



- **Just for Baby Times**
Tiny-to-Two
Baby and Me
- **Family Storytimes**
- **Songs, rhymes, and finger plays**
 - **Board books** for babies,
picture books too
 - **Toys to take home**
- A special **Learn and Play Space**
 - Programs and resources
for parents



Library Cards

You can get a library card for baby. Library cards are free for all county residents. Apply at the Main Library, Ellettsville Branch, on the library bookmobile, or on our website.

Library Hours

Monday-Thursday	9 a.m.-9 p.m.
Friday	9 a.m.-6 p.m.
Saturday	9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sunday	1-5 p.m.

The Ellettsville Branch opens at 10 a.m., Monday-Friday.

Friends Bookstore

Gently used books and more for all ages

Tuesday	11 a.m.-7 p.m.
Thursday	11 a.m.-7 p.m.
Saturday	11 a.m.-5 p.m.

Contact Us

Children's Services **812.349.3100**

Email **childref@mcpl.info**

Website **mcpl.info/childrens**

Facebook **facebook.com/mcplkids**



**Monroe County
Public Library**

Main Library
303 E. Kirkwood Ave.
Bloomington, IN 47408
812.349.3050

Ellettsville Branch
600 W. Temperance St.
Ellettsville, IN 47429
812.876.1272

LET'S READ AT 6 MONTHS!

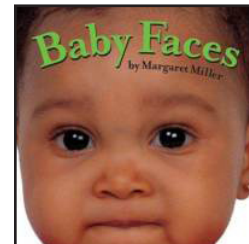
**This is what it looks
like when we read:**

- I want to feel the book. Is it hard or soft? Smooth or rough?
- I love to get a long look at the pictures and words.
- Reading can look more like chewing! It's normal for me to put books in my mouth.

**I learn from books
when you:**

- Snuggle up with me.
- Make fun sounds and songs to go with the story.
- Read me stories again and again. I learn more from them every time!

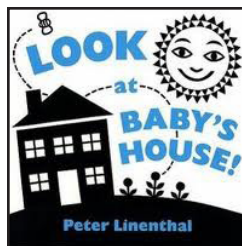
**Let's read these
books together, too!**



Baby Faces

by Margaret Miller

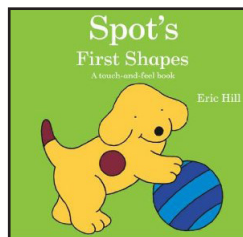
Babies will enjoy these close-up pictures of baby faces with different expressions.



Look at Baby's House!

by Peter Linenthal

New babies will love to focus on these black and white illustrations that tell a simple story.



Spot's First Shapes

by Eric Hill

Using simple illustration and textures, Spot the puppy explores basic shapes.

**You can check out these
and other great books in
the Monroe County Public
Library's Children's area!**

your child @[™]

6 to 9 months

highlights of what's
happening at this stage of
your child's development ...

By now, your child might be rolling, reaching, and laughing his way through the day.



Your child's health

The Well Visit

Your baby should visit the doctor at 6 months. Your doctor will give vaccinations that will keep your child healthy and strong.

Let your doctor know if your baby:

- Seems very stiff or floppy, or cannot sit with help.
- Does not laugh or squeal.
- Does not actively reach for objects.
- Does not roll over from front to back.

Schedule your next visit. Your baby will need to come back at 9 or 12 months.

Dental Health

The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry recommends a first dental visit within six months of a baby's first tooth, or by age 1.

Sleep

At this age, your baby still needs 2 or 3 naps a day. Put your baby to sleep at night between 6 and 8 pm. She may get up for a night feeding, especially if she's breast-fed.

To help your baby sleep, create a regular bedtime routine. Give her a bath, sing a song, read a book, or give her a hug and say good night.

Nutrition

Your baby should drink up to 24 ounces of breast milk or formula per day. You may have started to give your baby cereals over the past few months. Once your baby gets used to eating baby cereal, move on to smooth, single-ingredient foods.

- Start with fruits and vegetables. Talk to your doctor about starting meats and other foods.
 - Introduce 1 type of food at a time.
 - Serve it for at least 2 to 3 days to make sure your child is not allergic.
- Call your doctor if you think your child has a reaction.

