



# Reading Readiness from Day One

## Six ideas to get you and your baby on your way

These are the latest ideas about how to foster reading readiness in very young children. Try them out at home, and when you come to PHPL's **Babytime** and **Tales for Tots** you'll find these ideas cropping up throughout our program.



### • Print Motivation

#### *Books are fun!*

Get down with a book! Babies love board books, cloth books, picture books, and that warm fuzzy feeling of cozying up with you and a story. From her very first weeks in the world your baby will enjoy the sound of your voice and the feeling of closeness; one day she'll associate the pleasures of reading with the pleasures of those cuddly moments.



### • Vocabulary

#### *Talk it up, Baby!*

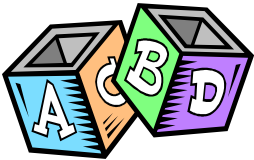
The more words your baby hears, on every subject under the sun, the more he'll have stored away in his brain when he decides to read. When that moment comes recognizing words will be much easier for him.



### • Print Awareness

#### *Those interesting shapes can mean so much more!*

Signs, labels, blocks, t-shirts, mugs ... letters surround us. When you start pointing out these things early on, your baby will begin to understand that there is meaning attached to printed language.



### • Phonological Awareness

#### *Words are sounds put together!*

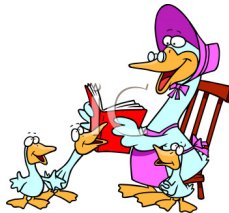
Rhymes, songs and finger plays all help baby hear the variations in the sounds of words, and begin to understand that little sounds go together to make bigger words.



### • Narrative Skills

#### *What happens next!*

Reading the same story over and over, predicting how the story will go, asking questions and listening to his answers will encourage your baby and toddler to get to know how a story works: how it has a beginning, a middle, and an end.



### • Letter Knowledge

#### *Letters start out as shapes!*

Learning to see shapes is a first step towards identifying letters. And books are full of shapes, colours, and objects that baby can look at, trace with her finger and learn to understand.

