



*Art by Claudia Pletting*

# 1000 BOOKS

**BEFORE KINDERGARTEN**  
**JASPER COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY**

**BOOKS 401-500**

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**AUTHOR**

**DATE**

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**Tip #23:** Slip fun things to read into your pocket to bring home: a comic strip from the paper, a greeting card or even a fortune cookie from lunch. Create a special, shared moment your child can look forward to every day.

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**DATE**

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**Tip #24:** When your child asks to stay up a little longer, say yes and make it a 15-minute family reading opportunity.

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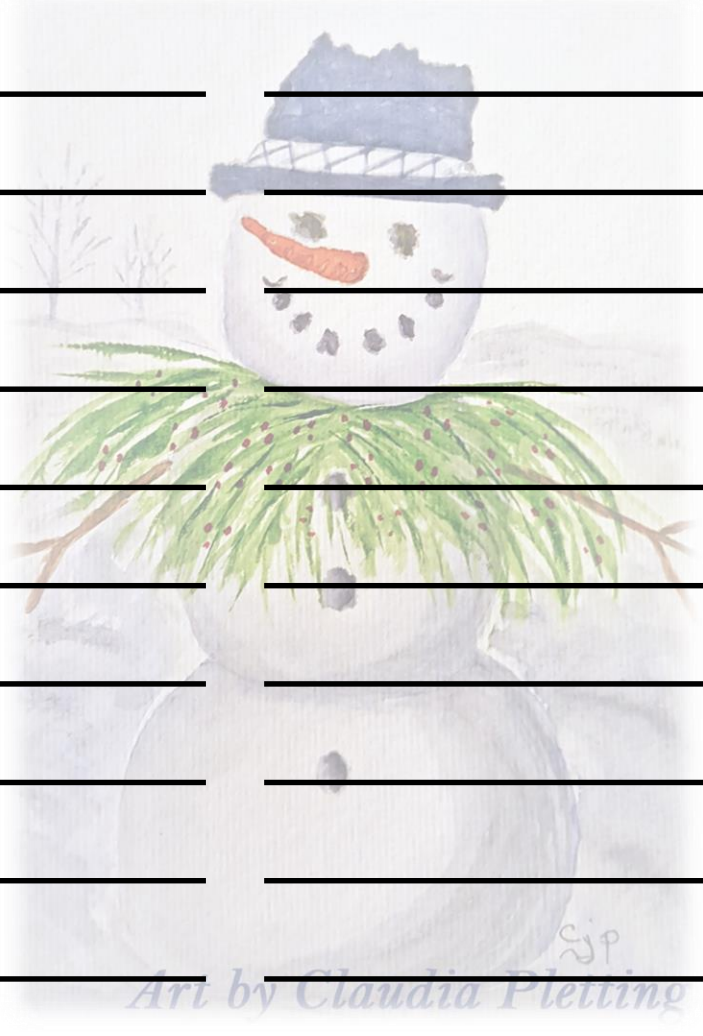
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**Tip #25:** Toddlers need to move, so don't worry if they act out stories or just skip, romp, or tumble as you read to them. They may be moving, but they are listening.

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**Tip #26:** Choose books about everyday experiences and feelings. Your child will identify with the characters as they dress, eat, visit, nap, and play.

