

GREAT BOOKS FOR BABIES AND TODDLERS

STORIES

Ahlberg, Allan & Janet. *Each Peach Pear Plum*. Viking, 1979.

Rhymed text and illustrations invite the reader to play "I spy" with a variety of Mother Goose and other folklore characters.

Alborough, Jez. *Tall*. Candlewick, 2005.

Bobo the chimp climbs progressively taller animals in his quest to be tall.

Bang, Molly. *Ten, Nine, Eight*. Greenwillow, 1983.

Numbers from ten to one are part of this lullaby which shows the room of a little girl going to bed.

Barton, Byron. *Dinosaurs, Dinosaurs*. HarperCollins, 1989.

The youngest child can travel back in time to a place where all the many different types of dinosaurs roamed.

Barton, Byron. *Machines at Work*. HarperCollins, 1987.

During a busy day at the construction site, the workers use a variety of machines to knock down a building and begin constructing a new one.

Barton, Byron. *My Car*. Greenwillow, 2001.

Sam explains how he cares for his car, and in an unexpected twist, reveals that he is also a city bus driver.

Bornstein, Ruth Lercher. *Little Gorilla*. Clarion, 1979.

Little Gorilla is loved by everyone in the jungle even as he begins to grow . . . and grow . . . and GROW!

Boyd, Lizi. *Black Dog Gets Dressed*. Candlewick, 2003.

A boy dresses his compliant black dog and himself before they go out to play.

Brown, Margaret Wise. *Goodnight Moon*. Illustrated by Clement Hurd. HarperCollins, 2005.

A small rabbit says goodnight to each of the objects in the great green room.



- Bunting, Eve. *Flower Garden*. Illustrated by Kathryn Hewitt. Harcourt, 1994.
Helped by her father, a young girl prepares a flower garden as a birthday surprise for her mother.
- Bunting, Eve. *Hurry, Hurry*. Illustrated by Jeff Mack. Harcourt, 2007.
All the farm animals rush to the barn to make sure they will be there in time to see the newest edition to their farm hatch.
- Burningham, John. *Mr. Gumpy's Outing*. Holt, 1971.
Mr. Gumpy accepts more and more riders on his boat until the inevitable occurs.
- Cabrera, Jane. *If You're Happy and You Know It*. Holiday House, 2005.
This traditional song is packed with animal action.
- Carle, Eric. *The Very Busy Spider*. Putnam, 1989.
The farm animals try to divert a busy little spider from spinning her web, but she persists and produces a thing of both beauty and usefulness. The pictures can be felt as well as seen.
- Carle, Eric. *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*. Putnam, 1986.
With humor and great appeal, this traces the development of a caterpillar from egg to butterfly.
- Carlstrom, Nancy White. *Jesse Bear, What Will You Wear?*. Illustrated by Bruce Degen. S & S, 1986.
A rhymed text describes Jesse Bear's activities from morning to bedtime.
- Cooke, Trish. *So Much*. Illustrated by Helen Oxenbury. Candlewick, 1994.
Relatives arriving in succession give in to their desire to squeeze and kiss and play with the baby.
- Crews, Donald. *Freight Train*. Greenwillow, 1978.
Brief text and illustrations trace the journey of a colorful train as it goes through tunnels, by cities, and over trestles.
- Cronin, Doreen. *Wiggle*. Illustrated by Scott Menchin. Atheneum, 2005.
This doggie wiggles morning, noon and night. The time is always right.
- Degen, Bruce. *Jamberry*. Harper, 1983.
A little boy walking in the forest meets a big lovable bear that takes him on a delicious berry-picking adventure in the magical world of Berryland.
- Demarest, Chris. *Honk!*. Boyds Mills, 1998.
A little goose honks all around the farmyard, looking for its mother.

