

# Bookstart Star

Accessible Booklist

# Dear Mum, Dad or Carer

All children love it when you spend time with them, talk to them and give them lots of eye contact and smiles. However, it can feel strange talking to your child, especially when they are young and are possibly just learning to talk.

That's why books are magical, as you can read them with your child from birth. When you sit cuddled up together looking at the pictures, you can talk about the colours on the page and make funny voices together. This will help your child make sense of the world around them and to learn new words.

Not only is reading together great fun, it can introduce your child to new ideas. Make time to enjoy stories, books and rhymes every day!

For more fun, tips and great books to share go to **[booktrust.org.uk/books](https://booktrust.org.uk/books)**



# Reading together



- If you read together every day, it will help give your child a lifelong love of books and reading.
- Time spent sharing books with your child helps to create a special bond between you.
- You can enjoy books together anywhere and anytime.
- Sharing a bedtime story is a great way to end the day.

# Getting started



- Once you have read your book together, go back and talk about what you can both see on the pages.
- Encourage your child to join in with the story. Ask them questions like 'What do you think will happen next?' and 'What can you see on this page?'
- Give your child plenty of time to answer your questions. It takes them longer to work things out, so try not to rush them.
- Make sure your child has books to enjoy, alongside their toys and games. Then they can look at a book whenever they feel like it.



# The book in your Bookstart pack

Now that you have a new book to read with your child, these useful tips will help you make the most of it. To begin with, read your new book slowly so your child can hear the words clearly. It's how they learn to talk and listen, which will help them to learn and make friends as they grow up.

When your child becomes more confident you can add in different voices and noises and speed up the pace when the story gets exciting. The most important thing is to have fun together!

## Little World: Jungle Journey

Illustrated by Allison Black

Published by Ladybird Books

- Have fun looking through the book together and following the characters through the jungle
- Give your child plenty of time to explore the book, feel the pages and play with the tabs and sliders
- Ask your child to see what different things they can spot on each page
- You could talk about the different animals they can see and try making the animals' noises!



**Enjoy your book pack! The Booktrust Team**

# Using your new finger puppet

There are lots of great ways to have fun with finger puppets. Your child will love it if you use them to bring their favourite book to life or to tell your own stories.

There are no right or wrong ways to enjoy playing with puppets, but here are a few ideas to get you started!

## Getting to know your puppet:

- It is a good idea to introduce your puppet slowly. Make the puppet look away or downwards until your child is happy to play.
- Gently move your puppet to look at your child when they speak to it. This shows them that the puppet is responding to them.



## Puppet play:

- Puppets can help children to open up and join in. Let your child get to know the puppet by making it dance.
- You could make your puppet sing a song! Or you could tickle your child with the puppet and watch them smile and giggle.

### Reading along:

- Help your child to follow where you are in a book by using a puppet to read along with you. Point the puppet at the word you are reading and use it to turn the page.
- Reading the story in a made-up puppet voice will add to the fun! It doesn't matter what it sounds like as long as it is a bit different from your own.



### Pretend play:



- Try giving your puppet its own personality and asking what it thinks about everyday things. This will help your child to learn about other people's feelings and ideas.
- If your child is able to, they can wear the puppet and use it to turn the pages. Give them lots of time to join in and use their imaginations!

## Acting out the story:

- Using a puppet to act out a story can help your child to understand what's going on and learn how to pretend play. Pick a character from your book and use the puppet to show what they are doing.
- The puppet can talk to your child about its friends in the book and how each character is different. The more you make the puppet behave, move or speak like the character in a story, the more your child will enjoy it!



## Making up your own story:

- You don't have to read stories from a book. You can make up your own by asking simple story questions like:
  - Who shall be in our story?
  - Where are they?
  - What happens in our story?
- This will help your child join in with the story and develop their speaking and listening skills.



# Accessible booklist

This list offers a number of wonderful books for young children. From chunky board books to touch and feel fun, to rhyming stories and beautiful picture books, there is something for everyone.

## Amazing

by Steve Antony

Hachette Children's Group

ISBN: 9781444944716

A delightful story of a young boy and his pet dragon Zibbo, and all the fun things they do together, from dancing to playing hide-and-seek with friends. A sweet and funny tale of friendship and being yourself.

