



TALKING TO AND WITH CHILDREN FROM BIRTH IS ESSENTIAL TO LEARNING TO READ.

Human beings learn language at a very early age by listening to others speak and then practicing these words themselves. This “give and take” is fundamental to early literacy development and, specifically, learning to read. More children in Mississippi need to receive this oral stimulation early. TALK from the START! is a statewide campaign to raise awareness and boost the early language development of our youngest Mississippians.

Rocky says...

These are my favorite books!



talkfromthestart.org

ROCKY'S FAVORITE BOOKS FOR AGES BIRTH - 1 YEAR+

- We're Going on a Bear Hunt** by Michael Rosen & Helen Oxbury
- Ten Little Fingers and Ten Little Toes** by Mem Fox
- The Little Blue Truck** by Alice Schertle
- Where's Spot?** by Eric Hill
- Please, Baby, Please** by Spike Lee
- The Runaway Bunny** by Margaret Wise Brown
- Brown Bear, Brown Bear** by Bill Martin Jr. & Eric Carle
- Moo, Baa, La La La!** by Sandra Boynton
- Good Night, Gorilla** by Peggy Rathmann
- Chicka Chicka Boom Boom** by Bill Martin Jr. & John Archambault

ROCKY'S FAVORITE BOOKS FOR AGES 2-3 YEARS+

- The Very Hungry Caterpillar** by Eric Carle
- Goodnight Moon** by Margaret Wise Brown
- It's Ok to Be Different** by Todd Parr
- The Snowy Day** by Ezra Jack Keats
- Green Eggs and Ham** by Dr. Seuss
- Cars and Trucks and Things That Go** by Richard Scarry
- If You Give a Mouse a Cookie** by Laura Joffe Numeroff
- Frog and Toad** by Arnold Lobel
- The Mitten** by Jan Brett
- Llama Llama Red Pajama** by Anna Dewdney

ROCKY'S FAVORITE BOOKS FOR AGES 4-5 YEARS+

- Caps for Sale** by Esphyr Slobodkina
- Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus** by Mo Willems
- Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day** by Judith Viorst
- Stellaluna** by Janell Cannon
- The Gruffalo** by Julia Donaldson
- Curious George** by H.A. & Margaret Rey
- The Little Engine That Could** by Watty Piper
- Where the Wild Things Are** by Maurice Sendak
- Chrysanthemum** by Kevin Henkes
- The Maggie B.** by Irene Haas

ROCKY'S FAVORITE BOOKS FOR FIRST GRADE

Strega Nona by Tomi dePaola
Mae Among the Stars by Roda Ahmen & Stasia Burrington
Giraffes Can't Dance by Giles Andreae & Guy Parker-Rees
At the Same Moment Around the World by Clotilde Perrin
One Grain of Rice by Demi
Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs by Judi Barrett & Ronald Barrett
Thunder Cakes by Patricia Polacco
Tar Beach by Faith Ringold
Hi! Fly Guy by Tedd Arnold
The Big Honey Hunt by Stan & Jan Berenstain

ROCKY'S FAVORITE BOOKS FOR SECOND GRADE

Flat Stanley by Jeff Brown
Duck for President by Doreen Cronin & Betsy Lewin
Mercy Watson by Kate DiCamillo
Dog Man by Dav Pilkey
Martin's Big Words: The Life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. by Doreen Rappaport
Dinosaurs Before Dark by Mary Pope Osborne
Moses Goes to a Concert by Isaac Millman
Rosie Revere, Engineer by Andrea Beaty
Jumanji by Chris Van Allsberg
My Father's Dragon by Ruth Stiles Gannett & Ruth Crisman Gannett

ROCKY'S FAVORITE BOOKS FOR THIRD GRADE

Cam Jansen and the Mystery of the Babe Ruth Baseball by David Adler
The Paperboy by Dav Pilkey
Sideways Stories from Wayside School by Louis Sachar
The Magic School Bus Inside Ralphie by Beth Nadler
Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing by Judy Blume
Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone by J.K. Rowling
The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate
Charlotte's Web by EB White
Stargazers by Gail Gibbons
The Boxcar Children by Gertrude Chandler Warner

Quality interactions—talking, singing, playing, reading—with a young child sets them up for literacy success.

TALKING from the START is everyone's responsibility!



Young children need to hear about 21,000 words per day for optimal language development.

When adults talk purposefully with children, children develop larger vocabularies.

talkfromthestart.org

FOUNDING PARTNERS



The mission of MCM is to provide unparalleled experiences that ignite a thirst for discovery, knowledge, and learning in all children.

The museum accomplishes this mission through hands-on and engaging exhibits and programs focusing on literacy, the arts, science, health and nutrition—the keys to helping our children mature into healthy and productive adult learners.

WWW.MSCHILDRENSMUSEUM.ORG



The Barksdale Reading Institute works to improve the overall quality of public education in Mississippi through strategic literacy initiatives and providing professional development to teachers and administrators.

BRI was founded in 2000 by Jim and Sally Barksdale, who, after researching the state of education in America, became convinced that reading is the most fundamental skill that every child must master in order to become successful.

WWW.MSREADS.ORG