

# The 7 Days • 7 Ways Philosophy

The Very Ready Reading Program promotes the **7 Days • 7 Ways** philosophy, which recommends seven activities that parents can share with their babies and young toddlers every day. Early literacy research indicates that if parents share these seven activities on most days, their young child will have the building blocks (early literacy skills) needed for learning to read when entering school. For age birth to 24 months, these seven activities are:

1. **Share Books:** As the greatest predictor of reading success, reading books appropriate to the child's age / developmental stage is critical.
2. **Share Sounds:** Imitating the child's sounds and encouraging new ones helps form the building blocks of language.
3. **Share Words:** Consistent introduction to new and alternate words builds vocabulary, which is essential to reading comprehension.
4. **Share Rhymes:** Hearing the pattern of language—meter, rhythm, word repetition—has been shown to have a direct correlation to phonological awareness, an important step in language acquisition.
5. **Share Songs:** Singing slowly allows the child to hear the smaller sounds within each word, which makes singing the best method to promote phonological awareness.
6. **Share Stories:** Listening to stories from everyday life helps children connect concepts and ideas from the world around them.
7. **Share Playtime:** Exploring the world in endless ways allows for natural inclusion of the other six ways to build early literacy skills.



By sharing these seven activities, parents and caregivers will be preparing their children for future success. The Very Ready Reading Program includes all the necessary materials to make it happen.