

Great Books for 2s and 3s



Children this age still enjoy books with familiar characters, but also enjoy stories with more detail or stories where there is a problem or circumstance to overcome.

“Reading even 5 or 10 minutes a day to young children helps them to get ready to read on their own.”

Try predictable books with repeated text, words that rhyme, and pictures that correspond to the text.

Talk about the characters and events in the story, relating them to your child’s own experiences.

Pause when reading the story to allow your child to fill in a word or phrase. This works great with rhyming and repetitive books.

Give your children a lifelong advantage. Read to them often, and ask today about how your library partners with parents to get children ready to read.

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Great Books for 2s and 3s

My Car by Byron Barton

Sam describes in loving detail his car and how he drives it.

Where's My Teddy? by Jez Alborough

When a small boy named Eddie goes searching for his lost teddy in the dark woods, he comes across a gigantic bear with a similar problem.

Big Red Barn by Margaret Wise Brown

Rhymed text and illustrations introduce the many different animals that live in the big red barn.

How Will You Get There, Maisy? by Lucy Cousins

Follow Maisy and her friends as they use a variety of vehicles to get to where they are going.

Baby Danced the Polka by Karen Beaumont

It's nap time at the farm, but one un-sleepy baby has a different plan... Baby wants to dance.

Carl's Sleepy Afternoon by Alexandra Day

While his owner gets a new dress for Madeline, Carl, the Rottweiler, performs many errands of his own, unbeknownst to his owner.

Knuffle Bunny: A Cautionary Tale by Mo Willems

After Trixie and daddy leave the laundromat, something very important turns up missing.

Mud Pie for Mother by Scott Beck

A little pig is looking for the perfect present for his mother.

On Mother's Lap by Ann Herbert Scott

A small Eskimo boy discovers that Mother's lap is a very special place with room for everyone.

Red Train by Will Grace

Several trains are rolling through town, teaching readers about colors and numbers, as well as identifying the animals that ride them.

Ruby's Rainy Day by Rosemary Wells

Fun board book that teaches colors.

"Hi, Pizza Man!" by Virginia Walter

What will you say when the pizza man comes?

Here Are My Hands by John Archambault

The owner of a human body celebrates it by pointing out various parts and mentioning their functions, from "hands for catching and throwing" to the "skin that bundles me in."

I Can Do It, Too by Karen Baicker

Supported by her family, an African American girl is self confident about what she can do and in turn supports a younger family member.

Is That Josie? by Keiko Narahashi

A clever introduction to the game of make-believe.

Kiss Goodnight by Amy Hest

Even after a story, being tucked in, and warm milk, Sam is not ready to go to sleep until his mother kisses him good-night.

The Father Who Had 10 Children by Benedicte Guettier

After working hard to take care of his ten children, a devoted father plans to get away by himself--until he decides that something is missing.

Snowballs by Lois Ehlert

Some children create a family out of snow. Includes labeled pictures of all the items they use, as well as information about how snow is formed.

A Mother for Choco by Keiko Kasza

A lonely little bird named Choco goes in search of a mother.

Trashy Town by Andrea Griffing Zimemrman

Little by little, can by can, Mr. Gillie, the trash man, cleans up his town.