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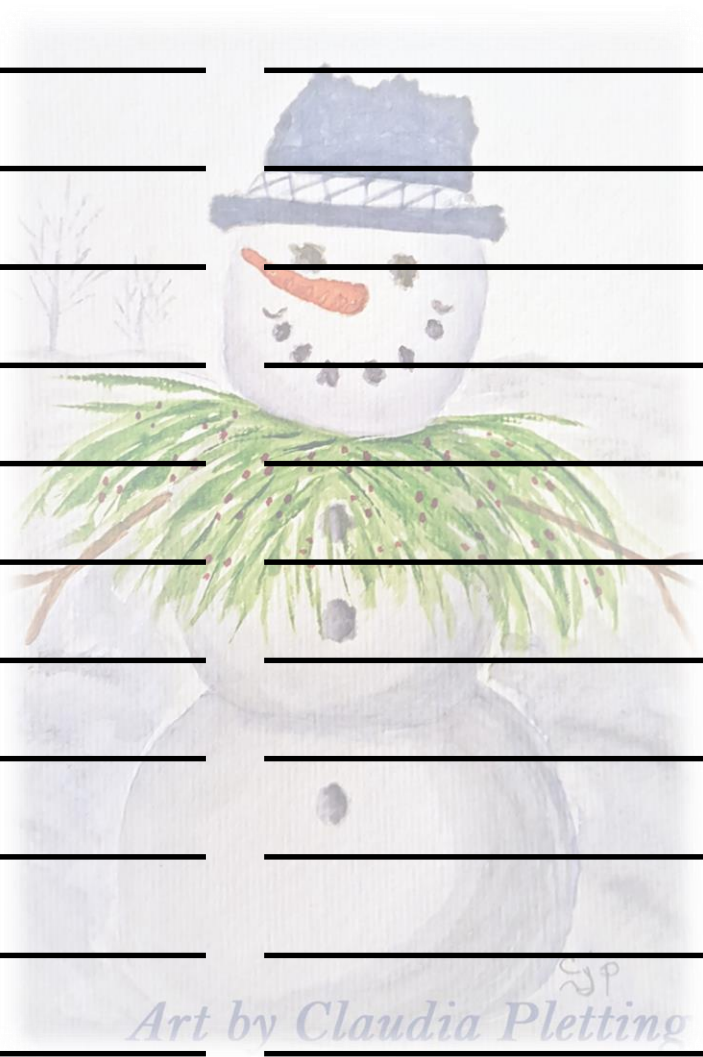
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**Tip #27:** Try a different story or a different time during the day. Reading with a very young child is primarily about building positive experiences with books, not finishing every book you start.

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**Tip #28:** Seek out books about things your toddler especially likes — trains, animals, the moon. These books may extend a toddler's attention span and build enthusiasm for reading.

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**MY FAVORITE BOOK:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

**YOU'RE HALFWAY THERE!**

**DON'T FORGET TO COME IN AND  
COLLECT YOUR PRIZE!**

# 1000 BOOKS

**BEFORE KINDERGARTEN**  
**JASPER COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY**

## READING



### What Is It?

Reading is one of the five early literacy practices to help parents work on the skills that children need to have. Reading together, or shared reading, remains the most single effective way to help children become proficient readers.

### Why is Reading Important?

- No matter what your child's age, reading together with your child—or shared reading—is the single most important activity that you can do to help your child get ready to read.
- Shared reading is valuable because your child has your full attention, and you are enjoying the experience together.
- Shared reading develops a love of reading and an appreciation of books. Children who enjoy being read to are more likely to want to learn to read themselves.
- A child's interest in reading is an important predictor of later reading achievement.

### How Does Reading Together and Talking About What We Read Make a Difference?

- This experience increases children's vocabulary and background knowledge.
- It helps children learn how books work and how written language looks.
- Children can begin to understand how stories are organized—that they have a beginning, middle, and end.
- Reading together and talking about what you read encourages imaginative thinking.





*Art by Max Crawford*

# 1000 BOOKS

**BEFORE KINDERGARTEN**  
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**BOOKS 501-600**

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**Tip #29:** When you hold your baby close and look at a book together, your baby will enjoy the snuggling and hearing your voice as well as the story. Feeling safe and secure with you while looking at a book builds your baby's confidence and love of reading.

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**Tip #30:** Tell your child how much you enjoy reading with him. Talk about "storytime" as the favorite part of your day.

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**Tip #31:** Read to your child with humor and expression. Use different voices. Ham it up!

