Talk With Your Baby
Robinson Community Learning Center

Holiday Reading Tips

1. Start a holiday reading tradition with your little one by reading a story about the holiday that you can continue to read around the same time every year; they may not remember now, but it will be special for both of you as they get older.

2. Dedicate a day out of the busy holiday season as “Baby Day”—read with them, speak to them, take them on walks, and let them experiment the holiday through your eyes.

3. Remember to choose age-appropriate books for your little one—check out the “Book Spotlight” for ideas!

4. Cooking together is fun during the holidays and provides an opportunity for children to see reading in action. Try reading them ingredients and handing them the food to touch and feel while you tell them what it is and why you need it.

5. Instead of picking up a book, tell them your favorite holiday stories with relatives and friends.

Books Spotlight

Happy Holidays to you and yours!

Brr, it’s getting cold outside! Time to snuggle up your little one and read a book. The Weather Channel is predicting the coldest time of the month to be the days leading up to the New Year. Whatever holiday you celebrate, make sure your child is bundled up when they’re out for a walk or shopping with you. Heavy jackets are a necessity outside, but remember to take them off when strapping your child into a car seat. Although you might think you’re strapping them in tightly over a large jacket, it’s actually dangerously loose.

Read more at: www.kidsandcars.org

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Facilitators, mark those calendars!

**Holiday Lunch and Learn**  
December 19th  
11:30am-1:00pm  
Speaker: Dr. Susan Latham  
Topic: Early Literacy and Language Development

**Yummy!**  
Pretend Lasagna – Highlights High Five

- 24oz pasta sauce  
- 10oz package of ravioli thawed  
- 1 cup shredded mozzarella cheese  
- Vegetables (spinach, diced bell peppers, sliced mushrooms)  
- Dried parsley flakes

Spoon a thin layer of pasta sauce on the bottom of a baking dish. Place a layer of ravioli on top of the sauce. Sprinkle cheese over the ravioli and add a layer of vegetables. Continue layering the sauce, cheese, and vegetables until all the ingredients are used. Over the final layer add a sprinkle of parsley flakes. Cover the dish with foil and back for 30-35 minutes at 350F.

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**Research**

**Quantity Is Key**

Children’s vocabularies vary greatly by the time they enter preschool. The quantity of linguistic input from a parent or guardian early in development is an important determinant in vocabulary size; the more words children 0-3 years of age hear the larger their subsequent vocabularies will be.

Source:  
https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3710871/

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**Kids’ Corner**

**Q-tip Snowman from MessforLess.net**

**Materials:**  
White, black, and orange tempera paint, tray, 3 q-tips, 3 different sized cups, 12x18 blue construction paper

Use the rim of the cups to make the outline for the snowman and use q-tips to fill in the circles and paint the snow bank. Add the face using the black and orange paint.

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For more information, contact TWYB coordinator Kris Arizmendi at karizmen@nd.edu. Like us on Facebook at facebook.com/talkwithyourbaby.