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## Books in the Parent-Teacher Collection to Read to Your Child

- 612.6 COL How You Were Born by Joanna Cole  
*Illustrated with photographs, this is a very simple, straightforward account of how babies are born.*
- 618.24 MUR What To Expect When Mommy's Having A Baby by Heidi Murkoff  
*Both this and the other What To Expect... title are organized in a sort of question-and-answer format, with each page devoted to a different question. These might be a little too wordy for younger children, but they can be very helpful for answering specific questions or for reading a little at a time.*
- 618.24 SEA Baby on the Way by William Sears, M.D., Martha Sears, R.N., and Christie Watts Kelly  
*Both this and the other title by Sears, Sears and Kelly emphasize that "when a new baby grows inside your mommy, her belly isn't the only thing that is changing and growing. You are growing up—becoming an older brother or sister." The book matter-of-factly explain changes in mom and in household routines, paired with a few suggestions of what kids might do to be helpful. Anatomical details are very minimal, but there are sidebars with "Answers for the very curious."*
- 649.122 MUR What to Expect When the New Baby Comes Home by Heidi Murkoff
- 649.221 SEA What Baby Needs by William Sears, M.D., Martha Sears, R.N., and Christie Watts Kelly  
*This book explains the reasons for some of the intense attention that needs to be lavished on the new baby without suggesting resentment or anger on the part of older siblings.*



## Non-Fiction for Kids

- E 305.232 LAS Love That Baby! A Book About Babies for New Brothers, Sisters, Cousins and Friends by Kathryn Lasky  
*A picture book primer on all things baby: how to quiet a crying baby, what babies do and why, and games to play with babies.*
- E 305.232 MOR The Baby Book by Ann Morris  
*As part of The World's Family series, this book features beautiful photographs of babies in various parts of the world, while the simple text describes characteristics of babies everywhere: "Babies eat. / They are always hungry. / Babies sleep..."*
- E306.87 COL The New Baby At Your House by Joanna Cole  
*Photographs show children across a range of ages and racial backgrounds anticipating a new sibling's birth and interacting with the new baby. Cole shows that big brothers and sisters "feel lots of different ways," sometimes at the same time. The book stresses that there are benefits and annoyances to having a new baby in the family, but the older child will always be loved and unique.*
- E649.65 HAR It's Not the Stork!: A Book About Girls, Boys, Babies, Bodies, Families, and Friends by Robie H. Harris
- E 782.421642 HIL Fiddle-i-Fee by Will Hillenbrand  
*In this cumulative rhyme, the whole farm prepares for a new baby.*



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## A New Baby in the Family

Books for kids about to become big brothers and sisters



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## Villa Park Public Library Youth Services

305 S. Ardmore Ave. \* Villa Park, IL 60181  
(630)834-1176 \* [www.vppl.info](http://www.vppl.info)

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## Picture Books

### EF BAL I Used To Be The Baby by Robin Ballard

A preschool-aged boy talks without resentment about what it's like to be the big brother, and how he helps mom with the baby. The book follows the daily family routine, showing a peaceful solution to each problem. Concludes with a picture of the boy on mom's lap: "I am the big brother. But sometimes I like to be the baby too." **Ages 2-5**

### EF BUC Hey, Little Baby! by Nola Buck

There's no evidence of sibling rivalry here, as an exuberant big sister brags to her baby brother in rhyming verse about all the wonderful things she can do that he can't yet. "And when you get bigger, do you know what I'll do? I'll teach every one of these things to you." **Ages 2-4**

### EF CAD Supersister by Beth Cadena

Comic-book style illustrations show a gradeschool girl wearing a superhero mask who's willing to do anything to help her mom. "Brave enough to walk to the bus stop alone! Strong enough to lift—and pour—her own bowl of cereal..." It's SUPER SISTER! And why is this superheroine tying her mother's shoes and being so helpful? Mom's very pregnant belly gives a clue. **Ages 4-8**

### EF COL I'm A Big Brother by Joanna Cole

In these each of these nearly identical books, an older sibling excitedly talks about the new addition to the family. The older child looks at pictures of when she was a baby, revels in the things he can do now that the baby can't, and asserts her unique place in her parents' love: "I'm the only me in the whole world! I'm special in a new way, too—I'm a big sister now!" **Ages 2-4**

### EF COW What Shall We Do with the Boo-Hoo Baby?

by Cressida Cowell  
The baby won't stop crying! The cow, the cat, the dog and the duck each make sensible suggestions of solutions. This is a great choice if you want to prepare your child now for life with a baby—and all that crying. **Ages 1-5**

