

# Recommended Book List for Children

## BOOKS for KIDS

**A Pocket Full of Kisses** by Audrey Penn, illustrated by Barbara Leonard Gibson (ages 4-8). Raccoon has a baby brother, and the baby brother is taking over his territory. But Mrs. Raccoon soothes his fears with her own special brand of wisdom, finding just the right way to let Raccoon know he is deeply loved. Child and Family Press 2004.

**Barfburger Baby, I Was Here First** by Paula Danziger (ages 4-7). Jonathon can't figure out why grown-ups love babies! But he is going to have to get used to being a big brother. He is not the only kid in the family anymore, and he is not happy. G.P. Putnam's Sons 2004. Puffin 2007.

**Germs Are Not for Sharing** by Elizabeth Verdick, illustrated by Marieka Heinlen (ages 4-7). This book tells what germs are, what they do, and why it's so important to cover them up, block them from spreading, and wash them down the drain. Free Spirit Publishing 2006.

**No Bigger than My Teddy Bear** by Valerie Pankow, Illustrated by Gwen Connolly (ages 3-7). This picture book uses simple, straight forward language to describe the NICU experience as seen through the eyes of a new big brother. Family Books 2004.

### **My Brother is a Premie/My Sister is a Premie: A Children's Guide to the NICU Experience**

by Abraham R. Chuzzlewit and Dr. Jos. A. Vitterito II (ages 3-9). A brief child-friendly introduction to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit meant for siblings or young relatives. Ideally this book should be read together with your children before visiting the hospital to help alleviate some of the fears or uncertainties associated with visiting a baby in the hospital. CreateSpace 2010.

**That's When I'm Happy** by Beth Shoshan, illustrated by Jacqueline East (ages 2-6). Baby bear reminds himself that even when things are gloomy there are still things that make him happy, like running through the leaves or cuddling with mommy. Parragon, Incorporated 2007.

**The Invisible String** by Patrice Karst, illustrated by Geoff Stevenson (ages 3 and up). This book reassures children that even though they can't always be with a loved one, they're always in each other's hearts. "People who love each other are always connected by a very special String, made of love. Even though you can't see it with your eyes, you can feel it deep in your heart, and know that you are always connected to the..." Devorss & Co. 2000.



To print more pages or see a video tour of the NICU just for kids visit [www.handtohold.org/kids](http://www.handtohold.org/kids)

Activity pages developed and illustrated by David Merchen [www.smileycritters.com](http://www.smileycritters.com)



HAND to HOLD  
Fragile Babies. Strong Support.

You are not alone. Whether your baby was born preterm or has special health care needs, Hand to Hold is here to help. We are NICU parents just like you and we know that having a baby in the NICU affects the entire family. So Hand to Hold has comprehensive programs and services to support both you and those you love. If you are in need of support, are looking for resources, or just want to talk to somebody who will listen please visit [www.handtohold.org](http://www.handtohold.org) and [www.handtohold.org/kids](http://www.handtohold.org/kids) or call 855-424-6428.