

# Book Baskets

## Primary Objectives

17a. Uses and appreciates books and other texts

## Why It's Important

Making books available in many places in the home provides opportunities to engage infants with stories throughout the day. Keeping books accessible allows your child to look at a book whenever he wants to and return to books he has enjoyed in the past.

## Materials

Small baskets of board or cloth books

## What You Do

1. Put small baskets of board and cloth books in various locations around your home. Try to put them near comfortable places for you to sit with your child and in places where he can discover them on his own.
2. For a quiet, calming activity, reach for a book after you finish feeding a bottle and while you are still holding your child. During more active periods, read a playful story or song book and point out pictures of familiar objects to your child while sitting on the floor.
3. Plan opportunities for books and reading based on your child's natural preferences. If he enjoys looking at books during quiet moments, read books before or after naps and during quieter times of the day. If he prefers to physically hold and explore books, read a story beside him and allow him to listen while you read aloud.
4. Keep him engaged by talking about what you see in the book. Encourage him to explore books whenever he appears interested.