



# 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten

## Early Literacy Experiences for Babies and Toddlers Who Have Vision Loss

1. Read to your child daily. Read several times a day, even if it's just for a few minutes at a time.
2. Choose times and places that are quiet and free from distraction.
3. When your baby begins to handle his/her own books, give him/her board books with heavy pages and rounded edges. Encourage your child to handle the book.
4. Invite your toddler to help pick out books. And yes, it's good to read their favorites over and over again, as they will begin to recognize words.
5. Use books along with real objects, tactile pictures, a variety of textures and make up motions to go along with the story.
6. Read, sing and chant nursery rhymes with your child.
7. Make braille available. Use books with braille and label their favorite toys and objects with braille for chance contact.
8. Sing songs with your child every day. And don't worry about singing in tune! Sing songs slowly so your child can hear the different sounds that make up each word.
9. Talk to your child during everyday activities and daily routines. Introduce new and unusual words.
10. Tell your child stories about their family, things that happened during the day and even made-up stories about their favorite toys. Engage your child to participate during the stories.