Getting started with teaching your child to read

TEACHING WITH





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NEW TO EARLY READING? START HERE.

Babies CAN, DO, and LOVE TO learn to read!

If you've never seen a baby reading before, BrillBaby's Baby Reading Videos page should be your first port of call. There, you can see dozens of reading babies, including Felicity (daughter of the BrillKids founder) and Naimah (daughter of the BrillBaby editor), reading at 12 and 16 months respectively.



Felicity, 12 months



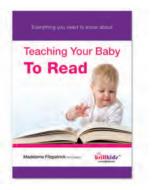
Naimah, 16 months

To see our baby reading videos, go to: www.BrillBaby.com > Teaching Baby > Teach Your Baby to Read > Baby Reading Videos

Brush up on the WHY, WHEN, and HOW of teaching babies

If you're new to the topic of teaching babies to read, you may want to arm yourself with knowledge on this important subject before beginning to teach your child. For that reason, we've enclosed a special Teaching Your Baby to Read booklet, designed to provide all the information you need.

In case you don't have time to read the whole booklet, you may want to dip into the chapters that interest you most.



If you think babies are too young to learn to read, or wonder why anyone would teach a baby to read, then **Why Teach Reading Early?** is for you. Although teaching babies to read is fun, that isn't the only reason for doing it. Children who learn to read in their first few years of life experience long term gains in reading ability as well as other spheres of life.

To learn more about why you should teach your baby to read, turn to Chapter 2 of the **Teaching Your Baby to Read** book.

How can I teach my baby to read? What methods should I use?

Some children may start to recognize words through the process of having someone read to them while pointing out the words as they are read. However, if you would like your child to learn in a more structured and systematic way (which is no less fun), you'll be happy to know that there is so much more you can and should do!

The main methods used to teach babies to read are the flash and multisensory method, which are also the two main methods used by Little Reader.

Read about the different methods you can use to teach your baby to read, please visit Chapters 4 and 5 of the **Teaching Your Baby to Read** book.

For an overview of the types of lessons Little Reader uses, see pages 7-10 of this guide. For a detailed explanation of the Little Reader curriculum, go to page 11.

If you have any other questions about teaching your child, be sure to visit us in the BrillKids Forum (forum.brillkids.com), where you can meet other parents who are teaching their children to read.

Shouldn't I teach the alphabet first?

When asked "What is the first thing you should teach a child when she is learning to read?" most people reply "the alphabet." The reason is because learning the alphabet leads to an understanding of phonics and phonetic reading, both of which are skills your child needs to achieve advanced levels of literacy.

One of the drawbacks with teaching your child to read using the traditional phonics-based approach is that you would typically need to wait until your child is 3 or 4 years of age, or at least when your child is able to sound out letters. Another way of introducing children to the concept of reading is the whole language method. Whole language enables you to expose your child to the written word from as young as 3 or 4 months of age. By exposing your child to the written language from babyhood, you can give her a head start in reading that will make her a more fluent reader for the rest of her life.

We believe that both methods have their merits, and that so long as children learn phonics before they start school, they will be fluent readers. This is why Little Reader uses both the whole language method as well as phonics-based teaching.

For more on how Little Reader teaches phonics, go to page 9 of this book.

To learn more about the debate between the whole language approach vs phonics, visit Chapter 3 of the **Teaching Your Baby to Read** book.

GETTING STARTED WITH LITTLE READER $^{\mathrm{tb}}$

Your Little Reader Learning System comes with a built-in curriculum, which lets you start teaching your child immediately after installing the software. The curriculum includes flash, multisensory and phonics lessons, which you can learn more about below.

Step 1: Install the Little Reader software and import the curriculum content.

First off, you'll need to install the Little Reader software. Please refer to the enclosed **Quick Start** booklet (found inside the software CD-Rom box) to install Little Reader on your computer.



