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You are Invited

January 2010

Book List for Babies

Discover librarian-recommended books

Early literacy includes all the reading and writing skills that are developed before a child learns how to formally read and write. Books play a central role in developing these important skills.

By exposing children, even as early as infancy, to reading, letters and stories, families can ensure children grow up with a strong interest in reading and learning.

Listed below are age-appropriate books that are perfect for children to read or to have read to them. Visit your local library to checkout these recommended titles.



Books for Babies

- [All of Baby Nose to Toes](#) by Victoria Adler
- [My Mother is Mine](#) by Marion Dane Bauer
- [Baby Baby](#) by Vicky Ceelen

Books for Toddlers

- [Not All Animals are Blue](#) by Béatrice Boutignon
- [Machines Go To Work](#) by William Low
- [What Is This?](#) By Antje Damm
- [Hello Baby](#) by Mem Fox

[Read More](#)

This book list was developed by Susan Anderson-Newham and Alison Pascone of [Pierce County Library](#), a member of the [Early Learning Public Library Partnership](#).

Baby Photo Contest on the ELC



Submit a photo or vote today!

Foundation for Early Learning is excited to announce the [Winter 2010 Baby Photo Contest!](#) You can participate by uploading a photo that you took of your little one.



The photo that receives the highest rating from the largest number of members on the [Early Learning Community](#) will win a \$25 Starbucks gift card, [new born baby gift](#) and will be [featured on the homepage](#) of the Early Learning Community.

[Voting ends 2/28](#)

How to Participate

1. Submit a photo on the [Early Learning Community](#) by uploading a baby photo and adding the tag of "contest#10"
2. [Invite your friends](#) to vote on their favorite photos in the [contest album](#)
3. [Rate your favorite photos](#)
4. Tell others about this event by posting on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)

To learn more about this photo contest, visit www.EarlyLearningCommunity.org

Stages of Play from Playbright

Information provided by Children's Home Society of Washington

As children grow, they progress through very distinct stages of play. Babies are interested in people and their surroundings primarily as a means to develop their senses, gain control over their bodies and to begin to understand how to interact with people. In this first stage of play, they will enjoy playing alone, constantly engaged in exploring and discovering the world and will focus on gathering and storing information they will use in the future.



Parallel play, begins to evolve as children reach their second

birthday. Up to this stage they have focused on learning how to control their bodies and enjoy interacting with people and objects...

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This article is from the PlayBright® Early Learning System, an educational program both parents and educators that combines early child development research with fun, interactive play experiences to promote healthy brain development in young children. Published by [Children's Home Society of Washington](#).

Culture for Kids: Seattle Area Rich in Opportunities

A guest article from our partner [Sponge](#)

We live in a culturally-diverse city, where heritage and differences are honored and valued. But how do we make the most out of what we have? Integrating language and culture into our children's lives helps them connect to others, both in their own community and also in the greater world.

In a recent panel discussion hosted by [Sponge](#), local experts shared their thoughts on a topic they are passionate about--culture for kids. The discussion repeatedly emphasized the importance of parents and caregivers. When children see their parents and caregivers interested in other languages and cultures, they are more likely to share this interest, especially if they are getting additional exposure in school or in the community.

So, as a parent, what can you do? Here are some of the panelists' tips...

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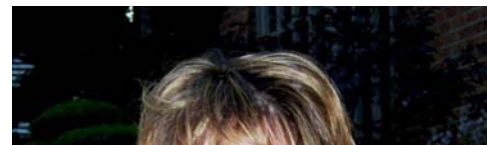
This article is from Taryn Zier, a staff member at [Sponge](#), a provider of language education offering Mandarin, Spanish, French and Japanese classes for children throughout the Seattle area.

Creating a Safety Plan for the New Year

A guest article from our partner [POMWA](#)

What's important

Create a list of the important concerns you



have for your family. Consider both current concerns (My child is not good about checking in with a safe grown up) and also future concerns (my child will be taking the school bus in the fall).



Begin addressing the current concerns and start a plan of action for future concerns. Start planning and practicing how you want to approach them with your child. Our motto is "Be prepared, not scared" and never use scare tactics when talking about safety with your child...

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This article is from Kim Estes of [P.E.A.C.E of Mind-Parent Education And Child Empowerment](#). If you are interested in being featured in the Foundation's blog, please contact Joel Ballezza, Communications Manager at joel@earlylearning.org.

Brain Buster: Bones in the Body

Adults have 206 bones in their body, how many are babies born with?

You can vote on which answer you think is the correct one by visiting the [Early Learning Community](#).

[Click here to find the answer!](#)

Adults have 206 bones in their body, how many are babies born with?

206
 139
 159
 300
 215

[View Results](#)
PollDaddy.com

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Have news or information that you would like to share with the community? Email us at info@earlylearning.org for the opportunity to be featured in our newsletters and publications.

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