

4

# Years



**Make reading and writing a part of every day.**

**Four-year-olds are beginning to:**

- figure out the difference between real and make-believe
- make up their own stories
- name shapes, colors and letters
- listen for rhymes, play with sound

**Some four-year-olds can hold a pencil and "write" notes by scribbling.**

**Four-year-olds love to make up stories,** tell jokes, and sing songs.

**Some four-year-olds spend a lot of time reading on their own.** Keep books within easy reach. Choose books with adventures - you can travel far away with a book.

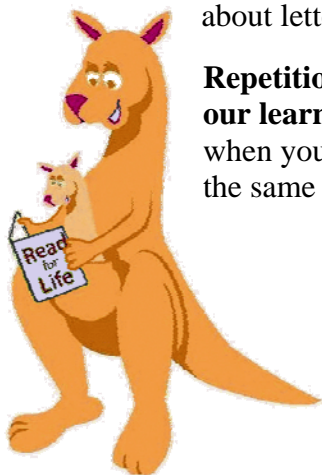
**Preschoolers like to expand their worlds** beyond family, but they want to feel safe at the same time. Familiar books and comforting stories can calm their fears.

**There are lots of shapes, sizes and colors** in books. Talk about these, add them up, and look at the sameness and differences.

**Start looking at alphabet and counting** books together. Your child wants to know about letters and numbers.

**Repetition is important in all our learning.** Don't get frustrated when you get a tenth request for the same book!

Read for Life is a family-based literacy program in Tulare County that encourages parents to provide the foundation for reading beginning at birth.  
[www.readforlife.org](http://www.readforlife.org)



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**Visit your local library** and local bookstore as often as possible. Find out about other story times in your area.

**Some good books for a Four-year-old:**

*Bedtime for Frances*  
by Russell Hoban

*Bein' with You This Way*  
by W. Nikola-Lisa

*Make Way For Ducklings*  
by Robert McCloskey

*The Tale of Peter Rabbit*  
by Beatrix Potter

*The Gingerbread Man*  
by Paul Galdone

*The Little House*  
by Virginia Lee Burton

*Road Builders*  
by B.G. Hennessey

*Max Found Two Sticks*  
by Brian Pinckney

*Bunny Cakes*  
by Rosemary Wells

*Elizabethi's Doll*  
by Stephanie Stuve-Bodeen

*We're Going on a Bear Hunt*  
by Michael Rosen

*Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse*  
by Kevin Henkes

*The Wolf's Chicken Stew*  
by Keiko Kasza