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your child @[™]

6 to 9 months

Nurturing your child

- Behavior** At this age, babies do not understand discipline. Instead, as they explore, focus on safety. You can:
- Distract or move your baby from unsafe objects or activities.
 - Childproof your home. Keep all dangerous objects out of reach of your child.
 - Never shake, spank, or hit your child.
-
- Play** Learn about your child's interests by watching and playing with him. You can:
- Let him play on his tummy. This will strengthen his neck, back, and arms.
 - Give your child musical instruments or objects to play with. A pot and a spoon make a great drum.
 - Move your play time outside when you can. You can go for walks, look for birds or airplanes, or just sit with your child on a blanket on the grass.
-
- Language** You are your child's first teacher. To encourage her language skills you can:
- Read and tell stories together every day.
 - Hold and hug your baby when you talk and read with her.
 - Ask your child a question, and wait for her to answer with her babble or a smile.
 - Provide books that are made of cardboard or cloth to make page turning (and chewing) easier.

Safety Tip

By law, your baby must ride in a secure, rear-facing car seat. He must ride in the back seat of your car.

Your child's safety

- Around the House**
- Cover electrical outlets. Tie up cords hanging from blinds.
 - Put safety latches on cabinets, drawers, and toilets.
 - Keep her away from toys or items with small parts. These can cause choking.
 - Keep cleaning supplies, medicines, and sharp objects out of reach.
 - Call poison control right away if you think your child has swallowed poison: 1-800-222-1222.

United Way Born Learning[®] is a public engagement campaign helping parents, caregivers and communities create early learning opportunities for young children. Designed to support you in your critical role as a child's first teacher, Born Learning educational materials are made available through the efforts of United Way. For more information, visit us online at www.bornlearning.org.

This tool was adapted for the United Way Born Learning campaign.

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TIPS | for parents of Babies

It's never too early to read to your baby. As soon as your baby is born, he or she starts learning. Just by talking to, playing with, and caring for your baby every day, you help your baby develop language skills necessary to become a reader. By reading with your baby, you foster a love of books and reading right from the start. The tips below offer some fun ways you can help your child become a happy and confident reader. Try a new tip each week. See what works best for your child.

■ Snuggle up with a book

When you hold your baby close and look at a book together, your baby will enjoy the snuggling and hearing your voice as well as the story. Feeling safe and secure with you while looking at a book builds your baby's confidence and love of reading.

■ Choose baby-friendly books

Books with bright and bold or high-contrast illustrations are easier for young babies to see, and will grab their attention. Books made of cloth or soft plastic (for the bathtub) or "board books" with sturdy cardboard pages are easier for a baby to handle.

■ Keep books where your baby can reach them

Make sure books are as easy to reach, hold, and look at as toys. Remember, a baby will do with a book what he does with everything else—put it in his mouth. And that's exactly what he's supposed to do, so you may only want to put chewable books within reach.

■ Talk with your baby—all day long

Describe the weather or which apples you are choosing at the grocery. Talk about the pictures in a book or things you see on a walk. Ask questions. By listening, your child learns words, ideas, and how language works.

■ Encourage your baby's coos, growls, and gurgles

They are your baby's way of communicating with you, and are important first steps toward speech. Encourage attempts to mimic you. The more your baby practices making sounds, the clearer they will become. Go ahead and moo, woof and honk!

■ Give baby a hand!

Encourage your baby to pick up crackers or peas, touch noses and toes, point to pictures and grab toys. The muscles in those little hands will grow strong, agile, and ready to turn pages.

■ Develop a daily routine (and make reading a part of it)

Routines can soothe a baby, and let a baby learn to predict what will happen next. The ability to predict is important when your child is older and is reading independently.

■ Sing, Read, Repeat

Read favorite stories and sing favorite songs over and over again. Repeated fun with books will strengthen language development and positive feelings about reading.

■ "Read" your baby

Pay attention to how your baby reacts to the book you are reading. Stop if your baby isn't enjoying the story and try another book or another time.

Visit www.ReadingRockets.org for more information on how you can launch a child into a bright future through reading.