

# EARLY CHILDHOOD READING DEVELOPMENT

## **0 - 12 Months**

- Reaches for books and attempts to hold them
  - Responds to rhythmic sounds and repetitive speech
  - Focuses on bright illustrations and high-contrast images
  - Points to pictures with adult prompting
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## **1 - 2 Years**

- Turns pages (often several at a time)
  - Identifies familiar objects in pictures when named
  - Completes sentences in familiar "nursery rhyme" books
  - Mimics the act of reading by babbling while looking at pages
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## **2 - 3 Years**

- Handles books with increased care and turns single pages
  - Identifies common signs and logos (environmental print)
  - Recites parts of favorite stories from memory
  - Understand that text is read from left to right
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## **3 - 4 Years**

- Recognizes and names some uppercase letters
  - Understands the difference between words and pictures
  - Begins to recognize their own written name
  - Shows awareness of rhyming words and alliteration
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## **5 - 6 Years**

- Matches spoken words to written words (tracking)
- Blends sounds together to read simple CVC words (e.g., cat, hop)

- Recognizes high-frequency "sight words"
  - Retells stories with a clear beginning, middle, and end
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