



## CHOOSING BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS

### **Babies 0-6 Months**

- ❖ Books with simple, large pictures or designs with bright colors
- ❖ Stiff cardboard, chunky books, or fold out books that can be propped up for baby to see
- ❖ Cloth books with simple pictures of people or familiar objects

### **Babies 6-12 Months**

- ❖ Board books with photos of other babies from all cultures
- ❖ Brightly colored “chunky” board books to touch and taste
- ❖ Books with familiar objects like balls, basic clothing or household items
- ❖ Books with sturdy pages that can be propped up or spread out in a crib or on a blanket
- ❖ Plastic/vinyl books for bath time
- ❖ Washable cloth books to cuddle and mouth
- ❖ Soft washable photo cubes for pictures of family and friends

### **Young Toddlers 12-24 Months**

- ❖ Sturdy books that they can carry
- ❖ Books with photos of children of all cultures doing familiar things like sleeping or playing
- ❖ Goodnight books for bedtime
- ❖ Books about saying good-bye and hello
- ❖ Books with very few or no words
- ❖ Books with simple stories or repeating verse
- ❖ Touch and feel books

### **Older Toddlers 24-36 Months**

- ❖ Books that tell simple stories
- ❖ Books that honor different cultures
- ❖ Books of all shapes and sizes with pictures of animals, vehicles, or places to go
- ❖ Pop-up books, pull-tab books, touch and feel books
- ❖ Books with silly pictures and words

### **Preschoolers 3-5 Years**

- ❖ Books about children that look like them and live like them, as well as children who live different lives
- ❖ Counting or other “concept” books
- ❖ Books about how things work- like fire trucks, large construction vehicles, or tools
- ❖ Special interest books- like trains, cook books, or insects
- ❖ Books about making friends
- ❖ Books about going to school or to the doctor
- ❖ Books about families
- ❖ Simple books they can memorize and “read”

*This tip sheet on “Choosing Books” was produced by the Region IV Infant-Toddler Resource Center. For more tip sheets visit [www.cdccc.org](http://www.cdccc.org).*