





## INFANTS:

Reading a book to your infant is a great chance to cuddle and bond, relax and sit comfortably with your baby on your lap. Point out pictures on the page and name what you are pointing to. You don't have to read every word! Sharing a book is an experience that helps your baby's brain to make important connections, laying the foundation for learning to read. Just because your baby is not talking, doesn't mean he/she isn't learning!

## TODDLERS:

Have lots of fun with the book! It has a distinct pattern which makes it perfect for supporting beginning reading skills. Pause at the end of sentences in the book and have your child finish the line. Draw attention to the pictures, point and describe what you are pointing to as you talk about what is happening. Ask "what does the fish do to spread cheery-cheeries?" Point to the words as you read them. This helps your toddler learn what words are and where the words you are saying come from.



## PRESCHOOLERS:

The Pout Pout Fish will become a favorite and shows children what it means to "turn that frown upside down!". Continue pointing to the words as you read. Ask your preschooler to read to you and have him/her turn the pages as they tell the story, the predictable pattern makes this easy. Preschoolers like to recite parts of a familiar story, especially if words rhyme or the story is predictable. These are important pre-reading experiences. Don't forget to keep asking questions about the book, even if it is an old favorite. Your lap is still the best place for your preschooler to be and the reading you are sharing is helping your child to become a reader!