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## Let's Go Home, Baby Tiger

by Caroline Buzio

Nosy Crow

ISBN: 9781839947261

Have fun moving the counter around each page and looking for the different animals and plants to spot in the illustrations, supporting observation skills and practicing fine motor skills. You could also talk about the different animals found in the book and what makes them special.





## Elmer's Friends

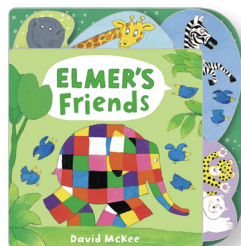
by David McKee

Andersen Press

ISBN: 9781783446070

A colourful board book in which the ever-popular Elmer the Elephant praises each of his friends for their different strengths. An ideal starting point for talking about individuality.

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## Boris Babysits

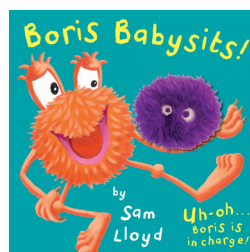
by Sam Lloyd

Templar Publishing

ISBN: 9781783704156

Boris, a friendly orange monster, is babysitting their younger sibling, and needs your help! With an actual fluffy monster baby to move around the pages, readers can interact with the story and help Boris give the baby a bath and tuck her into bed.

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## Max the Champion

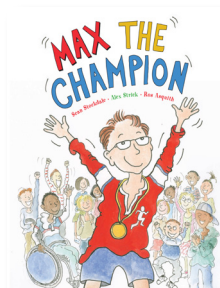
by Sean Stockdale and Alex Strick

Illustrated by Ros Asquith

Frances Lincoln

ISBN: 9781847805195

Join sports-mad Max and his friends for a day. Max uses his imagination to transform seemingly everyday activities into a series of great sporting events. A lively, fun and inclusive book with lots of tiny details to find and talk about.



## The Wheels on the Bus

by Yu-hsuan Huang

Nosy Crow

ISBN: 9781788007559

A delightful slider board book which features the familiar children's nursery rhyme 'The wheels on the bus'. Children will enjoy moving the tabs on each page whilst singing along to this popular rhyme. Scan the QR code inside the front cover for your little ones to listen and sing along!



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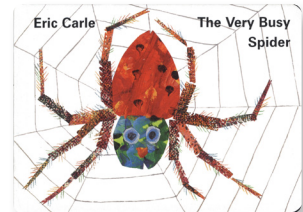
## The Very Busy Spider

by Eric Carle

Puffin Books

ISBN: 97802411359076

This board book is a classic in which you can feel the raised thread on each page as the spider gradually creates her beautiful tactile web.



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## Hello, Frog

by Isabel Otter and Sophie Ledesma

Little Tiger Press

ISBN: 9781838913175

Join Frog on a jungle journey and say hello to lots of friendly creatures along the way in this bright and interactive board book full of touch-and-feel elements, peek-through holes and flaps to lift up and look under.



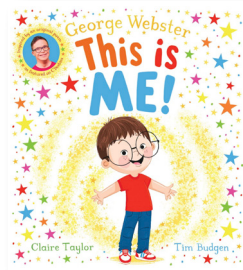
## This is Me

by George Webster, Claire Taylor and Tim Budgen

Scholastic Children's Books

ISBN: 9780702319143

Meet George and his friends and family in this inclusive story about celebrating differences and enjoying everyday experiences.



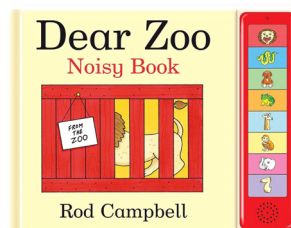
## Dear Zoo Noisy Book

by Rod Campbell

Macmillan Children's Books

ISBN: 9780230757653

A great play along version of the book lets you bring the story to life! Hear the lion roar and the puppy bark! Lots of fun for you and your child.



We hope you have fun reading these books together. There are many others to discover with your child at: [booktrust.org.uk/bookfinder](http://booktrust.org.uk/bookfinder) and at your local library.

Bookstart Star is run by BookTrust, the UK's largest children's reading charity. We get millions of children reading. Children who read regularly are happier and healthier. This is why we work with families, supporting them to start sharing stories and books together from the earliest possible age.

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