When you open Little Reader the very first time after completing the installation process, Little Reader will perform a system check to see if your computer has the required system specification it needs to run smoothly. This System Check Wizard will test if your speakers are working properly, so make sure your audio system is turned on at this time.

Once you've completed the System Check Wizard, your Little Reader should be ready for use. Insert the content discs in your CD-Rom drive to import your curriculum content.

Step 2: Read the Beginner's Tutorial.

There is a very useful **Start Guide** accessible from within Little Reader – to access it, click on the Start Guide button. In particular, please make sure you run through the **Beginner's Tutorial.**



For questions not covered in the Quick Start booklet or Start Guide, please see the comprehensive Little Reader FAQs section on our website:

www.BrillKids.com > Support > Little Reader

For more detailed information about your learning system, please refer to the Little Reader manual. You can access the manual from within Little Reader.

You can also get technical support through the forum: Forum.BrillKids.com > BrillKids Software > Little Reader – General Discussions

If you have other questions or concerns, please email us through our website: www.BrillKids.com > Home > Contact Us

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TYPES OF LESSONS IN LITTLE READER $^{\mathrm{\$}}$

The Little Reader curriculum contains flash lessons, multisensory lessons and phonics lessons. Here, you can get an overview of each type of lesson and its functions.

What is a flash lesson?

The flash method is based on the practice of teaching with flash cards (except in this case, no actual cards are involved). Flash cards are so named because the idea is to show them as quickly – and briefly – as possible (flash them!).

The reason for this is that information presented at speed is more likely to be absorbed unconsciously by the right hemisphere of the brain. Learning with the right brain enables us to memorize large amounts of information effortlessly. This type of teaching is particularly effective for very young children, who are more right-brain dominant compared to older children and adults.



Flash lessons in Little Reader are either Word Flash or Picture Flash – that is, they involve either words or pictures. The pronunciation of the word is played at the moment the word or picture is flashed. So, for example, during Word Flash, your child might hear 'cat' and see this...



... while during Picture Flash, she would hear "cat" and see this...



What is a multisensory lesson?

The multisensory method emphasizes learning with as many of the senses as possible. This strategy makes learning more effective, as well as lots of fun!



With multisensory lessons, you and your child should take your time – indeed, as long as you want – over each word. Young children love watching animations, hearing and imitating animal noises, and performing actions such as raising their arms or kicking their legs.

During a multisensory lesson, your child will see a word followed by a picture illustrating the word's meaning (you can reverse this order, or play the word on either side of the media, if you wish). Because each word in Little Reader has several picture files attached to it, your child will gain a deep understanding of the meaning of the word – as well as enjoy the variety in the lessons.

Pictures are accompanied by "picture audio," which are typically either sound effects (for example, chirping to accompany a picture of a bird) or a phrase designed to encourage your child to act out a word or to get her thinking about the word's meaning in context. For example, for the word 'clap,' your child will hear *"Can you clap your hands?"* while seeing a picture of a child clapping, and right before watching a video of a child clapping.

It is at this point that you should take time to interact with your child, so that you are stimulating as many of her senses (visual, auditory, kinesthetic) as possible. Help her clap her hands (or encourage her to clap) when she is shown the word 'clap,' and rub her ears (or ask her to point to her ears) when teaching the word 'ear.' The more of her senses you involve, the easier it becomes for her to remember the word.

What is a phonics lesson?

Phonics involves understanding the sounds made by the different letters of the alphabet – both individually and in letter combinations.

Babies and young children can learn to read hundreds of words without knowing what the individual letters in words stand for. However, a true understanding of phonics is required for children to progress from whole word reading (recognizing whole words) to phonetic reading (being able to sound out previously unseen words). Most children will be given phonics lessons in school – but there is no need to wait that long. The Little Reader curriculum is designed to introduce your child to phonics as soon as she has built up a solid vocabulary of sight words. Little Reader's Pattern Phonics[™] system therefore appears from the fifth week of the 12-month curriculum.



