

### **Reading with Your 6 to 12-Month-Old**

- Your baby is not talking yet. Reading with her now will help her learn words later.
- Reading with you shows your baby that books are fun!
- You don't have to read the words. Just talking to your baby about the pictures helps him learn.
- Point to pictures in the book and say what they are.
- It is okay if your baby puts the book in her mouth.
- Your baby will love books because your baby loves you.

### **Reading with Your 1-Year-Old**

- Read with your child now to help him learn words.
- Reading with you shows your child that books are fun!
- Talk about the names and colors of the pictures. You don't have to read the words.
- Ask your child where something is in the picture. Say, "Where is the cat?" Then point to the picture and say, "There it is!"
- Your child may not want to sit still. You can finish the book later.
- Read a book at bedtime every night.
- Reading with your child now will help him do well in school.

### **Reading with Your 2-Year-Old**

- Reading with your child will help him learn new words.
- Read books to your child at bedtime, after a meal, or while she's in the bathtub.
- Children enjoy funny and silly books.
- If you do not have a book, you can sing or tell stories.
- Ask questions with "what," "where," and "why," like, "Where did the cat go?"
- Tell how your child's life is like the book: "We have a dog like that."
- Children like the same story over and over again.
- Ask your child to find his favorite picture in the book.

### **Reading with Your 3-Year-Old**

- Children enjoy books with funny sounds and words.
- Let your child pick the book. Children love to read the same book over and over again. They will learn something new every time.
- Ask questions with "what," "where," and "why," like, "where did the cat go?"
- When your child knows the story, ask her to finish a sentence, like "The cat in the...?"
- You can read books at bedtime, at the doctor's office, or at the store.
- Talk to your child about what she likes and does not like about the book.
- Keep books in your bag for your child.

### **Reading with Your 4-Year-Old**

- Reading with your child now will help her get ready for school.
- Talk about words that start with the same sound, like “sun,” “sock,” and “silly.”
- Talk about words that end with the same sound, like “hat,” “bat,” and “cat.”
- Ask your child “what,” “where,” “why,” and “when” questions, like “What is the dog doing?”
- Read part of a sentence and let your child finish it.
- It is okay to read the same book over and over. Your child will learn something new every time.

### **Reading with Your 5-Year-Old**

- Reading with your child will help her succeed in school.
- What letters are in your child’s name? What sounds do they make? Can your child find them in the book?
- Say, “I see a letter A,” and have your child find the letter on the page. Ask your child what sound it makes. Do this with other letters too.
- Talk about words that start with the same sound, like “cat,” “car,” and “can.” Show your child that they start with the same letter.
- Talk about words that rhyme, like “star,” “car,” and “jar.” Show your child that they end with the same letters.
- Ask your child how the story is like other things he sees or does. Does he ever feel the same way the child in the story feels?