



**raising  
readers™**

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## Literacy Help for Parents

Parents who struggle with reading will often take steps to improve their own literacy so they can better support their children in learning to read.

If you know an adult who would like help with reading, pass along the Adult Learning Opportunities Hotline number: (800-322-5455).

**Get Forms 24/7**  
[raisingreaders.org/getforms](http://raisingreaders.org/getforms)

## Questions?

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# Raising Readers Update

## Maximizing Impact on Families

Looking for ways to maximize the impact of Raising Readers books on your patients? Use the language below to reinforce important reading messages and to help parents understand how reading aloud helps support their child's healthy development.

### New 9-month title: **Head, Shoulders, Knees & Toes**



### Advice for Parents

Books that can be sung aloud are some of the best tools to teach young toddlers that books can be fun and active. Dancing to a tune sung aloud from a book, young toddlers will enjoy hearing the story again and again. And that's a good thing because eventually your child will sing the story to you! Memorizing and reciting short stories as a preschooler is an important pre-reading skill that can be nurtured early on in young toddlers by reading (and singing) repetitive, rhythmic stories such as **Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes**.

### New 2-year title: **Cows in the Kitchen**



### Advice for Parents

By offering reading opportunities throughout the day, children can visit the same books or activities again and again, thereby becoming comfortable with text and understanding some of its characteristics. Encourage children to mimic your retelling of a story and to use a variety of sounds or voices for the storybook characters. Everyone will have fun and early literacy skills will be built. Check out the activities page printed in the back of the book for ideas on making reading aloud fun for the entire family.

*Source: 2008 Maine Early Care & Education Literacy Calendar – a collaboration of Maine Roads to Quality and Raising Readers*

## Bonus: Activities Printed in Several New Titles

A reminder that literacy-related activities have been printed in the back of **Cows in the Kitchen** (2 years), **One Duck Stuck** (3 years) and **Bear Snores On** (4 years). The activities are designed to make reading together fun for the entire family and to show parents additional ways to explore books with their children. The activities are another great way to maximize the impact of the book in homes. Point them out to parents when giving any of these books and encourage them to try them with their children.