

Connecting the Dots

What is the best way to create a love of reading in your child?

Let's connect the dots...

1. Babies recognize their parents' voices at birth, so hearing you reading a book helps your child feel safe and calm.
2. A baby's brain has **ONE BILLION** new neural connections every second. Reading to your child helps build these pathways.
3. Reading to your child helps him build a longer attention span than a child who is not read to regularly.
4. You develop empathy (understanding the feelings of others) and foster language development, which leads to school success when you read aloud to your child.

91% of parents with kids birth - 3 who currently read or have read aloud to their children say they

54%

37%

love(d) or like(d) it a lot.



No-Bake Toddler Oatmeal Bites

Ingredients:

- 1 1/4 cup oats
- 1/2 cup peanut butter
- 1 single serving container of vanilla yogurt
- 1 tsp. cinnamon



Directions:

1. Blend oats in the blender until smooth
2. Put all ingredients together and mix
3. Roll the mixture into tiny toddler-sized balls to create toddler oatmeal bites

Counting and Movement: Learning and Fun!

This month we focus on two "basics" that educate and entertain- counting and movement. This information is brought to you by The Basics™ Chattahoochee Valley.

See the back page to learn more about these important "basics" you can share with the child in your life.



vroom Download the **FREE** Brain building moments **Vroom app now!**

Receive brain building activities and tips to use with your child every day.



Community Partner



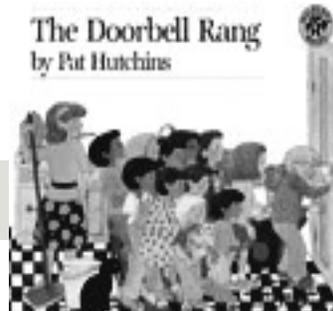
Reading Guide



The Doorbell Rang

Author/Illustrator: Pat Hutchins
HarperCollins Publisher

The Doorbell Rang
by Pat Hutchins



R Repeat the Book: Repeating gives more chances to learn the vocabulary.

First Read (events): Look at the cover, read the title and say, “*I wonder why all these children are standing by the door?*” Let’s read and find out.” Talk about how each time the doorbell rang the number of cookies for Victoria and Sam changed. You might say, “*If any more children arrive, there may not be enough for everyone.*” After reading, help your child answer the first read question in the “Ask Questions” section.

Second Read (emotions): Before reading, say, “*Remember the story about the children sharing the cookies? I wonder how Victoria and Sam felt about having to share their cookies? When everyone had a cookie and the doorbell rang again, I wonder what they were thinking? Let’s find out.*” Ask the second read question.

Third Read (retell): Before reading, say, “*Remember the story about the children sharing the cookies? It is your turn to tell me what is happening and how everyone feels.*” Ask the third read question.

Vocabulary

Use these words when you talk with your child this month.

doorbell
wait
plenty
share
stared
starving
perhaps
enormous

E Engage and Enjoy: Using these activities keeps your child’s interest in the story.

Get something you can use to count: blocks or cut out the cookies on the next page. Put twelve of them on a plate. As you read the book, count the number of children as they arrive. Divide your counting items according to the number of children in the story.

A Ask Questions: After talking about the book, ask questions to promote deeper thinking.

After the first read, ask, “*Why did Victoria and Sam have a problem?*”

