

2-3 Reading, Writing and Stories

Overview

What is 'Reading, Writing and Stories' development?

In the Early Years Foundation Stage (the curriculum followed by all childcare and school settings in England for children from birth to five years old), one of the areas of learning is literacy. Throughout the Twinkl Tots resources, we are referring to literacy as 'Reading, Writing and Stories' because this is exactly what it covers.

If you have been reading with your child since they were young, it's likely that they will enjoy reading and stories. They may have favourite books (or current favourites at least) and seek out reading as an enjoyable activity throughout the day. You could try to make sure they get a chance to look at different types of books, e.g. recipe books. This is great for helping them understand that text has meaning.

At two years old, reading will look like your child noticing numbers, letters and words or signs that are important to them or that they see regularly. For example, they might recognise the number on your front door or a bus you regularly take and the logo from shops or restaurants they go to a lot. As with reading, writing practice might not look like 'writing' at this age. Giving your child plenty of opportunities to draw and mark make with different tools and material is perfect for this stage of early writing development.

If you have any concerns about your child's development, please speak to your health visitor or GP.

For more specific examples of what communication and language development looks like between two and three years old, watch our video **Explained for Parents**. Alternatively, download and read the information in our **Parent Guide**, which breaks this down even further.

What should I expect from my two to three-year-old?

By the time they are three years old, your child should be able to listen to books and stories for longer periods of time. They will be able to ask and answer questions about books and illustrations and offer their own comments. They may enjoy drawing and begin to give some meaning to the marks that they make.

For a full list of developmental milestones that your child might show at this age, here is our **Can Milestones Overview**.

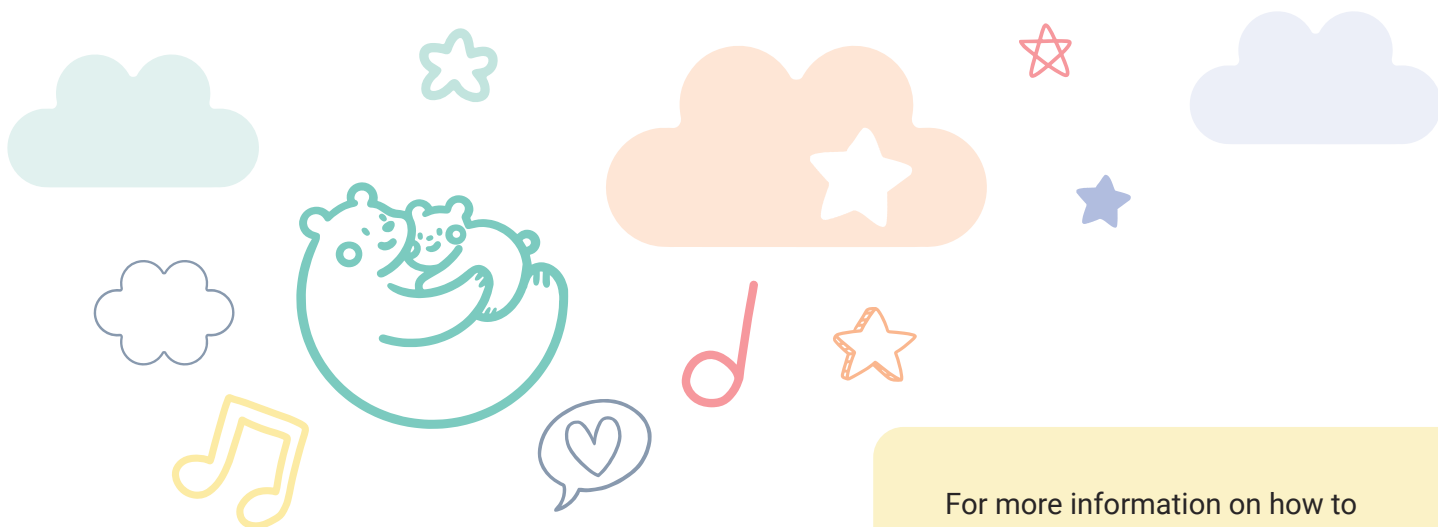
How can I support my child's early literacy skills?

Our top tips for supporting your two-year-old's literacy skills are to:

- create a reading area;
- retell stories - even if they're not from books;
- encourage drawing wherever you can;
- ask questions.



And, of course, play! We have designed games and activities specifically around reading, writing and stories for two to three-year-olds as part of our play-based Twinkl Tots course. The activities are simple to set up and can often be done anytime, anywhere, making them truly flexible to your situation. Take a look at some of our activities **here**.



For more information on how to do these activities and how they help to meet the milestones for this age, download the Twinkl Tots Age **2 - 3 Reading, Writing and Stories Parent Guide**.

Disclaimer: Welcome to Twinkl Tots. We hope you find the information on our course and resources useful. This course is provided for informational and educational purposes only. As all children are different and develop at their own pace, your child might show development at different times or in different ways. Our aim is simply to give you general guidance and the information may not apply to your specific situation. If you have any concerns about your child's development, please speak to your health visitor or GP.