

**Scottish  
Book Trust**

inspiring readers and writers



# Download our free Bookbug app

Apps can be great for supporting children's learning and encouraging play and creativity. Our Bookbug app is one more way to fit songs and rhymes into your day and it's here to support you as you play and sing with your wee one.

Use the app to share songs and rhymes on the go, learn the words or make up your own rhymes to our instrumental versions. Explore the app together and save your favourite content to create your own personalised playlist. You can even download your favourites so you can listen offline.

Our app will also tell you where your nearest Bookbug Session is taking place so you can join in with other families.

Download today from the App Store or Google Play



# Bookbug's top tips for using tech with toddlers

## Use screens together

Screen time should be together time. Using an app together can provide lots of opportunity for great chat. Natural and fun interaction helps children's language development.

## Protect play and reading time

When you've finished with your device, put it away and play! Digital play is fun, but try to balance it with other types of play; playing outdoors, building blocks and reading stories together.

## Monitor your own screen time around your child

Staring at our phone can seem like we've 'disappeared' to our children, and knowing someone is mentally present is key to security and emotional balance.

## Soothe without screens

Children might want screens if they are upset, but instead, cuddle, talk and listen to them about what has happened. This helps them learn to calm themselves.

## Create positive digital relationships

Technology should work with us, not against us. Be clear about why you're using digital tools to make them work for you and your family.

## Avoid screens before bedtime

Some evidence suggests they can affect how well you sleep and stop you falling asleep easily.

## Choose apps carefully

Try them out yourself first. Not all apps are good quality. Apps that promote interaction and digital play are better than just watching a screen.

**DIGITAL**  
**PARTICIPATION**  
**SIGNATORY** 

*Photography by Jonathan Ley.  
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