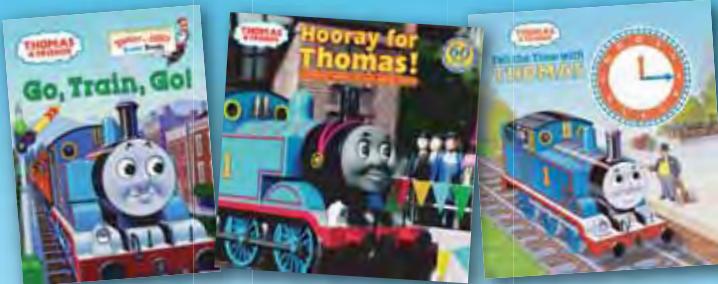


# Picture Your Child Reading with *Thomas & Friends*™!



**Dear Parent or Caregiver,**

**T**homas & Friends has been educating and entertaining youngsters around the world for more than half a century. Stories about everyone's favorite cheeky little engine and his friends offer adventures rich in detail, as well as important life lessons.

**Here's how you can improve your child's reading-readiness skills**

Create storytelling opportunities for your child using Thomas' adventures:

- Read a book with your child and ask your child to tell you his or her favorite part, along with how the story might change if he or she were a part of it.

**More ideas on the back ▶**

**D**id you know that *Thomas & Friends*™ is based on the time-honored tradition of parents telling stories to children? It all started in 1943 when the Rev. W. Awdry began to tell his young son, Christopher, the adventures of several trains that worked on the Island of Sodor. Eventually, Rev. Awdry published his stories. Christopher continued the tradition of writing stories about Thomas and his friends with his own

family, and Thomas hasn't slowed since. Thomas' world is a special place where friendship, hard work, and problem solving are important as the characters try their best to be really useful engines.

For more *Thomas & Friends* fun, be sure to visit [www.thomasandfriends.com](http://www.thomasandfriends.com), and for a complete listing of *Thomas & Friends* books, visit [www.randomhouse.com/kids/thomas](http://www.randomhouse.com/kids/thomas)

**THOMAS  
& FRIENDS**

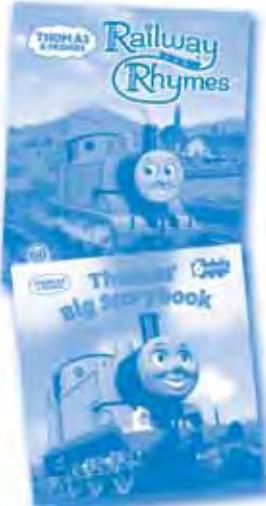
**HIT**  
INDEPENDENT  
CHILDREN'S  
TELEVISION

**RANDOM HOUSE  
CHILDREN'S BOOKS**

**YMI**  
YOUNG MINDS INSPIRED



## More ideas to help your child get on track for literacy

- 
- ➊ Begin (or continue!) a storytelling tradition by creating a new adventure for Thomas together with your child. You can do this anywhere—in a store, in the car or at the zoo.
  - ➋ Talk about the illustrations as you read with your child. What do the different faces on the engines tell about how the characters feel?
  - ➌ Help your child relate to the words on the page by moving your finger across the lines of text as you read together.
  - ➍ Challenge your child to predict what will happen next in the story. This helps your child to think and understand cause and effect.

## All aboard for literacy fun!

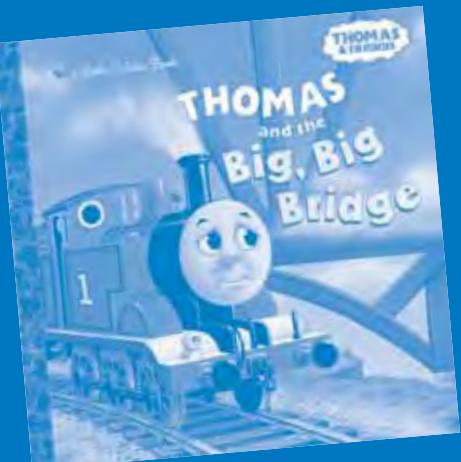
Look for these and other **Thomas & Friends™** titles from Random House Children's Books wherever books are sold!



## Bonus **Thomas & Friends™** Mini Book and 8 x 10 Portrait

Simply go to any portrait studio in Wal-Mart and receive one Bonus **Thomas & Friends** mini book and one 8 x 10 portrait. Appointments are available. Walk-ins are welcome. For the studio nearest you, call 1-800-599-4343 or view studio locator at [www.goportraits.com](http://www.goportraits.com)

**WAL-MART®**  
Portrait Studio



**Disclaimer:** No purchase is necessary. Not redeemable for cash. One per family. Offer available in portrait studios in Wal-Mart operated by PCA. Offer valid through November 30, 2006. Coupon code TT01