



**BABIES LOVE BOOKS** is a book gifting scheme brought to you by dlr Libraries. Every child born in the county of Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown is entitled to collect their free book bag at their local library. Your public health nurse will give you an invite at your baby's 9 month check-up. Ask at your local health centre if you haven't already received your invite. **BABIES LOVE BOOKS** encourages parents and children to read together from birth. Sharing books and stories with your child has lots of wonderful benefits and it is never too early or too late to start!

## HELPFUL HINTS FOR READING TO YOUR BABY

- Choose books with brightly coloured, simple pictures and lots of rhythm in the text.
- Hold your baby in your lap so he/she can see the colourful pages of the book.
- Include books that show pictures and names of familiar objects.
- As you read with your baby, point out objects in the pictures and make sure your baby sees all the things you point to as you say each word.
- Allow your child to touch and hold books. Cloth, sturdy cardboard books and 'touch-and-feel' books are all great for babies.
- Allowing babies to handle books deepens their attachment to books and reading.
- Leave books where babies can access them themselves, perhaps in their toy area, rather than out of reach on a shelf.
- Vary the tone of your voice with different characters in the stories, sing nursery rhymes, make funny faces, do whatever special effects you can to stimulate your baby's interest.
- While reading to your baby, your child is forming an association between books and what is most loved, your voice and closeness.
- Keep the reading sessions brief but read daily and often.
- Enjoy this special one-to-one time with your baby.

In dlr Libraries membership is free and open to all. Babies can join from birth! Proof of address is all you need to join. Many dlr libraries provide weekly parent and toddler sessions for young children. All are welcome.

Look out for special events for babies, toddlers, children and parents by checking our website, following us on social media and sign up to our e-bulletin list.

## **BRANCH LIBRARIES**

**Blackrock Library** 288 8117 **Cabinteely Library** 285 5363 **Dalkey Library** 285 5277 Deansgrange Library 285 0860 dlr Lexicon 280 1147 **Dundrum Library** 298 5000 Shankill Library 282 3081 Stillorgan Library 288 9655

VISIT YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY TO BORROW BOOKS AND MUCH MORE FOR FREE!

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BABIES