

SHARE STEP Method

Children who grow up being read to and enjoying the process are more likely to become readers later on. “Dialogic reading” is a method of book sharing developed for preschool-age and older children to increase engagement, interactivity, and the fun of reading together, which is particularly effective at promoting literacy and other skills. However, to date, no structured approach to reading with pre-verbal infants and toddlers has been described. Developed by a pediatrician, the evidence-based SHARE STEP method shows how to get the most out of every wonderful opportunity!

The acronym **SHARE** encourages grownup caregivers how to share a book with a child, while the acronym **STEP** reflects ways to **R**espond to the child.

- 1) Snuggle on the parent/caregiver’s lap,
- 2) Hands on - let the child hold the book and learn how it works
- 3) Affection – read with baby to show the loving/nurturing aspect of story sharing
- 4) Respond to the child, and
 - 1) Stretch word sounds so your child can learn them
 - 2) Talk about the pictures
 - 3) Explore word sounds in fun ways (e.g. train or animal noises)
 - 4) Patience – if your baby gets frustrated, stay calm and keep trying
- 5) Enjoy the process, rather than worry about doing it “right.”



*Sample interior spreads from *SHARE THIS BOOK!*

Why Buy?

The process of reading with infants and toddlers can be messy, and parents and other caregivers can become frustrated. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recommends that parents and other grownup caregivers begin sharing books with their children as soon as possible after birth, citing enduring cognitive, social-emotional, and brain-developmental benefits. Book sharing is a perfect way to build emotional connection, early language skills, and a healthy routine of reading.

SHARE This Book:



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Ages 0-3
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