Color an owl for every book you read!

Earn a prize for every 100 books read! For prizes, call the library or email growingreaders@albanypubliclibrary.org

Staff initials  Albany Public Library

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Baby (0-12 months): As you introduce your baby to simple short words like “cup,” “bowl,” or “spoon,” hold up each object to show that it’s related to your speech. Say rhymes about food or making food.

**Pat-a-cake**

Pat-a-cake, pat-a-cake, baker’s man,  
Bake me a cake as fast as you can.  
Roll, and pat it, and mark it with a “B”  
And put it in the oven for Baby and me!

**Toddler (1-3 years):** Talk to your child about their food’s texture, taste, or temperature.

“Wow, these are crunchy carrots” or “Oh, this drink is so cold!”

**Preschooler (3-5 years):** Read food labels and packages. Point out the letters. Try teaching your child a food-related tongue twister!

**Peter Piper**

Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers;  
A peck of pickled peppers Peter Piper picked;  
If Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers,  
Where’s the peck of pickled peppers Peter Piper picked?

**Books about Food**

**Baby:**  
*My Very First Book of Food* by Eric Carle

**Toddler:**  
*Growing Vegetable Soup* by Lois Ehlert

**Preschooler:**  
*Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs* by Judi & Ronald Barrett

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Run your finger under the words as you read them. It will help your child learn that printed words have sounds.