



## Read & Grow With Me!

### PLAY!

#### How can you play with reading?

- Make an I-Spy Bottle
- Point out words and letters everywhere
- Play rhyming games
- Search for things that start with the same letter
- Build a reading fort

### LEARN!

#### Read WITH a child and activate their brain building powers!

##### Ask questions

- What will happen next?*
- Why did they do that?*

##### Make connections

- Have you ever...?*
- Do you remember when...?*

##### Talk about the pictures

- Do you notice...?*
- Can you find...?*

Watch the video to learn more!

[tinyurl.com/plgvideos](http://tinyurl.com/plgvideos)

### GROW!

#### Babies (0-18 months)

Choose sturdy board books. Grasping and chewing books is a common baby behavior that grows into an interest in books and a love of reading.

Name objects and animals on the page. Young brains need words!

#### Toddlers (18 months-3 years)

Choose books with short text or books that are interactive, like lift-the-flap or touch-and-feel books.

Encourage toddlers to find familiar objects and animals on the page, or make an animal's sound.

Point out words as you read. This shows children that the marks on the page have meaning.

#### Preschoolers (3-5 years)

Choose books with longer stories, favorite characters, or humor. Ask children to predict what will happen next or how they could solve the problem.

Find more resources and reading tips at [readwithme.today](http://readwithme.today)

Play, Learn & Grow

# LET'S CREATE

## I-Spy Bottles materials:

- empty plastic bottle
- letter beads or other small objects
- pom-poms or other filler
- glue



1

Insert beads, buttons, or other small objects into the bottle.

2

Fill the remainder with pom poms, or other filler, such as rice.

3

Secure the cap with glue or tape.

*Warning: This toy contains small objects which could be a choking hazard for children under 3. Use with adult supervision.*

### Let's play!

Search for objects in the bottle to teach colors, shapes, letters, and sound recognition. Babies and toddlers will love to just shake it up!

### How can you play with the bottle?

**Calming bottle:** similar to the I-Spy bottle, fill with water and glitter. Shake and watch the glitter settle when a child needs a calming moment.

**Noise maker:** fill the bottle with bells, beans, buttons, or cotton balls. shake them up and talk about the different sounds they make.

**Counting tool:** toddlers and preschoolers can count buttons or pom poms as they drop them into the bottle.

**Water play:** cut the ends off the bottle to make simple cups and funnels to play in the sink or bathtub.

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