Age	Developmental Milestones	How the early years practitioner can support ch.
8 – 20 months	Personal and Social Development: Making relationships	Share knowledge about languages with staff and parents and make a poster or book of greetings in all languages used within the setting and the
	Shows interest in the activities of others and responds differently to children and adults,	community.
30-50	Personal and Social Development:	Choose books, puppets and dolls that help children
months	Making relationships	explore their ideas about friends and friendship and to talk about feelings, e.g. someone saying
	Demonstrates friendly behaviour, initiating	'You can't play'.
	conversations and forming good relationships with peers and familiar adults.	
8- 20	Personal and Social Development:	Have resources including picture books and stories
months	Managing Feelings and Behaviour	that focus on a range of emotions, such as 'I am happy'.
	Uses familiar adult to share feelings such as	
	excitement or pleasure, and for 'emotional	
	refuelling' when feeling tired, stressed or frustrated.	

16 – 26 months	Personal and Social Development: Managing Feelings and Behaviour	Choose books and stories in which characters help and support each other.
	Is aware of others' feelings, for example, looks concerned if hears crying or looks excited if hears a familiar happy voice.	
23 – 36 months	 Personal and Social Development: Managing Feelings and Behaviour Responds to the feelings and wishes of others. Aware that some actions can hurt or harm others. 	Provide books, stories, puppets that can be used to model responding to others' feelings and being helpful and supportive to them.
40 – 60 months	Personal and Social Development: Managing Feelings and Behaviour Aware of the boundaries set, and of behavioural expectations in the setting. Beginning to be able to negotiate and solve problems without aggression, e.g. when someone has taken their toy.	Provide books with stories about characters that follow or break rules, and the effects of their behaviour on others.

16 – 26 months	Communication and Language: Listening and attention Listens to and enjoys rhythmic patterns in rhymes and stories	Talk about the different sounds they hear, such as a tractor's "chug chug" while sharing a book.
22 – 36 months	 Communication and Language: Listening and attention Listens with interest to the noises adults make when they read stories. Shows interest in play with sounds, songs and rhymes. 	Encourage repetition, rhythm and rhyme by using tone and intonation as you tell, recite or sing stories, poems and rhymes from books.
30 – 50 months	 Communication and Language: Listening and attention Listens to stories with increasing attention and recall. Joins in with repeated refrains and anticipates key events and phrases in rhymes and stories. 	Share rhymes, books and stories from many cultures, sometimes using languages other than English, particularly where children are learning English as an additional language. Children then all hear a range of languages and recognise the skill needed to speak more than one.

30 – 50 months	Communication and Language: Listening and attention Joins in with repeated refrains and anticipates key events and phrases in rhymes and stories.	Introduce 'rhyme time' bags containing books to take home and involve parents in rhymes and singing games.
Birth to 9 months	Communication and Language: Understanding Starts to understand contextual clues, e.g. familiar gestures, words and sounds.	Provide resources that stimulate babies' interests such as a shiny bell, a book or a mirror.
16 – 26 months	Communication and Language: Understanding Selects familiar objects by name and will go and find objects when asked, or identify objects from a group.	Use pictures, books, real objects, and signs alongside your words.
40 – 60 months	Communication and Language: Understanding They answer 'how' and 'why' questions about their experiences and in response to stories or events.	Use stories from books to focus children's attention on predictions and explanations, e.g. "Why did the boat tip over?"

40 – 60 months	Communication and Language: Understanding	Set up displays that remind children of what they have experienced, using objects, artefacts,
	They answer 'how' and 'why' questions about their experiences and in response to stories or events.	photographs and books.
8 to 20	Physical Development:	Provide resources that stimulate babies to handle
months	Moving and Handling	and manipulate things, e.g. toys with buttons to press or books with flaps to open.
	Picks up small objects between thumb and fingers.	
22 – 36	Physical Development:	Provide a range of books with hard and soft pages
months	Moving and Handling	that children can handle
	Turns pages in a book, sometimes several at once.	
8 – 20	Literacy:	Let children handle books and draw their attention
months	Reading	to pictures.
	Enjoys looking at books and other printed material with familiar people.	

8 – 20 months	Literacy: Reading Handles books and printed material with interest.	Make family books using small photo albums with photos of family members, significant people in the child's life, familiar everyday objects.
Birth to 11 months	Literacy: Reading Enjoys looking at books and other printed material with familiar people.	Collect a range of board books, cloth books and stories to share with young babies.
16 – 23 months	Literacy: Reading Interested in books and rhymes and may have favourites.	Encourage and support children's responses to picture books and stories you read with them.
16 – 23 months	Literacy: Reading Interested in books and rhymes and may have favourites.	Provide picture books, books with flaps or hidden words, books with accompanying story sacks.

