Checklist for Parents of

Toddlers

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Here are some ways you can help your child "get ready to read" during the ages of 2 and 3.

- □ I read with my child every day, even if it's only for a few minutes.
- □ I encourage my child to bring his favorite books to me so that we can read together.
- □ I point to pictures and name them out loud, and encourage my child to point to pictures while we read.
- □ I watch to see if my child sometimes makes eye contact with me when I read aloud. That tells me she is paying attention to me and the story.
- □ I talk with my child throughout the day about things we are doing and things that are happening around us.
- □ I try to be patient when my child wants to read the same book over and over again.
- □ I encourage my child to "play" with books—pick them up, flip them from front to back, and turn the pages.
- Sometimes I listen when my child "pretends" to read a book—he holds the book, goes from page to page, and says words, even though they're not the words on the page.
- □ I give my child paper and crayons so she can scribble, make pictures, and pretend to write.

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