



# Bookbug

## Catch the Reading Bug!

Your voice is the most important one for your baby or child, and speaking to them and sharing books together in your own language is crucial. Your baby or child will love listening to you talking or singing songs and rhymes in <xxxlanguage>, and having more than one language will be an advantage for them.

Sharing stories, songs and rhymes with your child has many wonderful benefits. It's lots of fun and just a few minutes a day will:

**Develop your child's language skills**

**Give you time to cuddle and help you bond with your child**

**Help you and your child feel relaxed**

**Boost your child's confidence**

**Encourage your child to draw and write**

**Give your child a great start in life**



## Enjoy your FREE bags of books

Bookbug gives every child in Scotland four free bags of books between birth and five years. Although these books are in English, you can share and enjoy them with your child by using the pictures to tell a story in <language>.

**Baby Bag:** from your health visitor in your baby's first year.

**Toddler Bag:** from your health visitor when your toddler is between 1 and 2

**Pirate Bag:** from nursery when your child is 3.

**Primary 1 Family Bag:** from school when your child is in P1.

As well as the bags, Bookbug can also provide touchy feely books for children and families with additional support needs. To request these, or if you have not received your free Bookbug bag, please ask at your local library or visit [scottishbooktrust.com/local-bookbug-contacts](http://scottishbooktrust.com/local-bookbug-contacts)

## Come along to FREE Bookbug Sessions

Bookbug Sessions are fun, free story, song and rhyme sessions. Everyone is welcome and it doesn't matter if you don't know the words – it is still a fun way to spend time with your little one. Lots of the songs are repeated each week so you can pick up the words. Some libraries also offer Bookbug Sessions in other languages. To find your nearest session ask at your local library or community group or visit [scottishbooktrust.com/localbookbugsessions](http://scottishbooktrust.com/localbookbugsessions).

## Join your local library

Libraries have a range of great books you can borrow for free and your baby or toddler is never too young to join! Your local library may also have books in <xxxlanguage>, or dual language picture books to try.

### Sharing stories, songs and rhymes in <xxxlanguage>.

Your child will really benefit from hearing you sing, talk and read to them in <xxx language>, and you could use stories, songs and rhymes from your own childhood. This will also help them learn other languages when they go to school.

Many libraries have books in other languages or dual language books to borrow for free. They are also available to buy from Mantra Lingua, [uk.mantralingua.com](http://uk.mantralingua.com), or [ablekids.co.uk](http://ablekids.co.uk) and digital books can be viewed for free on-line at the International Children's Digital Library [en.childrenslibrary.org](http://en.childrenslibrary.org).

You can also find songs in other languages on [mamalisa.com](http://mamalisa.com), and lots more songs and rhymes to join in with on our website [scottishbooktrust.com/bookbug/songs-and-rhymes](http://scottishbooktrust.com/bookbug/songs-and-rhymes).

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