### EF ELK Samuel's Baby by Mark Elkin

Samuel can't wait to tell everyone in his kindergarten class that he's having a baby. Soon everyone in the class is getting in on the act, stuffing toys under their shirts, and practicing diapering as they await the arrival of "fifteen babies, one beagle, one goldfish, two hamsters, one kitty-cat, one stegosaurus, and a dump truck." **Ages 4-7**

### EF GRA My Dog, My Cat, My Mama, and Me!

by Nigel Gray  
In this very simple book, an observant preschooler notices her dog getting fatter and fatter, then coming back skinny after she has puppies. The same thing happens when the cat has kittens. So when mama "got fatter and fatter / this time I knew what was the matter. Little ones will enjoy lifting the flaps to find puppies in the cupboard, kittens in a box and babies in the stroller. Just be prepared to clarify if you're not expecting a multiple birth. **Ages 1-4**

### EF HAR Happy Birth Day! by Robie Harris

Celebrate your memories of your child's birth as a way of preparing for the new baby and reaffirming your love for the child who's already here. **Ages 3-7**

### EF JAC My Heart is a Magic House by Julie Jacobs

An expectant mother comforts her daughter that she will always love her: "You see, my heart is a magic house, filled with many rooms...when the baby is born, there will be another room in my heart. But the room for you will be just as big as it is now." **Ages 4-8**

### EF JON How to be a Baby: By Me, the Big Sister

by Sally Lloyd-Jones  
A new big sister describes what it's like to be a baby, mostly in terms of things she can do that her baby brother can't. In a good natured, bossy tone, the narrator discusses the advantages and annoyances of being the big sister, looking forward to the time when her brother will be old enough for them to play together and laugh about how he was as a baby. **Ages 4-8**

### BOARD KUB Waiting For Baby by Annie Kubler

A toddler and his parents read pregnancy books, visit the doctor, and get ready for the new baby in a variety of other ways in this wordless board book. Use the detailed watercolor illustrations in this and the sequel, My New Baby, to discuss what's happening in your own family. **Babies—Age 4**



### EF LAN What A Good Big Brother!

by Diane Wright Landolf  
"Cameron loved his new baby sister, Sadie." On each page, Sadie is wailing for a different reason, and each time, Cameron helps his parents as they change her diaper, put her to bed, or feed her. Each time, the baby stops crying and his parents tell Cameron "What a good big brother!" At the end, Sadie is crying again and Cameron's parents can't figure out what to do. When Cameron steps in, she not only quiets down, she gives her first smile. **Ages 2-5**

### EF LUN Tell Me My Story, Mama by Deb Lund

"Tell me the story about when I was inside you, Mama." With plenty of prompting from the enthusiastic audience of one, a mother tells her daughter about being pregnant and excitedly waiting for the little girl to be born—"Just like we're waiting for the new baby now." This new baby will have its own story, and the little girl will always have hers. **Ages 3-6**

### EF ROC Hello Baby! By Lizzy Rockwell

This cheerful and uncomplicated story begins with a little boy listening to his mother's swollen belly. The book briefly gives a matter-of-fact, extremely simple explanation of what's going on inside that pregnant bump. Rockwell shows the preschooler preparing for the baby with his parents, then looking at his own baby pictures, and follows the family through the end of the baby's first day at home. **Ages 2-8**

### EF SHI Baby Baby Blah Blah Blah! by Jonathan Shipton

As her mother's belly gets bigger, Emily starts to worry: "When the baby comes... it will be baby this and baby that and baby goo goo and baby blah blah blah. Everything will be upside down and inside out." Emily's parents show her pictures of their life together before she was born, and they reassure her that while the family's life is definitely about to change, that won't be a bad thing. **Ages 5-9**

### EF STU How Do You Make A Baby Smile?

by Philemon Sturges  
Each wild animal shows a different way to make a baby smile: "Grin like Papa Crocodile," "like Mama Elephant, wiggle your ear" "Sing like daddy robins do." At the end, a human baby is shown playing with stuffed animal versions of the animals of earlier pages as his sister tickles him, then tucks him (and his animal companions) into bed. **Ages 2-4**

### EF ZIE Waiting For Baby by Harriet Ziefert

Max knows his mommy's going to have a baby; he's been asking questions and waiting for the baby for a long time, but that baby still hasn't been born! **Ages 2-7**

