Doodara review: an AI picture-book maker, its models and its photo policy

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Doodara makes an illustrated storybook starring your child. Its price, the AI models behind it, and what its privacy policy says about an uploaded photo.

Doodara (doodara.com) is an AI children's storybook maker. A parent types a story idea, can add a photo so their child is the hero, picks an age band and a language, and gets an illustrated picture book with the same character on every page. The free plan has no card and no cap on books; the catch is one art style, ads, and a photo policy worth reading before you upload. Its founder is a dad who started it to make books for his own 4-year-old, and he wrote to us after reading our list of AI story makers for kids. We've added Doodara to that list at number three. Peabody (peabody.kids) is free for everyone through the end of 2026.

We make Peabody, which also makes stories, so weigh our view with that in mind. We wrote this from Doodara's public pages on 4 November 2026. We haven't used it hands-on, and its own numbers (2,400+ books made) are the company's claims, not ours.

What you get

- You type, your child listens. Like most tools of this kind, Doodara is for a grown-up at the keyboard. The child is the audience and, if you add a photo, the hero.
- The same character on every page. This is the hard part of AI picture books, and the one thing the pictures need to get right. You can look at the sample books on its home page to judge.
- Three age bands: 1 to 2, 3 to 5 and 6 to 9, in many languages.
- A flipbook you read on screen, shared by link. PDF and EPUB export, narration and all 16 art styles are on paid plans.

What it costs (November 2026)

- Plan: Free · Price: $0 · What changes: Unlimited books on the basic model, watercolor only, ads shown, personal use
- Plan: Pro · Price: $9.99 a month ($7.99 a month if billed yearly) · What changes: 16 art styles, 10 advanced books a month, narration, PDF and EPUB, no ads
- Plan: Premium · Price: $24.99 a month · What changes: 30 advanced books a month

It also advertises a 24-hour half-price offer for new yearly members, and a 7-day refund if you haven't spent credits or exported a book. The founder's email also mentioned a $3.99 single-book export unlock. We couldn't find that on the pricing page, so check the price at checkout.

Which AI makes your book

This is the best thing about Doodara's pages. Most story makers say "powered by AI" and stop. Doodara's About page names the models: on paid plans, OpenAI's GPT-5.6 writes the stories and ByteDance's Seedream 4.0 draws them; on the free plan, Agnes 2.0 Flash writes and Agnes Image 2.1 Flash draws. It says it doesn't train its own models and that it will update the page if it changes providers.

The photo, which is the part to read twice

The founder's email said child photos are stored encrypted and only the account owner can use them. We couldn't find that on the site. Here is what the privacy policy says instead:

- Your prompts, and any photo you upload, are sent to whichever outside company makes that picture or text.
- It says free-plan providers "may retain submitted content and use it to improve their models." It suggests a paid plan if you want photos handled only by its main provider.
- It says it removes hidden location data from a photo before sending it, and that it doesn't sell personal data.
- The only encryption it mentions is for data in transit.
- You can delete a book yourself. Deleting the whole account is by email, within 30 days.

That is more candid than many makers, which say nothing. But it means a photo of your child on the free plan may end up with a company you've never heard of. If the policy is out of date, we'd like to know and will update this page.

Our advice is the same as for every tool like this. Skip the photo, or describe the hero in words and let the book show a made-up child. Use a first name only. Read every page of the book, pictures included, before your child does.

Who it suits

It suits a parent who wants a quick keepsake book, with your child's name and a favorite animal in it, to read at bedtime. It doesn't suit a child who wants to be the author. Nothing in it asks a child questions or lets them steer. Our comparison of AI story generators goes into why that matters, and how to choose between a keepsake and a tool that helps a child write.

If you'd like your child to be the one with the idea, Peabody's story maker starts from what they want to happen. And the library is where they can read stories pitched at their own level.

Questions parents ask

Is Doodara free?

Its free plan is: unlimited books on the basic model, in one art style, with ads, for personal use. Pro starts at $9.99 a month (November 2026).

Is Doodara safe for kids?

It's built for parents, not children, and its privacy policy says it doesn't knowingly collect personal information from children under 13 without parental consent. The main risk is the photo: on the free plan, outside providers may keep it. Skip the photo if you aren't comfortable with that.

Which AI does Doodara use?

OpenAI's GPT-5.6 and ByteDance's Seedream 4.0 on paid plans; Agnes models on the free plan, according to its About page.

Do I need an account?

The home page says no sign-up, but its terms say you must create an account to use most features, and its privacy policy describes Google Sign-In. Expect to sign in to keep or export a book.

Free at peabody.kids/blog/doodara-ai-picture-book-maker-review