

## Why read to your baby?

- Reading builds listening, speaking and memory skills.
- Reading introduces numbers, letters, colours and shapes in a fun way.
- Studies show that if babies are read to early, they will enjoy reading and learning more, and they will do better in school.

## How to help babies love books

- It's never too early to start reading to your child, you can start with simple picture books with little or no words.
- Join your local library - **it's free!** Your library has books for children of all ages. More books results in more reading.
- Spend a little time reading with your child every day, even if it's just for a few minutes before bedtime. Use rhymes, songs and poems to encourage your child to play around with new words/sounds.
- Most of all... relax, have fun and enjoy reading with your child.

Happy Birthday  
from  
Donegal County  
Library Service

**Top Tip:**  
Join Your Local  
Library  
[www.donegallibrary.ie](http://www.donegallibrary.ie)