16 – 23 months	Literacy: Reading Interested in books and rhymes and may have favourites.	Use different voices to tell stories and encourage young children to join in wherever possible.
22-36 months	Literacy: Reading Has some favourite stories, rhymes, songs, poems or jingles.	Create an attractive book area where children and adults can enjoy books together.
22-36 months	Literacy: Reading Repeats words or phrases from familiar stories.	Encourage children to use the stories they hear in their play.
22-36 months	Literacy: Reading Fills in the missing word or phrase in a known rhyme, story or game, e.g. 'Humpty Dumpty sat on a'.	Read stories that children already know, pausing at intervals to encourage them to 'read' the next word.

22-36 months	Literacy: Reading Has some favourite stories, rhymes, songs, poems or jingles.	Find opportunities to tell and read stories to children, using puppets, soft toys, or real objects as props
22-36 months	Literacy: Reading Has some favourite stories, rhymes, songs, poems or jingles.	Provide stories, pictures and puppets which allow children to experience and talk about how characters feel.
30 – 50 months	 Literacy: Reading Enjoys rhyming and rhythmic activities. Shows awareness of rhyme and alliteration. Recognises rhythm in spoken words. 	 Share stories and poems which feature rhyme and rhythm, emphasising these elements with the children, and using repetition, combining reading with the use of instruments to emphasise rhyme and rhythm
30 – 50 months	Literacy: Reading Shows interest in illustrations and print in books and print in the environment.	Provide fact and fiction books in all areas, e.g. construction area as well as the book area.

30 – 50 months	 Literacy: Reading Listens to and joins in with stories and poems, one-to-one and also in small groups. Joins in with repeated refrains and anticipates key events and phrases in rhymes and stories. 	 Provide some simple poetry, song, fiction and non-fiction books. Read with children 1:1 and in small groups Read familiar and non-familiar books
30 – 50 months	 Literacy: Reading Looks at books independently. Handles books carefully. Knows information can be relayed in the form of print. Holds books the correct way up and turns pages. 	Provide books containing photographs of the children that can be read by adults and that children can begin to 'read' by themselves.

30 – 50 months	 Literacy: Reading Recognises familiar words and signs such as own name and advertising logos. Looks at books independently. Handles books carefully. Knows information can be relayed in the form of print. Holds books the correct way up and turns pages. 	Add child-made books and adult-scribed stories to the book area and use these for sharing stories with others
30 – 50 months	 Literacy: Reading Suggests how the story might end. Listens to stories with increasing attention and recall. Describes main story settings, events and principal characters. 	 Talk to the children about the books, stories and discuss with them what is happening: Discuss with children the characters in books being read. Encourage them to predict outcomes, to think of alternative endings and to compare plots and the feelings of characters with their own experiences.
30 – 50 months	Literacy: Reading Recognises familiar words and signs such as own name and advertising logos.	Focus on meaningful print such as a child's name, words on a cereal packet or a book title, in order to discuss similarities and differences between symbols.

30 – 50 months	 Literacy: Reading Knows information can be relayed in the form of print. Knows that print carries meaning and, in English, is read from left to right and top to bottom. 	Introduce children to books and other materials that provide information or instructions. Carry out activities using instructions, such as reading a recipe to make a cake.
8 - 20 months	Mathematics: Shape, space and measure Recognises big things and small things in meaningful contexts.	Look at books showing objects such as a big truck and a little truck; or a big cat and a small kitten.
16 – 26 months	 Understanding the world: People and communities Enjoys pictures and stories about themselves, their families and other people. Is curious about people and shows interest in stories about themselves and their family. 	 Collect stories for, and make books about, children in the group, showing things they like to do. Provide books and resources which represent children's diverse backgrounds and which avoid negative stereotypes. Make photographic books about the children in the setting and encourage parents to contribute to these.

30 – 50 months	Understanding the world: People and communities Knows some of the things that make them unique, and can talk about some of the similarities and differences in relation to friends or family.	Help children to learn positive attitudes and challenge negative attitudes and stereotypes, by sharing selected stories and books showing black heroes or disabled kings or queens or families with same sex parents,
30 – 50 months	Understanding the world: People and communities Shows interest in different occupations and ways of life.	Share books and stories with children about different cultures, ways of life and jobs