No matter how young your child is when she first encounters the second half of the curriculum, she will be ready to begin intuitively grasping the rules of phonics. Babies as young as 18 months have been known to begin figuring out the rules of phonics, simply by seeing the same phonemes come up in different words. Little Reader's Pattern Phonics lessons are designed to make letter-sound correspondences obvious and apparent, by grouping words in logical sequences – for example, words beginning with 'b.'

You may be interested to know that the curriculum does not teach letter names. This is because - strictly speaking - your child does not need to know that the letter 'a' is called "A" in order for her to know that it makes the sound, "ah." If you wish to teach her the alphabet, you may wish to play her the alphabet lessons (including the alphabet song) that you will find under the Categories section.

For more on the importance of phonics lessons, turn to Chapter 3 of the **Teaching Your Baby to Read** booklet.

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UNDERSTANDING THE [&] LITTLE READER CURRICULUM

The BrillKids Little Reader curriculum provides you with everything you need for one-click learning – just sit down with your child and press play!

Please read the following overview carefully. It is designed to help you maximize your child's learning and fun with the Little Reader curriculum.

Session frequency

We recommend that you give your child her reading lessons twice per day. However, the curriculum is also suitable for use once per day, in case that is all a parent can manage. Session 2 is designed to reinforce Session 1, and is optional.



The curriculum is designed to be shown during weekdays, in case it's not convenient for the parent to teach on weekends. Weekends may be used to catch up on any lessons missed during the week.

This, however, is only a guideline and by no means must be followed strictly; if you feel that you and your child are able to continue with your lessons through the weekends, go for it!

Choice of words

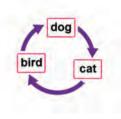
The words in the BrillKids curriculum have been carefully chosen to appeal to young children. Three categories of words are shown each day (not including Pattern Phonics[™]). For example, on Day 1, your child will see words from the Common Animals, Parts of the Body, and Action Words categories.

There are eight core categories containing words that tend to interest young children the most. These categories are on higher rotation than the others. Each time a core category returns, it will be given a new twist. For instance, the same list of verbs may have the suffix '-ing' added, or the words may start with a capital letter, or they may appear with uppercase letters.

Other words contained in the curriculum will also be brought back briefly later on in the curriculum, and they will typically be shown with uppercase letters.

Rotation of words

Typically, one word is retired and one new word added to each category of your lessons every day. When the end of a category is reached, the first word retired will return. Each word will be shown a total of 12 times (or 6 times, if you are showing Session 1 only).



What's in a session?

A Little Reader session can consist of five lesson segments:

- A Word Flash lesson
- B Multisensory lesson
- C Picture Flash lesson
- D Pattern Phonics™ lesson
- E Stories lesson

A (Word Flash)

Word Flash is used to teach words using the flash method. Words will auto-forward rapidly and take less than a minute to play.

B (Multisensory)

Multisensory gives you the opportunity to teach at a leisurely pace and interact with your child. You will control the speed of the lesson, and manually move between words.

C (Picture Flash)

Picture Flash is like Word Flash – except this time you are teaching the <u>meanings of words</u> using the flash card method. This will effectively reinforce what your child has learned during B – Multisensory.

D (Pattern Phonics™)

Pattern Phonics[™] introduces your child to the relationships between letters and sounds in a gradual, progressive manner. These lessons commence from Day 21 onwards.

E (Stories)

Little Reader lessons guide your child from reading single words to couplets, phrases, sentences, finally culminating in stories, where your child will see familiar words in the context of complete stories.

Content selection

A scheduled session will take 3-10 minutes, but your lesson does not have to end there. Keep going as long as your child is interested. The time after a session is a good opportunity to show customized words as well as any categories that particularly interest your child.

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IMPORTANT ADVICE

Your Frame of Mind

One of the most important things you must remember when teaching your child to read is this:

Always keep the lessons FUN and JOYFUL!



In doing so, this also means:

- Do not focus on achieving results
- Do not force your child if she is not keen to view the lessons.

