

# How to Share Books with your 3 Year Old

- \* Even young children enjoy books and learn from sharing books with you.
- \* Sharing books with young children can help them learn to talk better.
- \* Sharing books with young children can help them get ready to listen and learn in school.
- \* Set aside 10 to 20 minutes with the TV off for sharing books as part of a regular bedtime routine.
- \* Regular bedtime routines started when children are young help future struggles at bedtime.
- \* Teaching young children how to fall asleep alone by putting them in bed awake helps prevent future night wakings.

## 3 Year Olds Can:

- \* Name the books they want to share with you.
- \* Pretend to read a favorite book aloud to you.
- \* Tell you how a story is like things they have seen or done.
- \* Ask you questions about books you are enjoying together.
- \* “Correct” you if you skip a word or page in a favorite book.
- \* Tell you the story in a favorite book in their own words.

## You Can:

- \* Find a quiet, comfortable place for book sharing.
- \* Ask your child to tell you about the pictures and the story.
- \* Respond with enthusiasm to your child’s questions and comments.
- \* Ask your child to show you all the things in a picture that are alike in some way. You can say: “*Can you find all the blue things?*” or “*Show me all the things that can fly.*”
- \* Point out colors, shapes, numbers in their books.
- \* Take your child to your local public library to borrow books or to enjoy *Story Time*.