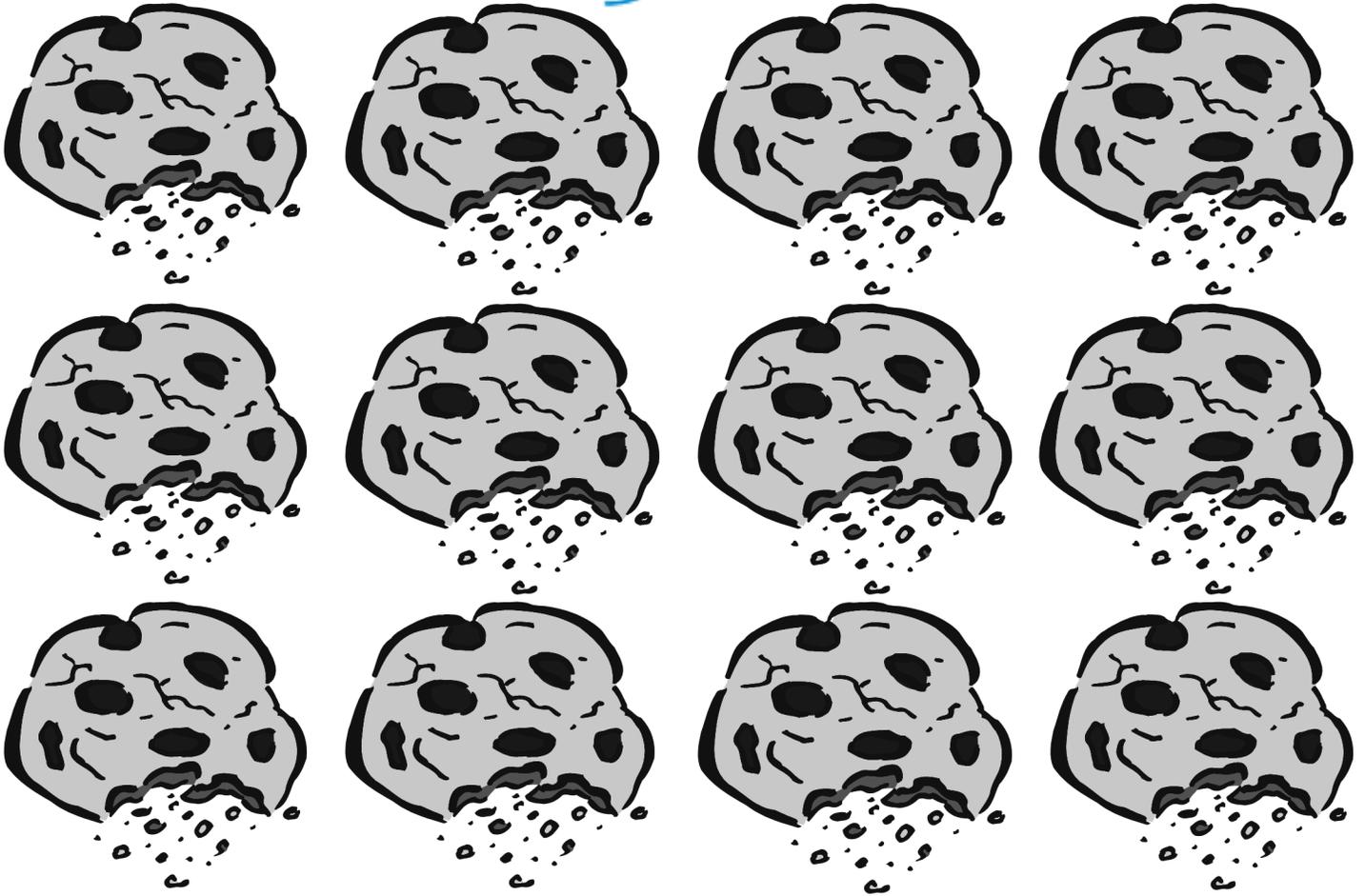
After the second read, ask, “*How do you think Grandma felt when she saw all the children?*”

After the third read, ask, “*What could they have done if Grandma had not arrived with more cookies?*”

D Do More: Use other activities to help your child connect vocabulary to their world outside of the story.

On the next page, there are some additional activities which you can do with your child.

Things to Do



Cut out the cookies above.

Use them to do the following activities with your child:

- Count the cookies.
- Use the cookies to reinforce basic math skills—give your child a couple of cookies and then ask how many he or she will have if you give him or her 2 more, 3 more, and so on—do the same by taking away cookies.
- Ask your child to determine how many cookies each person will get if there are 2 people, 3 people, and so on (have him or her give one to each person until there are no more).

Ferst Readers has adopted and adapted the READ guide format courtesy of:



See the
R.E.A.D.
video here

Rollins Center
for Language & Literacy

A Program of the Atlanta Speech School

Read Right

From the Start

Read with your child every day.

1
2 3

COUNT, GROUP, & COMPARE

LOOK FOR SHAPES: Point out shapes and describe them to your child. See if they can find shapes. "The clock is a circle. Do you see any other circles?" This is a great way to pass the time when you are doing other errands.



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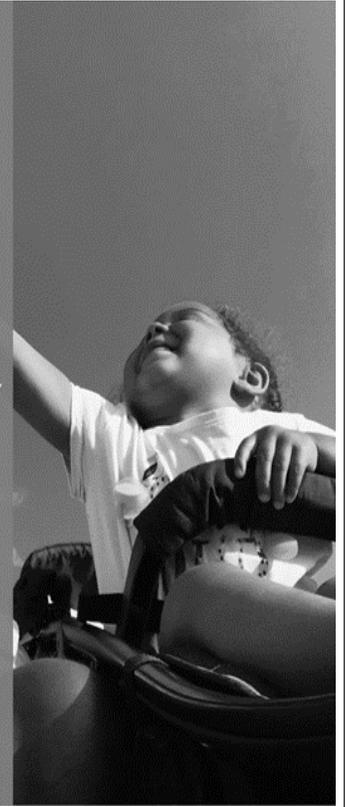
EXPLORE THROUGH MOVEMENT & PLAY

PRACTICE REACHING: Hold a toy over your infant's head, or place one on the floor just beyond their reach. This will encourage your infant to reach and build coordination.



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