Focusing on results tends to bring about negative emotions such as anxiety and disappointment, which will be picked up by your child. Similarly, forcing your child is counter-productive and would lead her to associate reading with something negative.

Instead, **treat lesson time as a time for bonding with your child**. The aim is to expose your child to reading and to have fun while doing so, thereby giving her a joyful and loving experience. Keeping a bonding-focused mindset will make you a much more effective teacher, and you are also likely to find that your child learning to read is a very pleasant side-effect.

Remember, this is not a race! Any exposure to reading that you give to your child during the early years will already be very beneficial.

So just RELAX, and HAVE FUN!

There are No Rules!

Apart from keeping the lessons fun and joyful, there are no rules that are set in stone!

For example, we suggest that the curriculum lessons should be played 5 days a week, once or twice a day. Like many of our other suggestions, this is only a guideline. It is there to help you if you choose to use it, not to enslave you.



We always stress that YOU are your child's first and best teacher, because you know your child best. Every child is different, and even the same child may behave differently at different times! What's most important is that you play it by ear and go according to your child's moods as well as your own circumstances, which may change from time to time.

So if are tired and you want to skip a day, no problem! If your child doesn't seem to want to have lessons that day or even that week, that's absolutely fine! If you feel that your child already knows the words, then skip them!

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Some of the most frequently asked questions on our site are:

- Does Little Reader teach phonics?
- What age is it suitable for? What about older children?
- When will I see results?

Does Little Reader teach phonics?

Phonics plays a large part in Little Reader lessons, as phonics is a critical skill that every child must master.

In many of the videos showing young children reading, many of those children are not reading phonetically, but rather, they are reading by recognizing the entire word. This is called "whole word reading," or "sight reading."

What many people do not realize is that over time, with a lot of exposure to words, children are able to pick up the rules of the written language (phonics) themselves naturally and intuitively, similar to how they pick up patterns of the spoken language.

A native English speaking child does not need to be taught language rules like adding an 's' to plural or adding an 'ed' for past tense, because they hear enough of the language to be able to figure out the rules and apply them to new situations. That's why you sometimes hear mistakes like saying "gooses" instead of "geese", because they picked up the pattern of adding the 's' and applied it to "goose". And this is a good sign, because it shows that they pick up patterns easily.

Similarly, they are able to decode the written pattern by themselves, naturally and intuitively. With Little Reader, we encourage this natural way of learning phonics using our Pattern Phonics™ system, where we teach phonics by not teaching, but rather by letting the child figure out the phonics rules herself gradually and intuitively. Little Reader not only taps your child's natural ability to recognize patterns, but makes it as easy as possible for her to do so – by showing group after group of word patterns, and even color-coding the letters to make the patterns as obvious as can be! Pattern Phonics™ lessons start on Day 21 of the curriculum.

If you were to rely solely on the traditional way with teaching phonics, then you would have to wait until the child is about 3 years old when she can enunciate sounds. You would first have her learn A to Z, and once that has been memorized, teach her that A is "ah", B is "buh", C is "cuh", etc. After that, you teach them to put sounds together like B + A + T makes the "BAT" sound. This is a very logical, LEFT-BRAIN way of teaching, and is how adults are used to learning. However, we do not believe that it is the easiest way for very young children to learn. We also believe that using the Pattern Phonics[™] system, phonics rules can be taught long before a child turns 3.

What age is this suitable for? What about older children?

Whether or not Little Reader is appropriate for your child is not so much to do with age, but your child's reading ability. You can start using Little Reader as early as 3-6 months, but many parents are also using it on much older children, especially when introducing a foreign language.

Note: Different children react differently to Little Reader at different ages. Some don't pay attention when they are 1, but then suddenly take a big interest when they turn 2, and vice versa. All kids are different!

When will I see results?

Firstly, our strong advice is NOT to focus on results.

Focusing primarily on results tend to bring about negative emotions such as frustration, anxiety and disappointment, all of which will be picked up by your child.