- Dewdney, Anna. *Llama, Llama, Red Pajama*. Viking, 2005.
After Mama Llama reads Baby Llama a bedtime story and tucks him in, he cries and wails when she does not come back immediately when he calls to her.
- Dodd, Emma. *Dog's Noisy Day*. Dutton, 2003.
This is a doggone charming roundup of animal noises, perfect for reading aloud.
- Dunrea, Olivier. *Boo Boo*. Houghton Mifflin, 2004.
Boo Boo, a small blue gosling who loves to eat, discovers that not everything is good food.
- Dunrea, Olivier. *Gossie*. Houghton Mifflin, 2002.
Gossie, a gosling who loves to wear bright red boots every day, is heartbroken when she can't find them.
- Dunrea, Olivier. *Gossie & Gertie*. Houghton Mifflin, 2002.
Gossie and Gertie are best friends who go everywhere together. Until one day Gertie doesn't follow Gossie.
- Dunrea, Olivier. *Ollie*. Houghton Mifflin, 2003.
Gossie and Gertie have been waiting weeks for Ollie to hatch, but he refuses to leave his egg.
- Dunrea, Olivier. *Ollie the Stomper*. Houghton Mifflin, 2003.
Ollie wants boots like Gossie and Gertie, so he stomps around behind them.
- Dunrea, Olivier. *Peedie*. Houghton Mifflin, 2004.
Peedie is a gosling who sometimes forgets things, except his red baseball cap.
- Ehlert, Lois. *Fish Eyes*. Harcourt, 1990.
A counting book with die cut holes depicts the colorful fish a child might see if he turned into a fish himself.
- Ehlert, Lois. *Growing Vegetable Soup*. Harcourt, 1987.
A father and child share the simple joys of planting, watering, and watching seeds grow in their garden. Then they cook them all up into a delicious vegetable soup.
- Fleming, Denise. *Barnyard Banter*. Holt, 1994.
A pure white goose tours a farm visiting her friends, and each responds appropriately.
- Fleming, Denise. *The Cow Who Clucked*. Holt, 2006.
When a cow loses her moo, she searches to see if another animal in the barn has it.

- Fleming, Denise. *In the Small, Small Pond*. Holt, 1993.
Illustrations and rhyming text describe the activities of animals living in and near a small pond as spring progresses to autumn.
- Fleming, Denise. *In the Tall, Tall Grass*. Holt, 1991.
A small boy watches a caterpillar make its way through the tall, tall grass near his home meeting many creatures, including snakes, moles, fireflies, and bats.
- Fleming, Denise. *Mama Cat Has Three Kittens*. Holt, 1998.
While two kittens copy everything their mother does, their brother naps.
- Fox, Mem. *Hattie and the Fox*. Illustrated by Patricia Mullins. S & S, 1987.
Hattie, a big black hen, discovers a fox in the bushes, which creates varying reactions in the other barnyard animals.
- Gentieu, Penny. *Baby! Talk!*. Crown, 1999.
Photographs and simple text present a group of babies finding their feet, playing patty-cake, eating, hugging, and more.
- George, Kristine O'Connell. *Book!*. Illustrated by Maggie Smith. Clarion, 2001.
A book makes a great gift and a great poem too.
- Ginsburg, Mirra. *Good Morning, Chick*. Illustrated by Byron Barton. Greenwillow, 1980.
A little chick is born, learns to find food, and tries to grow up too fast.
- Heap, Sue. *Four Friends Together*. Candlewick, 2003.
After much squirming and shifting, four friends finally settle in for what they love best – a really good story they can enjoy together.
- Henkes, Kevin. *A Good Day*. Greenwillow, 2007.
Four animals start out having bad days, but this changes when the bad events lead to better things for all of them.
- Hest, Amy. *Kiss Good Night*. Illustrated by Anita Jeram. Candlewick, 2001.
Even after a story, being tucked in, and warm milk, Sam is still not ready to go to sleep until his mother kisses him good night.
- Hill, Eric. *Where's Spot?*. G. P. Putnam's Sons, 2005.
A mother dog finds eight other animals hiding around the house before finding her lost puppy. Flaps conceal the animals.
- Hillenbrand, Will. *Down By the Station*. Gulliver Books, 1999.
In this version of a familiar song, baby animals ride to the children's zoo on the zoo train.

Hindley, Judy. *Baby Talk: A Book of First Words and Phrases*. Illustrated by Brita Granstöm. Candlewick, 2006.

Simple rhymes follow a baby through the day, showing many of a baby's first words, including up, bump, and splash.

Hoban, Tana. *Of Colors and Things*. Greenwillow, 1989.

Photographs of toys, food, and other common objects are grouped on each page according to color.

Horáček, Petr. *Butterfly, Butterfly*. Candlewick, 2007.

A little girl finds a beautiful butterfly in her garden, but the next day it's gone, so she finds new bugs to play with until the butterfly reappears.

Hubbell, Patricia. *Firefighters!: Speeding! Spraying! Saving!*. Illustrated by Viviana Garofoli. Marshall Cavendish, 2007.

Illustrations and rhyming text celebrate firefighters and what they do.

Huneck, Stephen. *Sally Goes to the Beach*. Abrams, 2000.

Sally, a black Labrador retriever, goes to the beach, where she enjoys various activities with other visiting dogs.

Isadora, Rachel. *Peekaboo Morning*. Putnam, 2002.

A toddler plays peek-a-boo throughout the day.

Keats, Ezra Jack. *The Snowy Day*. Viking, 1962.

A young boy romps in the snow, and is awed by its magic.

Kraus, Robert. *Whose Mouse are You?*. Illustrated by Jose Aruego. S & S, 2000.

