LULLABIES AND NURSERY RHYMES
Books for Bubs in the NICU aims to support families during their time in the NICU with their babies. The program was developed by Arona Gibbons after her twin grandsons, Bodhi and Jarrah were born at 26 weeks gestation and spent their first months of life in the NICU. During their initial time in the NICU, holding and touching the boys was almost impossible for their parents, and so they started reading, talking and singing to them. Arona and the boy’s parents, Taycee and Owen could see that using their voices helped to settle the boys when they were having a hard day, and helped to build their bond as a family.

Very sadly, Bodhi passed away at just one month old, but the memories the family were able to create with him by reading and singing to him is something they will treasure forever. Jarrah went on to spend two more months at NICU where he was read and sang to as much as possible. His love for books now continues.

Arona has since started this program and has joined together with Paint the Lake Read, an early literacy program. This program encourages and supports all families to read, talk and sing with their children, in order to support their child’s brain development and strengthen their emotional attachment.

This project could not have been possible without the kind generosity of people in our community. From donations of books and money to sewing of the book bags, the support has been unwavering.

From the bottom of our hearts we wish you and your family all the very best for the future and we encourage you to use this book to connect with your child through the power of your voice.

If you would like to know more about the project, please visit ‘Books for bubs in the nicu’ on Facebook or for more information on early childhood literacy visit Paint the Lake Read on Facebook.
MARY HAD A LITTLE LAMB

Mary had a little lamb,
whose fleece was white as snow.
And everywhere that Mary went
The lamb was sure to go.
It followed her to school one day,
Which was against the rules,
It made the children laugh and play,
To see a lamb at school.
Twinkle, twinkle, little star
How I wonder what you are!
Up above the world so high
Like a diamond in the sky
Twinkle, twinkle, little star
How I wonder what you are.

When the blazing sun is set
When the grass with dew is wet,
Then you show your little light
Twinkle twinkle all the night
Twinkle twinkle little star
How I wonder what you are.

Then the traveller in the dark
Thanks you for the tiny spark
He could not see which way to go
If you did not twinkle so
Though I know not what you are
Twinkle twinkle little star.
INCY WINCY SPIDER

Incy wincy spider climbed up the water spout.
Down came the rain, and washed poor incy out.

Out came the sunshine, and dried up all the rain,
so incy wincy spider climbed up the spout again.

ROCK-A-BYE BABY

Rock-a-bye baby, in the treetop
When the wind blows, the cradle will rock
When the bough breaks, the cradle will fall
And down will come baby, cradle and all
HUSH, LITTLE BABY

Hush, little baby, don’t say a word.
Papa’s gonna buy you a mockingbird
And if that mockingbird won’t sing,
Papa’s gonna buy you a diamond ring

And if that diamond ring turns brass,
Papa’s gonna buy you a looking glass
And if that looking glass gets broke,
Papa’s gonna buy you a billy goat

And if that billy goat won’t pull,
Papa’s gonna buy you a cart and bull
And if that cart and bull turn over,
Papa’s gonna buy you a dog named Rover

And if that dog named Rover won’t bark
Papa’s gonna buy you a horse and cart
And if that horse and cart fall down,
You’ll still be the sweetest little baby in town.
TEDDY BEAR, TEDDY BEAR

Teddy bear, teddy bear, turn around.
Teddy bear, teddy bear, touch the ground.
Teddy bear, teddy bear, jump up high.
Teddy bear, teddy bear, touch the sky.
Teddy bear, teddy bear, reach down low.
Teddy bear, teddy bear, touch your toe.
Teddy bear, teddy bear, turn out the light.
Teddy bear, teddy bear, say good night.
SING A SONG OF SIXPENCE

Sing a song of sixpence: a pocket full of rye,
Four and twenty blackbirds baked in a pie.
When the pie was opened, the birds began to sing,
Wasn't that a dainty dish to set before the king?

The king was in the counting-house, counting out his money,
The queen was in the parlour, eating bread and honey,
The maid was in the garden, hanging out the clothes,
When down came a blackbird and pecked off her nose.
COME TO THE WINDOW

Come to the window,
My baby, with me,
And look at the stars
That shine on the sea!

There are two little stars
That play bo-peep
With two little fishes
Far down in the deep;

And two little frogs
Cry “Neap, neap, neap,”
I see a dear baby
That should be asleep.
Hickory, dickory, dock
The mouse ran up the clock.
The clock struck one
The mouse ran down
Hickory, dickory, dock.

Hickory, dickory, dock
The mouse ran up the clock.
The clock struck two
And down he flew
Hickory, dickory, dock.
ALL THE PRETTY HORSES

Hush-a-bye, don’t you cry,
Go to sleep my little baby.
When you wake you shall have
All the pretty little horses.

Black and bays, dapples, grays,
All the pretty little horses.
Hush-a-bye, don’t you cry,
Go to sleep my little baby.

Hush-a-bye, don’t you cry,
Go to sleep my little baby.
When you wake you shall have
All the pretty little horses.
Frère Jacques, Frère Jacques,
Dormez-vous? Dormez-vous?
Sonnez les matines, sonnez les matines
Ding ding dong, ding ding dong.

English Version:
Are you sleeping, are you sleeping?
Brother John, Brother John?
Morning bells are ringing, morning bells are ringing
Ding ding dong, ding ding dong.
Hey diddle diddle,
The cat and the fiddle,
The cow jumped over the moon.
The little dog laughed,
To see such craft,
And the dish ran away with the spoon.
Sleep, little child, go to sleep,
Mother is here by your bed.
Sleep, little child, go to sleep,
Rest on the pillow your head.

The world is silent and still,
The moon shines bright on the hill,
Then creeps past the windowsill.
Sleep, little child, go to sleep,
Oh, sleep, go to sleep.