



**Raising  
Readers™**

April 2004  
Volume 5, Issue 4

### Give the Gift of Reading

If you know an adult who would like help with reading, give him/her this number:

**800-322-5455**

It's the number for the Adult Learning Opportunities Hotline.

#### Contacts

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**www.raisingreaders.net**

# Raising Readers Update

## Every Book Counts



You call us right away when you don't get all the books you've ordered, but we'd appreciate it if you'd also let us know if you got too many. It's all part of our quality improvement efforts.

We want to get your shipment right every time but we need your help to let us know when there is a problem with your order. The average cost of a Raising Readers book is \$10, so we need to keep track of each one. Thanks!

## The Problem of Low Literacy

### Low literacy is widespread.

One in 5 adults in Maine has a hard time reading, speaking, writing, and computing in common life situations.

In the U.S. almost 50 million adults have marginal literacy skills. Most are American born and 20% have high school diplomas.

### Low literacy can lead to poverty.

Almost half of the adults with the lowest literacy skills are poor.

### Low literacy affects health.

Adults with the lowest literacy skills are:

- Five times more likely to misinterpret prescriptions.
- Hospitalized twice as often.
- Visit the doctor more often.

Learn more at our website:  
[www.raisingreaders.net](http://www.raisingreaders.net)

## What's Happening with 2 to 3 Year Olds

At this stage, toddlers are beginning to learn the structure of language. They love to talk and will insist on reading the books they want again and again!

They're forming literacy concepts:

- print is speech written down.
- printed words in a book don't change.
- stories in books have a structure that conveys meaning.

## What works when reading with toddlers?



Place books where your child can reach them.

Let your child:

- Choose books to read.
- Hear the same book over and over.
- Move around while you're reading.
- Turn pages.
- Fill in words in stories they know.
- Point to and name pictures.
- Make sounds—animal noises, trains, and silly sounds.

## 2 to 3 year olds like:

Paper pages as well as board books. Silly and funny books. Playing with language. Rhymes, rhythms, and repetitive wording.

Books about:

- Children and families.
- Making friends.
- Food, animals, trucks and big machines.