



BOOK GUIDE SHEET

Banana for Two

By Ellen Mayer

“Mama, her toddler, and two stuffed bunnies turn an outing to the grocery store into a fun opportunity to talk, laugh, and learn a little math along the way.”

REMEMBER TO:

1. Try to sit with your child between you and your Early Learning Specialist.
2. Invite your child to look and listen.
3. Show and read the title page.
4. Show and describe how to turn the pages and handle the book.
5. Allow your child to hold the book, see the pictures and turn the pages.
6. Read slowly enough for your child to understand.
7. Stop periodically to ask questions about the story and pictures.
8. Follow your child’s lead. Notice what your child is looking at or talking about and comment about it.

Name and encourage your child to point out and name:

- **Labels:** shopping basket, shopping cart, cereal, paper towel, potatoes, carrots, yogurt, banana, bunny, hands, feet
- **Colors:** purple shopping basket, white bunny, green shirt, yellow banana
- **Shapes and sizes:** The front of the cereal box is a rectangle. The banana is long.
- **Numbers:** You have two hands. One, two! There are two bunnies. One, two!
- **Cause and effect:** If you cut a banana, you get two pieces.
- **Spatial relationships:** The child is sitting in the shopping cart.

Ask questions related to the story and pictures to help your child reason things out:

- Why do you think the child is smiling?
- What would you buy at the supermarket?
- What do you think the child and his mother will do after they finish shopping?

Invite your child to tell about experiences related to the story and pictures:

- What is your favorite snack?
- Have you ever sat in a shopping cart?
- Do you have any stuffed animals? What do they look like?

For more fun with your child:

- As you spend time with your child shopping, taking a walk, or playing, point out shapes and colors.

Remember throughout the home visit to:

ENCOURAGE your child to talk.

PRAISE your child.

ASK your child questions.

HELP your child when needed.

LISTEN to your child's answers.

RESPOND to your child's answers.

Have fun! Show your child that reading is enjoyable.