

CONNECTING TOGETHER: READING IS MAGIC

Speaking for the Baby x SMS4dads Campaign

You can start reading with your baby soon after they are born. Books with big bright pictures will work best. Even very young babies can see some colours.

- In the first weeks they will notice bright red
- By two months they can tell bright blue, red and green apart
- At three months they can see yellow
- By six months they will know what colour things should be, for example that a strawberry will be red.
- But it is not until they are one year old that they can recognise faint colours. They will all look grey.

Reading helps both dads and babies. Dads can get the feeling of being connected with your little one on your lap while you point out the pictures.

Babies are learning about language, memory and how to understand the world.

Babies like the rhythm of words and repetition. That's why they like poetry or songs. Your baby won't mind if you fumble the words or are a little bit off key.

Let's get reading, Dad!

It's never too early to start reading to me dad. The benefits are huge for both of us.



**What big eyes
he has...**

Reading is magic!

I don't just read books Dad I try to remember them. This is how I'm learning to read and why I want good books again and again.



Here comes
the pussycat...

They like the same books or songs over and over because they can know what is coming next.

If you meet a good friend that you haven't seen for ages and you can remember their name and where you last met it creates a good feeling. For babies, remembering is also enjoyable and it is an important skill for learning.

Linking the pictures in the story to your life together will also build the pleasure for you both. "This bus is going down the hill. We saw the bus outside yesterday when you were in the pram".

Reading works best if it's a regular event, and if your voice and face change as you read. Your baby will enjoy your gruff voice, the look of surprise with your mouth open, and your smile when the rabbit or puppy finds its way home or makes a friend.

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SMS4dads 

 Centre for
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Helping you towards parenthood