

EARLY LITERACY TIPS FOR PARENTS

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10 Ways Babies Learn When we Sing to Them

1. **Bonding** – When you sing to your baby, they bond with you and your voice. Singing makes yours the first and most important voice in her life.
2. **Transitions** – Babies feel safe when life is predictable. A song for waking up, sleeping, and other routine transitions and activities helps them know what comes next.
3. **Language** – Language is in itself musical, and when you sing and speak, your baby learns about words, language, and communication. Through your singing, baby's language comprehension begins.
4. **New words** – While you sing and hold your baby, you introduce new vocabulary. When you hold up a stuffed dog as you sing about a dog, baby learns to associate the name of that toy with the words you sing. When you sing about parts of the body and kiss your baby's feet or tickle his tummy, he learns new words.
5. **Rhythm and rhyme** – Music includes rhythm and rhyme, again, part of our language. In time, babies will recognize rhymes and rhythms.
6. **Play** – Singing is one of many methods of play and "sing-play" is a fun way to interact with babies.
7. **Family fun** – Singing is a great way to involve older siblings in welcoming a new baby to the home. Singing to and playing with the baby builds a bond between siblings. Make singing a family activity.
8. **Singing names** – A baby can learn his name by hearing it in songs. Try substituting your baby's name for other words in songs so he hears his name sung over and over again.
9. **Listening skills** – Like reading, singing is an activity that requires listening. It's another opportunity for your baby to begin to understand language and feelings expressed through language and sing-play.
10. **LOVE** – All of the above boils down to using your singing voice as a way to express love. Babies don't care if you are a great singer. They only care that you are singing to THEM! In their eyes (and their ears), you'll be a star!



Chubby Little Snowman

The chubby little snowman
Had a carrot nose.
Along came a bunny,
And what do you suppose?
That hungry little bunny
Looking for his lunch,
Ate that little snowman's nose
Nibble, nibble, crunch!!



Ten Little Snowflakes

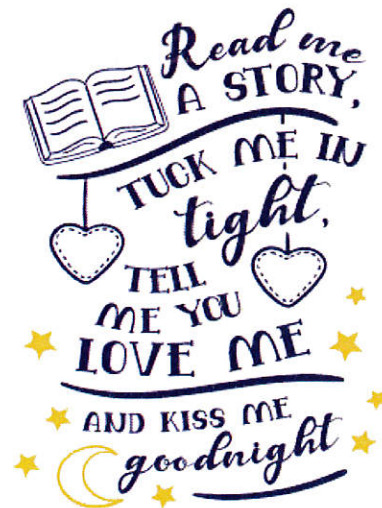
One little, two little, three little Snowflakes
Four little, five little, six little Snowflakes
Seven little, eight little, nine little Snowflakes
Ten little Snowflakes falling to the ground.



I'm a Little Snowman

(Sung to the tune of: I'm a Little Teapot)

I'm a little snowman, short & round.
Here is my scarf & here is the ground.
When the snow is falling, come out & play,
Build a snowman every day!



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