Instead, treat lesson time as a time for bonding with your child. The aim is to expose your child to reading and to have fun while doing so, thereby giving her a joyful and loving experience. Keeping a bonding-focused mindset will make you a much more effective teacher, and you are also likely to find that your child learning to read is a very pleasant side-effect.

Having said that, it is very difficult to say when you would start to notice that a child has started to remember words. All children are different and develop at a different pace. A lot also depends on when you start and how much your child is enjoying the lessons.

Some parents who started early (e.g. at 5 months) started noticing that their child can recognize some words as early as 9 months. Some parents who started later (e.g. at 2 years) notice this even after 1 month. Some parents have reported that their children never showed any signs of learning for many months, until suddenly one day they read out words that they see in the street.

Whatever the case, always remember that this is not a race! Any exposure to reading that you give to your child during the early years will already be very beneficial.

TESTIMONIALS – EXCERPTS $^{\mathcal{B}}$

For the full text and videos, visit the Testimonials page: www.BrillKids.com > Little Reader > Testimonials



PEARL (I luv u baby) Mom to Kael, Andre and Julian

Kael started reading at 8 months old, while twins Andre and Julian started at 10 months old

I started teaching Kael to read with the Glenn Doman flash card method since birth. He read his first word at 8 months and loved reading, but he started losing interest when he was around a year old and it was also difficult for me to continue due to my sensitive pregnancy. I didn't know what to do and just when I needed it I found Little Reader; it was literally my reading program saver.

Little Reader is fun and interactive, easy, consistent and works with your pace, it especially works for busy mommies and daddies, and it opens the doors to a broad vocabulary at an early age. When children know enough words to express themselves fully, they are less frustrated when learning to communicate. I have also found that Little Reader is interesting for curious children and best of all it keeps their interest – with other programs kids will like it in the beginning and then lose interest later on.

We've never used LR as a distraction tool or video for them to watch while we do something else. LR has been an add-on, the biggest add-on along with Little Math, to our learning. He's getting his little brothers Andre and Julian into it, which makes it even more enjoyable for all of us. School is a pleasant word in our home and reading is a casual and fun game we play, thanks to Little Reader.



ANNA (aangeles) Mom of Ella Ella started reading before she was 14 months old

Ella first learned to read single words through another program, but the major limitation of that program was that she is limited to learning only the 200 or so words that are taught in a limited number of DVDs and that's it. I was so happy when I came across Little Reader because not only does LR reinforce the sight words that she already knew, but more importantly, it goes on to teach phonics, couplets, sentences, and stories. It seamlessly bridges the wide gap between sight-reading single words and reading whole books phonetically! Little Reader is the one learning tool that helped her make the big jump from reading single words to reading whole books, and that's not only in English, but in Chinese too!

Using the Little Reader software, there is literally a limitless amount of things you can teach your baby. It is also highly configurable to your needs and is very user friendly. Even someone like me who was not tech savvy was able to use Little Reader to create not just custom English language files but also Chinese language files. This brings me to the other major thing I love about Little Reader – you can adapt it to teach your baby to read in other languages as well! In fact, we are also using Little Reader to teach Ella Spanish and Filipino!



Deb (dmgorby) Mom to Erin Erin started reading at 9 months old

Erin started reading at 9 months old

We used it a lot with our own added slides including pictures of our extended family (since we don't get to see them daily and wanted our daughter to know their name and face). We also added slides of her toys, items in our house, etc. Little Reader LITE was easy to tweak and add our own slides to.



Diana (ZaJa) Mom to Zach Zach started reading at 13 months old

Ever since Zach was still in the womb, I would read to him and listen to classical music, and when he was born I cheerfully read to him as often as I can. When he was 11 months old I discovered the Brillkids website and thus my passion for early childhood development and learning began. After two months of showing Little Reader (supplemented with many other teaching tools), Zach started sight reading about 20 words which escalated to about 100 words by the time he was 15 months. Now at 32 months, Zach has progressed from reading words to phrases, sentences, stories and now chapter books.

