

Research and Implication

Certified Speech Language Pathologist, Lowry, states that eight-month-olds who have books read to them show increased language competency v. children who are not introduced to literature early. From this age to three years old, beneficial books introduce a wide vocabulary with repeated word usage, realistic and/or abstract images, and grammatically correct syntax. Ideally, reading time occurs often with engagement between parent and child.

Best Types of Books

- Practice: Introduce a wide vocabulary with uncommon and repeated words
- Result: Instill words' meanings and apply vocabulary to a variety of situations

- Practice: Choose books with bold illustrations.
- Result: Provide representations of new words; supplement illustrations with conversation.

- Practice: Create a thoughtful and educational conversation centered around the chosen book.
- Result: Acknowledge your child's interests, introduce new concepts, and encourage their inferences and inquisitions.

Suggested Reading by Age Level

- 18-month-olds: Choose books with realistic photos that they can connect to the world around them. Suggested reading includes Eric Carle's *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. The manipulative pages encourage fine motor skill development.
- 24-month-olds: Choose books with color drawings. Suggested reading includes Carle's *Brown Bear Brown Bear, What do You See?*. This book introduces abstract art with a storyline that encourages children to predict patterns.
- 36-month-olds: Choose books with color and grayscale drawings. Suggested reading includes Norton Juster's *The Hello, Goodbye Window*. This book includes abstract art and forms connections to a real-life concept: visiting grandparents.

Suggested Techniques for Language-Impaired Children

- Children who usually feel intimidated by reading time benefit most from manipulative books (flaps, holes, texture, pop-ups, etc.). Interaction with manipulatives helps children gain control of the reading experience.

LITERARY CRITERIA FOR EARLY LITERACY- Best Practices Document

*ALL Info sourced from:

<http://www.hanen.org/Helpful-Info/Articles/Which-Books-are-Best---How-the-Type-of-Book-Affects.aspx>