the little rabbit! Will the snow ever stop falling? Will Daddy get home safely?

### **Where's Walrus?**

STEPHEN SAVAGE  
Without a single word, Stephen Savage illustrates one very bored walrus' adventurous escape from the zoo. Walrus eludes the zookeeper by disguising himself. Can you see through his disguises?

### **Grandpa Green**

LANE SMITH  
Grandpa Green's life story is told with the help of his great-grandson and the beautifully manicured shrubs from his garden.





## did you know...

**Reading together** is the single most important way to help children get ready to read.

### 13 Words

LEMONY SNICKET (Illustrated by Maria Kalman)

A wacky vocabulary journey through 13 words of Lemony Snicket's choosing. The story flows from the words, meandering in directions that will have your preschooler giggling at the supreme silliness of it all.

### Interrupting Chicken

DAVID EZRA STEIN

It's bedtime for the little red chicken and she wants a story. Papa tries to read to her, but she keeps interrupting. Now every story has a little red chicken that jumps in and changes the ending.

### Cats' Night Out

CAROLINE STUTSON (Illustrated by Jon Klassen)

Count along with these music loving cats as they conga, shimmy and shake all over town. Rhyming language and fun illustrations will keep your preschooler engaged and help them learn to count.

### Press Here

HERVE TULLET (Translated by Christopher Franceshelli)

Follow the instructions and watch the dots move on your command. A fun, interactive picture book that will make preschoolers want to press here again and again!

### Along a Long Road

FRANK VIVA  
Take a bicycle ride along a long road, through a tunnel, across a bridge and into a town. This simple book with engaging pictures shows just how much you can experience by riding your bike.

### Chester

MÉLANIE WATT  
It's not very easy to write a simple story about a mouse in a house in the country with a cat like Chester getting in your way...

### The Baabaasheep Quartet

LESLIE ELIZABETH WATTS

Four sheep find it hard to fit into city life until they enter a barbershop quartet competition and discover their true talent.

### Just A Walk

JORDAN WHEELER (Illustrated by Christopher Aucher)

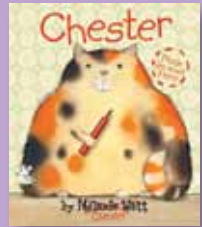
Little did Chuck know that when he went for a walk he'd just embarked on an exciting forest adventure!

### Hooray for Amanda and Her Alligator!

MO WILLEMS

Join Amanda and her stuffed alligator for 6 1/2 stories about friendship, tickles, surprises, library books and how true value can be found in the sale bin.

Use family photos to make up your own story together



Act out a book you have read together



Early literacy skills help develop a lifelong love of reading!



## did you know...

**Nursery rhymes** are a great way to show children how stories work.



### Singing Away the Dark

CAROLINE WOODWARD (Illustrated by Julie Morstad)  
A six-year-old girl has to walk a mile, on her own, each morning to reach her school bus. The cold and dark winter mornings and the shadowy forest are just two obstacles that she overcomes by singing to herself along the way.



### The Little Hummingbird

MICHAEL NICOLL YAHGULANAAS  
A terrible forest fire frightens all the animals, except for Little Hummingbird. While the others stand by, Little Hummingbird does all that she can, one drop at a time.



**Explain an unfamiliar word instead of replacing it with a familiar one.**

At \_\_\_\_\_ years old,

This is how I **write my name**:

\_\_\_\_\_

My favourite **book** is:

\_\_\_\_\_

My favourite **song** is:

\_\_\_\_\_

My favourite **game** is:

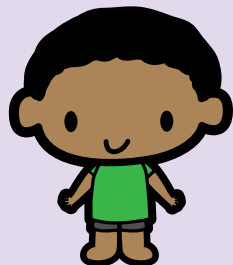
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I **love** to:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**Hooray!** You've completed *100 More Great Books to Read Together!* Congratulations for sharing the importance of reading with your child!

The books and tips in this booklet can help children develop strong early literacy skills that will benefit them throughout their entire lives. In addition to the thousands of books in our collection, EPL offers a number of other ways to support early literacy:

**Early Literacy Programs:** Hundreds of free, year-round programs featuring songs and stories for young children and their families.

**Storytime Station:** Videos featuring library staff performing songs and rhymes: [www.epl.ca/storytimestation](http://www.epl.ca/storytimestation).

**Welcome Baby:** Babies younger than 24 months receive a special welcome package with their free library card, which includes a board book, an illustrated rhyme booklet and a reusable library bag to help support developing early literacy skills at home. It's never too early to get a library card!

**Free Library Cards:** Does your child have his or her own EPL card? Access to books is a great way to encourage literacy skill development.

Visit [www.epl.ca/readtalkplay](http://www.epl.ca/readtalkplay) or your local library for more details on EPL's many free resources.

**“Read to your bunny  
often, And... Your bunny  
will read to you.”**

~ Rosemary Wells



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