With its well-thought out and comprehensive curriculum, my son learned various concepts and subjects and how to correlate words and their meanings with pictures. It encourages him to read at his own pace and allows us to interact and create stories about the words, pictures and videos that he sees. It developed his reading skills and his verbal skills as well – the way in which the words are presented enabled him to better understand how to decode words and learn the connections between letter patterns and the sounds they represent. The sheer volume of files contained in LR also served as his practical reading tool and vocabulary booster.

The versatility of LR makes it so simple and easy to use. The daily curriculum makes it all the more convenient so I need not think of what to show – all I need to do is press PLAY and the lesson for the day is already set. I like that I can personalize the lessons and make use of the voice recorder and picture editor to make it more entertaining for my little one. LR is truly multi-faceted as it is also a great source for teaching different languages. Learning has never been so stimulating and exciting with LR!



Sajeev started reading at 9 months old

I have been using LR and LM when Sajeev was around 5 months and started responding at 9 months old. He loves it and can easily understand what he reads – I and my family were surprised and happy to see him read so soon. We don't speak English at home, but wanted my son to speak good English and because of Little Reader, the way he pronounces each English word is so similar to that of native speakers.

He is able to read more than 45 words by the time he was 15 months old, and I haven't seen many kids who are good readers like mine. As a parent I find that LR and LM are easy for me to just play and sit back and enjoy with my kid. It goes exactly with Glenn Doman's method and it introduces a multisensory sort of education too, which every baby will love to watch. I can also customize the list which is a great option that LR provides, and most importantly LR can easily engage and at the same time educate him.



Joy (joyb) Mom to Molly, Milo, and Joy

Little Reader has been great for our family – as a busy mom who works at home, the Little Reader curriculum has saved me so much time. I love having all the lessons ready so we can just focus on having fun together. The other BrillKids moms and dads in the community are amazing, supportive and inspirational. I love LR!



Vanessa (nadia0801) Mom to Cammie

Cammie started reading at 9 months old

We started with LR a little earlier than the recommended age – Cammie just turned 3 months old when she had her first Little Reader lesson. She looked at the words intently and showed enthusiasm whenever we start the lesson, so we continued. At 8 months old, we gave her problem-solving opportunities on encyclopedic knowledge using printed flashcards, to which she answered by touching the correct card each time. At 9 months old, she showed that she can sight-read by doing the corresponding "sign" for the word-card that we showed her. She started reading just about 6 or 7 words but her vocabulary rapidly expanded in the next few weeks that followed.

LR is hands-down, the most helpful tool we have used in teaching her – and even firsttime users will see that. I am fond of creating custom playlists that includes Cammie and family members in the lessons and LR made it so easy to do so! She loves the presets and the curriculum but with these custom lessons I made, her interest never wanes because she can literally see herself in her lessons. I also believe that the pattern-phonics lessons aided her greatly on reading phonetically. The technique of showing groups of words with similar endings and beginnings reinforces the phonemic sounds, which, in turn, teaches the child how each group of letters sounds like.

I would recommend it to anyone who wants to teach their babies to read and have a good night sleep too! Otherwise, half of your sleeping hours will be spent making flashcards and inhaling marker fumes.



Mei Yee (mum2josiah) Mom to Josiah

Little Reader helped immensely in getting Josiah to sit still as he never liked traditional flash cards. We started Little Reader when Josiah was 2 years old, and now he is able to recognize about 30 different words.

LR is a powerful tool which can be customized to suit your child's interest. I used my own photos in the flash cards and this helped keep Josiah interested in learning new words.



Agnes (Agnesdecham) Mom to Genaeve

I like Little Reader because the lessons are unlimited, and you save up a lot of time preparing the materials. The curriculum it comes with is already excellent and well organized! Both my baby and me really feel very rewarding after using Little Reader – she enjoys learning and singing nursery rhymes and songs, and she has also learned to count from the Counting Bubble Songs I've downloaded from the BrillKids Forum.