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Art by Mar Crazufo

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**Tip #32:** Books with bright and bold or high-contrast illustrations are easier for young babies to see, and will grab their attention. Books made of cloth, soft plastic, or "board books" with sturdy cardboard pages are easier for a baby to handle.

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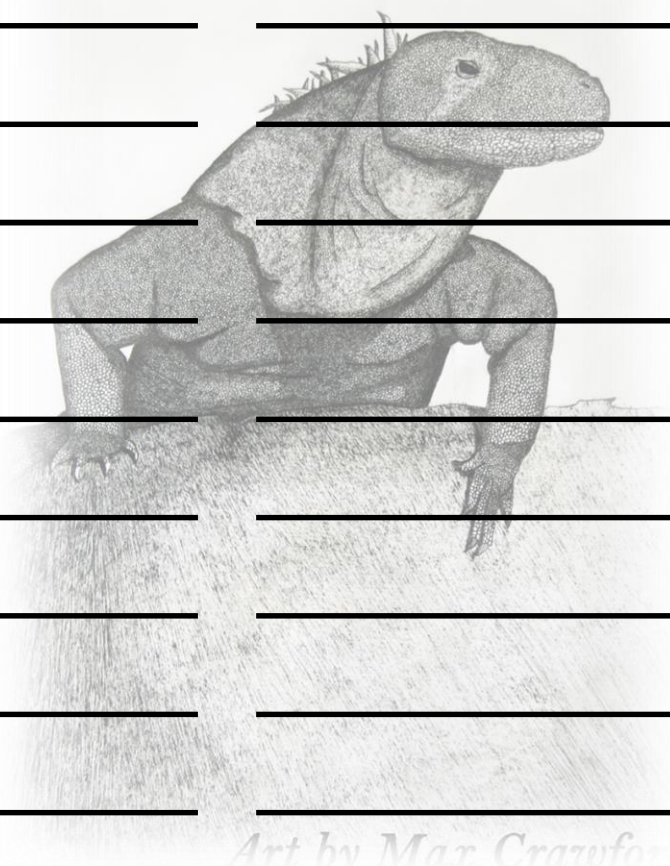
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*Art by Max Crawford*



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**Tip #33:** Describe the weather or which apples you are choosing at the grocery. Talk about the pictures in a book or things you see on a walk. Ask questions. By listening, your child learns words, ideas, and how language works.

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**Tip #34:** Mention to your child how we read from left to right and how words are separated by spaces.

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**MY FAVORITE BOOK:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Art by Max Crawford*

**DON'T FORGET TO COME IN AND  
COLLECT YOUR COMPLETION STICKER!**

# 1000 BOOKS

**BEFORE KINDERGARTEN**  
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*Art by Linda Kozyra*

## WRITING

### What Is It?

Writing is one of the five early literacy practices to help parents work on the skills that children need to have. Writing and reading go together. Writing helps children learn that letters and words stand for sounds and that print has meaning.

### Why is Writing Important?

- Reading and writing go together. Both are ways to represent spoken words and to communicate information or tell stories.
- Children become aware that printed letters stand for spoken words as they see print used in their daily lives. They see parents read newspapers, food labels, and mail. They watch caregivers write lists, jot down reminders, or make notes on a calendar.
- One of the first words children write is their name. This usually begins as scribbling. As children learn letter names and improve their motor skills, they begin to form the letters of their names. As children scribble and draw, they practice eye-hand coordination and exercise the muscles in their fingers and hands. This helps develop the fine motor control they need to write letters and words.

### What Can You Do?

- Encourage your children to “sign” their name on their drawings. Even if this begins as a scribble, children learn that they can write something that represents their name. Later your child will write the initials of her first and last name and then complete the name.
- Ask your child to label parts of a drawing. This also helps children understand that letters and words stand for things.
- Give your child plenty of opportunities to draw and write. Talk to your child about what he draws, ask questions, and responds to what he says, or make up a story to go with the drawing.
- Children develop a knowledge of the purpose and meaning of reading through writing.