### Early Literacy Milestones

#### Your Child’s Milestones:
- **3-12 Months**
  - Reaches for books
  - May try to turn pages
  - Puts books in mouth
  - Loves pictures of faces and simple, familiar images
  - Sits in your lap, head steady

- **12-18 Months**
  - Sits without support
  - Holds book with help
  - Turns board pages
  - Points at pictures with one finger
  - May identify pictures when you ask “Where’s the…?”

- **18-24 Months**
  - Turns board pages easily, one at a time
  - Names familiar pictures
  - Fills in words in familiar stories
  - Attention span may be short or long

- **24-36 Months**
  - Flips back and forth to find favorite pages in books
  - Recites whole phrases
  - Understands text and pictures are connected

- **3 Years and Up**
  - Turns paper pages one at a time
  - Listens to longer stories
  - Retells familiar stories
  - Moves finger along text
  - Starts to recognize letters

#### What You Can Do:
- **3-12 Months**
  - Find a quiet place to read
  - Follow baby’s cues for “more” and “stop”
  - Point and name pictures
  - Allow baby to play with books

- **12-18 Months**
  - Respond to child’s non-verbal requests to read (handing you a book)
  - Be patient with child’s short attention span—read for short periods of time
  - Ask questions about books and name the pictures

- **18-24 Months**
  - Relate books to child’s life
  - Use books in routines, such as bedtime
  - Ask “what’s that?” and give child time to answer
  - Pause and let child complete the sentence

- **24-36 Months**
  - Read favorite stories over and over
  - Ask “what’s happening?”
  - Provide crayons and paper for scribbling and drawing
  - Have fun! Make different voices together

- **3 Years and Up**
  - Let child tell the story in her words
  - Ask “what’s happening?”
  - Let child choose the book
  - Encourage writing and drawing

#### Books to Try:
- **3-12 Months**
  - **Clap Hands**, Helen Oxenbury
  - **Global Babies**, Global Fund for Children
  - **I Like Vegetables: a touch-and-feel board book**, Lorena Siminovich
  - **White on Black**, Tana Hoban

- **12-18 Months**
  - **Counting Kisses**, Karen Katz
  - **Goodnight Moon**, Margaret Wise Brown
  - **Peek-a-Who**, Nina Laden
  - **This Little Chick**, John Lawrence
  - **Where’s Spot**, Eric Hill

- **18-24 Months**
  - **Are You a Cow?** Sandra Boynton
  - **Freight Train**, Donald Crews
  - **I Went Walking**, Sue Williams
  - **Where is the Green Sheep?**, Mem Fox and Judy Horacek
  - **You are My I Love You**, Maryann K. Cusimano

- **24-36 Months**
  - **How Do Dinosaurs Say Goodnight?**, Jane Yolen
  - **I Ain’t Gonna Paint No More**, Karen Beaumont
  - **Little Blue Truck**, Alice Schertle
  - **Ten, Nine, Eight**, Molly Bang

- **3 Years and Up**
  - **Chicka Chicka Boom Boom**, Bill Martin, Jr. and John Archambault
  - **Llama Llama Red Pajama**, Anna Dewdney
  - **My Very First Mother Goose**, edited by Iona Opie
  - **Press Here**, Hervé Tullet

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