Tanya (joni2009)Mom to Joana

We have been using this program since my daughter was 1 year old, and though she still cannot talk she can tell some English words – this is not our native language, so I think that this is a big progress. We haven't used anything else except Little Reader, and she sometimes watches YouTube children songs and stories. We do not have flashcards here and I didn't make my own because it is very time-consuming.

It is a very nice program and the children love pictures and animation. Their attention is attracted by the pictures and sounds. Little Reader is also good for parents because you can save a lot of time preparing all those presentations or flashcards.



Ethan (ethanleung) Mom to Ethan

We have been using Little Reader for about 5 months now, and everyday Ethan would ask us to play his lessons for him. He loves and follows the video and cartoon animations, and after hearing a word several times he has began following the pronunciations as well. Little Reader is easy to use, and aside from the systematic lessons, a platform is provided for sharing interesting learning materials with other members.

Tegan (elysium) Mom to Amelia

We started Little Reader about 2 months ago, and while she has just turned one, she is really starting to react to it – whenever she sees me on the computer, she tugs on my clothes and asks me to do some "learning." It made her want to learn, and she loves it because it's much more interactive than a story book.



Watie (geniusqarissa) Mom to Qarissa Qarissa started reading at 12 months old

Qarissa started reading at 12 months old

We started when my first daughter was 11 months old and as for my second baby, I couldn't wait until she was 3 months, and so I started as early as 1 1/2 months. Qarissa started as early as 12 months, following whatever word she saw on screen – at 19 months, she could read more than 80 words. Now she could even read the words that

have never been shown to her before, and she would try to say all the words she saw on the screen. To make it more meaningful for her, I also do the actions described by the words, and even make voices and faces during the lesson. I can see that my baby understands the meaning of the word by repeating the same word over and over again.

I like everything about it! The curriculum makes my life easier and at the same time, if I have spare time, I can record my own voice, create my own file and share it with other parents, or download many quality video and file that other parents share on the web and forum. I will definitely recommend this software to others as I believe that it is the best and easiest tool that I've ever used to teach my baby to read. With the help of latest technologies, the way we teach our child is much more simple and faster than before.



Mohan (sunmoonstar23) Mom to triplets Atidya, Shashini and Nakshatra

Little Reader is the only software that we use now to educate my children and it really plays a major role in their learning – with lots of fun and excitement. Little Reader is fun, easy to use and comes with great support from the BrillKids Team as well as a great Forum community that has loads of information on various topics.



BRANDI (texaslady22) English Teacher and Professional Mother Sulphur Springs, TX, U.S.A.

We started a Glenn Doman-inspired reading program with our son two years ago. I spent countless hours, at least two per night, handwriting cards. We bought cardstock in bulk and I could hardly stand the fumes from the permanent markers. Our son went through the cards so quickly that we could hardly keep up with him!

When I heard of Little Reader, I was skeptical. Anything that sounds too good to be true probably is. However, that's not the case with Little Reader! I can program in whatever words I want and customize them to whatever we're learning about that week. I can show pictures. I can add sound and Encyclopedic Knowledge information. Most importantly, though, my son loves it.



Our 19-month-old absolutely loves this program. He will sit in front of the screen and point to the letters in each word as it appears on the screen. He can already read about 100 words, and I believe Little Reader had a lot to do with that. I can't say enough about how wonderful a program this is.



JOAN (joan) Mom of two Singapore

Little Reader allows you to do so much: you can show different picture for the same word, you can easily create your own category with pictures of your baby, record your own voice, add videos... the possibilities are endless! Not only that, there's a whole wealth of great downloads created by other moms that you can simply download and use! Both my 3-year-old son and 9-month-old daughter love it!



JENNIFER (koala girl) Loving mom of three California, U.S.A.

