

## **Books for Two and Three-Year Olds. West Allis Public Library**

- Choose books with a strong sense of rhythm and rhyme to help build language skills.
- Choose some books that reflect your toddler's life and daily experiences.
- To encourage language development, choose books with lots of repetition. After a few readings, they'll chime in!
- Find books that have sounds or actions that your toddler can imitate.
- Look for books that focus on particular concepts like colors, counting, shapes, the alphabet, etc.

**Andreae, Giles. Giraffes Can't Dance. Picture Book**  
Gerald the giraffe is too clumsy to dance with all the other animals at the Jungle Dance, until he finds the right music.

**Appelt, Kathi. Bubbles, Bubbles. Picture Book**  
Your 2-year-old approaches daily experiences, such as bath time, with playful exuberance.

**Barton, Byron. My Car. Picture Book**  
Sam describes in loving detail his car and how he drives it.

**Campbell, Rod. Dear Zoo : a Lift-the-Flap Book. Picture Book**  
Each animal arriving from the zoo as a possible pet fails to suit its prospective owner, until just the right one is found.

**Carle, Eric. From Head to Toe. Picture Book**  
Encourages the child to exercise by following the movements of various animals.

**Cronin, Doreen. Click, Clack, Splish, Splash: a counting adventure. Picture Book**  
While Farmer Brown sleeps, some of the animals who live on the farm go on a fishing expedition.

**Donaldson, Julia. One Ted Falls Out of Bed. Picture Book**  
When a teddy bear falls out of bed, he has an exciting playtime before finally managing to get back where he started.

**Ehlert, Lois. Color Zoo. Picture Book**  
Introduces colors and shapes with illustrations of shapes on die-cut pages that form animal faces when placed on top of one another.

**Fleming, Denise. Lunch. Picture Book**  
A very hungry mouse eats a large lunch comprised of colorful foods.

**Foley, Greg. Thank You Bear. Picture Book**  
Despite the criticism of others, a bear finds the perfect gift for his mouse friend.

**Gravett, Emily. Orange Pear Apple Bear. Picture Book**  
Explores concepts of color, shape, and food using only five simple words, as a bear juggles and plays.

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Henkes, Kevin. A Good Day. Picture Book

A bird, a dog, and a squirrel overcome minor setbacks to have a very good day.

Hill, Eric. Where's Spot? Picture Book

A mother dog finds eight other animals hiding around the house before finding her lost puppy. Flaps conceal the animals.

Hubbell, Patricia. Pots and Pans. Picture Book

Rhyming text imitates a child finding pots, pans, lids, and cans in the kitchen.

Krauss, Ruth. The Carrot Seed. Picture Book

When a little boy plants a carrot seed, everyone tells him it won't grow. But when you are very young, there are some things that you just know, and the little boy knows that one day a carrot will come up.

Merz, Jennifer J. Playground Day! Picture Book

Children play on the playground, imitating animals from bunnies and squirrels to elephants and penguins.

Mortensen, Denise. Wake up Engines. Picture Book

Rhyming verses describe the sights and sounds of morning traffic as cars, trucks, and airplanes rev up their engines and go!

My Very First MotherGoose. Edited by Iona Opie. Pic Mother Goose

A collection of more than sixty nursery rhymes including "Hey Diddle, Diddle," "Pat-a-Cake," "Little Jack Horner," and "Pussycat, Pussycat."

Seeger, Laura Vaccaro. First the Egg. Pic

A picture book about transformations.

Seuss, Dr. Mr. Brown Can Moo! Can You? Easy 1 Reader

This simple, silly book focuses on the wacky and wonderful sounds that children hear.

Waddell, Martin. Owl Babies. Picture Book

Three owl babies whose mother has gone out in the night try to stay calm while she is gone.

Watanabe, Shiegeo. How Do I Put it On? Picture Book

A bear demonstrates the right and wrong ways to put on shirt, pants, cap, and shoes.

Wells, Rosemary. Max's ABC. Picture Book

Children will enjoy learning the alphabet with Max and Ruby in this charming concept book.

Yolen, Jane. Off We Go! Picture Book

One by one, baby woodland creatures leave home and sing their way to visit grandma.