A mouse child wonders about his place in the family.

Lewis, Kevin. *Chugga Chugga Choo Choo*. Illustrated by Daniel Kirk. Hyperion, 1999.

A rhyming story about a very busy engine that works from dawn to dusk.

London, Jonathan. *A Truck Goes Rattley-Bumpa*. Illustrated by Denis Roche. Holt, 2005.

Describes trucks of all sizes, shapes, and colors doing a variety of tasks.

Martin, Bill. *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?*. Illustrated by Eric Carle. Holt, 1992.

Children see a variety of animals, each one a different color, and a mother looking at them.

Martin, Bill. *Chicka Chicka Boom Boom*. Illustrated by Lois Ehlert. S & S, 1989.

An alphabet rhyme/chant that relates what happens when the whole alphabet tries to climb a coconut tree.

- Martin, David. *We've All Got Bellybuttons!*. Illustrated by Randy Cecil. Candlewick, 2005.
All animals have hands, necks and bellybuttons just ready for tickles.
- Mayo, Margaret. *Dig Dig Digging*. Illustrated by Alex Ayliffe. Holt, 2002.
Simple rhymes introduce various large vehicles, such as dump trucks, fire engines, and tractors, and describe the work that they do.
- McBratney, Sam. *Guess How Much I Love You?*. Illustrated by Anita Jeram. Candlewick, 1995.
During a bedtime game, every time Little Nutbrown Hare demonstrates how much he loves his father, Big Nutbrown Hare gently shows him that the love is returned even more.
- Meyers, Susan. *Everywhere Babies*. Illustrated by Marla Frazee. Harcourt, 2001.
Rhymes and illustrations show babies from all over the globe in their daily activities.
- Miller, Margaret. *Big and Little*. Greenwillow, 1998.
Relative size is a concept the youngest children can enjoy as they view a child's hand and an adult's hand, a large block and a tiny block.
- Murphy, Mary. *I Kissed the Baby*. Candlewick, 2003.
All the animals are talking about what they did when they saw the newest baby duckling.
- Niland, Deborah. *When I Was a Baby*. Kane/Miller, 2007.
A young child tells the difference between what he did when he was a baby and what he does now.
- O'Connell, Rebecca. *The Baby Goes Beep*. Illustrated by Ken Wilson-Max. Roaring Brook, 2003.
A baby makes various sounds as he explores the world around him.
- O'Hair, Margaret. *Star Baby*. Illustrated by Erin Eitter Kono. Clarion, 2005.
A beloved baby's day is described in rhymes and pictures, with the focus always kept squarely on the busy, beautiful baby.
- Patricelli, Leslie. *The Birthday Box*. Candlewick, 2007.
A baby is overjoyed to get a box for his birthday, and the stuffed dog that came in the box is going along for the adventures.
- Riley, Linnea. *Mouse Mess*. Blue Sky Press, 1997.
A hungry mouse leaves a huge mess when it goes in search of a snack.
- Saul, Carol P. *Barn Cat*. Illustrated by Mary Azarian. Little, 1998.
Because she's looking for something special, the great barn cat notices but shows no interest in the activities of the animals (which can be counted) around her.

- Scott, Ann Herbert. *On Mother's Lap*. Illustrated by Glo Coalson. Clarion, 1992.
A small Eskimo boy discovers that Mother's lap is a very special place with room for everyone.
- Shapiro, Arnold L. *Mice Squeak, We Speak*. Illustrated by Tomie dePaola. Putnam, 1997.
Illustrations and simple text describe the ways various animals communicate, such as "Owls hoot," "Pigs squeal," and "Bees buzz."
- Shaw, Charles G. *It Looked Like Spilt Milk*. HarperCollins, 1947.
White designs on midnight blue pages invite children to identify the shapes.
- Simmons, Jane. *Come Along, Daisy!*. Little, 1998.
Daisy the duckling becomes so engrossed in playing with dragonflies and lily pads that she temporarily loses her mother.
- Sis, Peter. *Fire Truck*. Greenwillow, 1998.
Matt, a little boy whose first and last words every day are "fire truck," wakes up one morning and discovers he has sprouted wheels, flashing lights, and sirens!
- Sis, Peter. *Trucks, Trucks, Trucks*. Greenwillow, 1999.
As a little boy cleans up his room, he gives one word descriptions of the work his various toy trucks do, such as hauling, plowing, and loading.
- Slobodkina, Esphyr. *Caps for Sale*. HarperCollins, 1947.
Monkeys steal a peddler's caps while he is asleep.
- Smith, Maggie. *One Naked Baby*. Knopf, 2007.
Illustrations and simple rhymes go from one to ten and back again over the course of a baby's day.
- Step toe, John. *Baby Says*. HarperCollins, 1988.
A baby and big brother figure out how to get along.
- Sturges, Philemon. *How Do You Make a Baby Smile?*. Illustrated by Bridget Strevens-Marzo. HarperCollins, 2007.
Different animals are used to get happy reactions from a baby before he is put to bed.
- Tafari, Nancy. *Spots, Feathers, and Curly Tails*. Greenwillow, 1998.
Questions and answers highlight some outstanding characteristics of farm animals, such as a chicken's feathers and a horse's mane.
- Thong, Roseanne. *Tummy Girl*. Illustrated by Sam Williams. Holt, 2007.
Rhyming text celebrates the early years of a daughter's life, from wobbly first steps to romping in the rain.