I came across your website and couldn't be more pleased. I found everything I needed, and I stopped looking elsewhere since. Your site, forums and software had everything I was looking for – all in one place!



Cheryll (sheeberi) Proud Mommy of Twins Shasta, California, U.S.A.

I have been using this program for my 9-month old twin girls for just 2 weeks. I was so amazed at how it captured my daughters' attention so quickly. During lessons, they try to imitate the words and sounds they hear; they raise their hands and kick every time they see and hear the baby on the screen doing the motions for hands up and kick! They always smile at me while doing it – seems like they're proud that they can do it!



MARY ANNE (Jake) Loving grandmother of Jake

Before using Little Reader, I used to pay for my grandson's speech therapist. These days, I have been using the program continuously and I must say that it has been so much more effective and so much less expensive, too.

CHRIS (carpe_diem) Grandmother of 14 Manchester, United Kinadom

Joseph (2.5 years) said he wanted to have his rat (stuffed toy) in the Family playlist. He told me to take a picture of his rat and was delighted to see it next time he was going through the words. And this is exactly what is so great about the concept of Little Reader: the children have something that they can relate to – their OWN body, family, toys and pets – and it enables you to create personalized lessons to widen their horizons. I don't know of ANY other software that is so versatile, comprehensive, meaningful and enjoyable.



ALISON (Mum) Mummy of Penny and Hayden Australia

My 3-year-old "little reader" is so excited with the new dinosaur word game we made for her with her parents' voices in it; she just loves it when she hears Dad's roaring sound effects! Wow, I never expected it to be so simple to create a sound file!



GAVIN (Gavinmor) Father Exeter, United Kingdom

I got my son started on PowerPoint flash cards, and to keep his attention, I added animation and sounds to the picture presentations. Little Reader is the perfect solution, because it is so much easier to use and has so much more content and options – you can play material that it comes with by default and it allows you to add more lessons easily, too! Now, I spend more time interacting with my baby rather than preparing his lessons!



AGNES (Agnesdecham) Full-time mother Singapore

Whenever I use Little Reader to show my girl the photos and the voices of her grandpa and grandma, she always keeps on smiling and laughing. It warms my heart to know that Little Reader reminds her of her grandparents and the happy times that she spent with them.



ARTHI (AnuShyam) Loving mother of Anu and Shyam Infocomm Lecturer | Singapore

I've found that Little Reader serves both my kids' different needs. The younger one, aged 2, enjoys the Animal Categories where there is a real picture of the animal accompanied by the sound it makes. He can now recognize words even before the picture comes up! My elder child, aged 3.5, enjoys more complex categories like Flags, Planets and 7 Wonders of the World. She shows interest in reading outside our Little Reader sessions, evident especially when we visit the library. She recalled the nice pictures in the 7 wonders category and wanted a book with more about them.

MIMI (mimi pageot)

I am so happy that I found your website and started using Little Reader with my 2 boys. I have had the opportunity to compare your product with another similar one (claiming similar results), and I have proven that yours is better. Since Little Reader is always accessible, my boys want to use it all the time. And most importantly, you know they're not memorizing – when you can use different words, or a different sequence, you know they know the words. Before I used Little Reader, my 3-year-old would not sound out words. Now he's grasping every opportunity to read!

JANICE (Janice Bolima)

I've been using Little Reader for 3 months now, and my baby and I make time to read through the lessons every day. I've always seen our Little Reader lessons as bonding time with my baby. She truly loves seeing the flash cards on screen, and it amazes her each time to hear the sound effects and pronunciations, as well as see the words and colorful pictures.



Eager to teach with Little Reader but don't know where to start?

We understand how overwhelming the process of starting to teach your child to read can be – that's why we created this short introduction to teaching with Little Reader.

The guide provides all the information you need, including such chapters as:

- Getting Started With Little Reader
- Understanding the Little Reader Curriculum
- Frequently Asked Questions

Get started with Little Reader today, and discover the joy of teaching reading the easy way!

