

Choosing Books

A child's love for books begins in infancy. Reading to a young child builds a bond of closeness, creates feelings of love and security, and develops skills that last a lifetime. Reading books helps a child develop in the following areas:

- **PHYSICAL:** Books help with the development of eye-hand coordination and strengthening of the eye muscles.
- **SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL:** Books help a child begin to identify, understand, and respond to emotional situations.
- **COGNITIVE:** Books help a child with thinking and problem solving skills.
- **SPIRITUAL:** Books help a child become aware of how special he is. Books can lead to an awareness of the world God made.



How do you choose books for your young preschooler? Here are a few tips.

- 👉 Choose books that are durable and easy for your child to carry. Choose hardback books when possible.
- 👉 Choose books with simple language, a few words to a page, and repetitive phrases.
- 👉 Choose books that tell simple stories to which a young child can relate. Look for books that have a predictable story line.
- 👉 Choose books about familiar happenings such as playing, eating, family activities, routines.
- 👉 Choose books with realistic pictures to teach about God, Jesus, and the Bible rather than cartoon figures and animals in clothes.
- 👉 Choose a Bible with realistic illustrations of favorite Bible stories. The Read to Me Bible for Kids (Holman Bible Publishers) is a good choice. Provide opportunities for your child to touch the Bible and hear Bible stories.
- 👉 Choose books that show pictures of people of different races and cultures in a positive manner.
- 👉 Choose books that identify familiar objects, shapes, and colors.
- 👉 Choose books about families working and playing together.

Happy reading!