
THE BASICS: BOOKS FOR LITTLE ONES

Science shows that 80% of brain growth happens by age three! Young brains develop like little muscles. They get stronger as you interact with your child and help them explore the world. The Basics Principles are five fun, simple, and powerful ways to help all our children aged 0-5 grow to be happy and smart.

It's never too early to start reading with your child! Even infants will enjoy touching and looking at the pictures in books. Try the books below or ask a librarian for recommendations. For more information on The Basics Principles, as well as tips for reading with little ones, visit TheBasics.org.



Booklist for Basic 1: Maximize Love, Manage Stress

A Kiss Means I Love You by Kathryn Madeline Allen
After the Fall: How Humpty Dumpty Got Back up Again
by Dan Santat
Bedtime for Sweet Creatures by Nikki Grimes
Drawn Together by Minh Lê
If You're Happy and You Know It by Jane Cabrera
It Was Supposed to Be Sunny by Samantha Cotterill
Kiss by Kiss: A Counting Book for Families by Richard Van Camp
Making Faces: A First Book of Emotions
My Heart Fills With Happiness by Monique Gray Smith
Saturday by Oge Mora
The Many Colors of Harpreet Singh by Supriya Kelkar



Booklist for Basic 2: Talk, Sing and Point

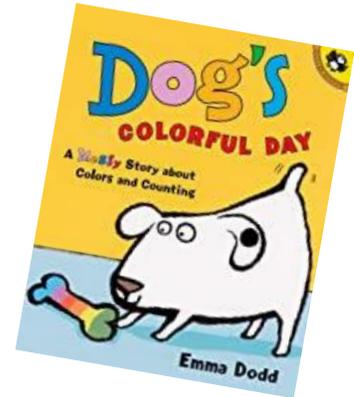
Baby Talk by Stella Blackstone
Bear & Hare: Where's Bear? by Emily Gravett
Bee-Bim Bop! by Linda Sue Park
Chicka Chicka Boom Boom by Bill Martin, Jr.
Choo Choo, Choo Choo by Petr Horáček
Daniel's Good Day by Micha Archer
It Looked Like Spilt Milk by Charles Green Shaw
Say Hello! by Rachel Isadora
Show Me Your Day by J. A. Barnes
Truck by Donald Crews



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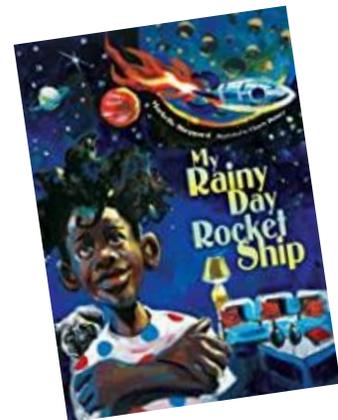
Booklist for Basic 3: Count, Group, and Compare

Circle! Sphere! by Grace Lin
City Shapes by Diana Murray
Dog's Colorful Day: A Messy Story About Colors and Counting by Emma Dodd
Golden Domes and Silver Lanterns: A Muslim Book of Colors by Hena Khan
Green Is A Chile Pepper: A Book of Colors by Roseanne Thong
Opposites by Sandra Boynton
Over in the Meadow by Jane Cabrera
This Jazz Man by Karen Ehrhardt
Where is the Green Sheep by Mem Fox



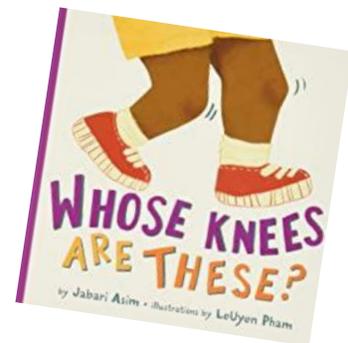
Booklist for Basic 4: Explore Through Movement and Play

Baby Play by Skye Silver
Dancing Feet! by Lindsey Craig
Dreaming Up: A Celebration of Building by Christy Hale
Kids Like Us by Carole Lexa Schaefer
My Friend Maya Loves to Dance by Cheryl Willis Hudson
My Rainy Day Rocket Ship by Markette Sheppard
Press Here by Hervé Tullet
Stretch by Doreen Cronin
We All Play - Kimêtawânaw by Julie Flett



Booklist for Basic 5: Read and Discuss Stories

Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? by Bill Martin
Llama Llama, Red Pajama by Anna Dewdney
Lola at the Library by Anna McQuinn
Maggie and Michael Get Dressed by Denise Fleming
Not A Box by Antoinette Portis
The Feelings Book by Todd Parr
We Are Family by Patricia Hegarty
Whose Knees Are These? by Jabari Asim



Book images source: Amazon.com



Thank you to Boston Public Library (BPL) for support in creating these booklists. Click [here](#) to view all five lists on BPL's website.