

Playing with Words

Children do not learn language passively; they actually construct, or re-construct, language as they learn. Although language acquisition is based somewhat on developmental maturity, research has found that children play an active role in their acquisition of language by constructing language. They imitate the language of adults and create their own when they do not have the conventional words they need to communicate their thoughts. Children who are constantly exposed to an environment rich in language and who interact with adults using language in a social context develop more facility with oral language than children lacking these opportunities (Gaskins, 2003).

Parent Tip Parents and family members can read and reread stories with predictable texts to their children. Engage your children in conversations, provide names of things, show interest in what your child says and enjoy many opportunities for pretend play.

Other books to share with this age group

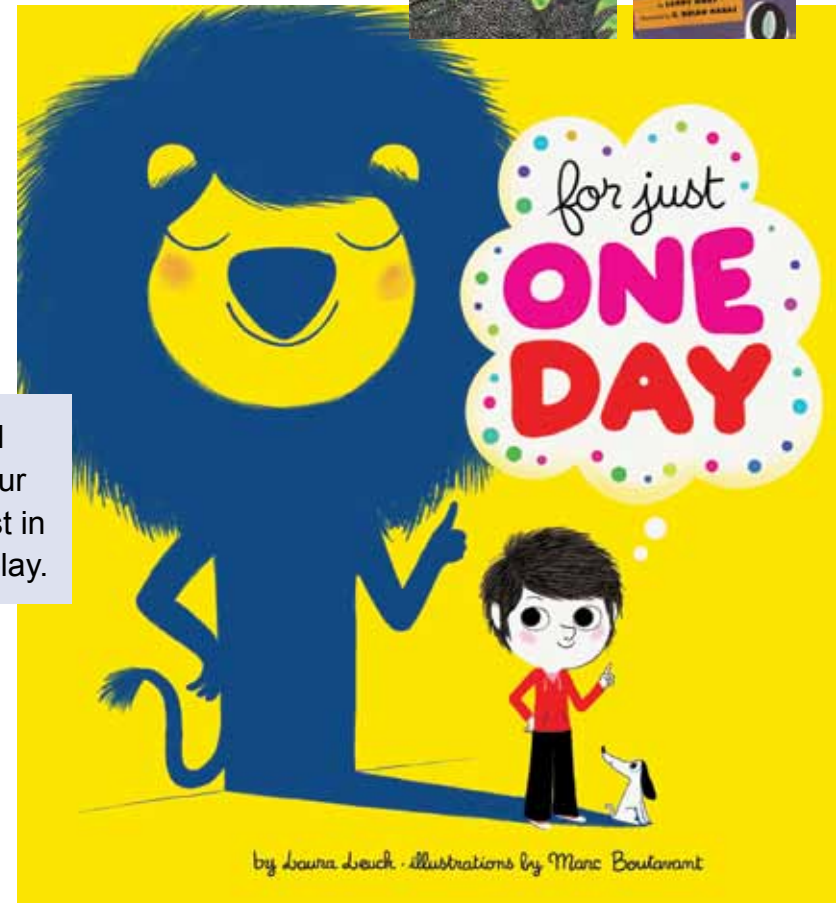
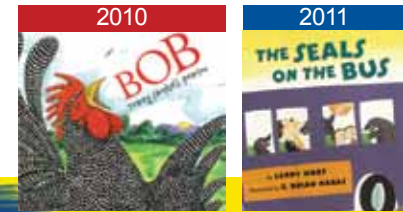
Rosie's Walk by Pat Hutchins

Is Your Mama a Llama? by Deborah Guarino

Pumpkin, Pumpkin by Jeanne Titherington

And Here's to You by David Elliott

Past 3-year Raising Readers books



RAISING READERS THROUGH THE YEAR



Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

National Book Month

	1	2	3 Child Health Day	4	5	6 Read for the Record																																																																																													
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*You may have tangible wealth untold;
Caskets of jewels and coffers of gold,
Richer than I you can never be —
I had a Mother who read to me.*

Traditional