

# A love of language leads to a love of reading

A preschooler who loves language will almost certainly become a child who loves reading. To get your youngster excited about language:

- **Sing nursery rhymes to him.** Let your child hear—and appreciate—how wonderful words sound when they're strung together. Talk about the sounds with your child.
- **Play word games together.** Ask your child what the words *muffin* and *Mommy* have in common. The answer? They both start with an *mmm* sound! See if your child can find other pairs of words—and the goofier, the better—that begin with the same letter sound. Here are some more examples to get you started: *Daddy* and *donut*, *friend* and *fish*, *brother* and *baseball*.



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- **Invent silly stories to go with his drawings.** This will help your child associate words with pictures. “What a neat rocket ship! What if a mouse climbed into it and flew away ... ?”