- Walsh, Ellen Stoll. *Mouse Count*. Harcourt, 1991.
Ten mice outsmart a hungry snake.
- Walsh, Ellen Stoll. *Mouse Paint*. Harcourt, 1989.
Three white mice discover jars of red, blue, and yellow paint and explore the world of color.
- Weeks, Sarah. *Overboard!*. Illustrated by Sam Williams. Harcourt, 2006.
A baby bunny shows how much joy a child gets from throwing things overboard, off a table, out of the tub, and out of the crib.
- Wild, Margaret. *Piglet and Papa*. Illustrated by Stephen Michael King. Abrams, 2007.
When Piglet's beloved father chases her away after she plays too rough, all of the barnyard animals try to make her feel better, but Piglet is still afraid that her father no longer loves her.
- Willems, Mo. *Knuffle Bunny: A Cautionary Tale*. Hyperion, 2004.
Leaving the Laundromat with her daddy, toddler Trixie realizes she's forgotten her beloved stuffed animal, Knuffle Bunny.
- Willems, Mo. *Time to Pee!*. Hyperion, 2003.
Sign-carrying mice give encouraging instructions for using the toilet.
- Williams, Sue. *I Went Walking*. Illustrated by Julie Vivas. Gulliver Books, 1990.
During the course of a walk, a young boy identifies animals of different colors.
- Williams, Vera. *"More, More, More," Said the Baby*. Greenwillow, 1990.
Three babies are played with and given loving attention by a father, grandmother, and mother.
- Wood, Audrey. *Silly Sally*. Harcourt, 1992.
A rhyming story of Silly Sally, who makes many friends as she travels to town - backwards and upside down.
- Yolen, Jane. *Off We Go!*. Illustrated by Laurel Molk. Little, 2000.
One by one, baby woodland creatures leave home and sing their way to visit grandma.

BOARD BOOKS

- Ashman, Linda. *Babies on the Go!*. Illustrated by Jane Dyer. Red Wagon Books, 2007.
Illustrations and rhyming text show how different animals carry their babies when they are on the move.

Baby Faces. DK, 1998.

This book captures the expressions and moods of babies throughout their busy days.

Boynton, Sandra. *Moo, Baa, La La La!*. Little Simon, 1982.

With rhyme and humor, animal sounds are introduced.

Cowley, Joy. *Mrs. Wishy-Washy*. Illustrated by Elizabeth Fuller. Philomel, 1999.

Mrs. Wishy-Washy washes her farm animals in her large metal tub.

Ellwand, David. *Big Book of Beautiful Babies*. Dutton, 1995.

Photographs and rhyming text provide a varied look at babies.

Global Babies. Charlesbridge, 2007.

Photos of babies from around the world.

Hoban, Tana. *What is That?*. HarperFestival, 1994.

In this board book for infants, white silhouettes against a black background depict such objects as a pacifier, stroller, balloon, and chair.

Hoban, Tana. *Who are They?*. HarperFestival, 1994.

Black silhouettes against a white background depict different mother animals and their young, from one sheep to five ducks. Companion to *What is That?*

Hurd, Thacher. *Zoom City*. HarperFestival, 1998.

Cars honk, beep, stop, go, zoom, crash, and get repaired.

Krauss, Ruth. *The Carrot Seed*. Illustrated by Crockett Johnson. HarperFestival, 1993.

In spite of what his family says, a little boy remains confident that his carrot seed will come up.

London, Jonathan. *Wiggle Waggle*. Illustrated by Michael Rex. Harcourt, 1999.

Describes how various animals walk, from the wiggle waggle of a duck to the boing, boing, boing of a kangaroo.

MacLeod, Elizabeth. *I Heard a Little Baa*. Illustrated by Louise Phillips. Kids Can Press, 2007.

Illustrations and rhyme tell children a sound, and then let them guess the animal that goes with it.

Oxenbury, Helen. *Clap Hands*. Simon, 1999.

A large board book that shows toddlers dancing, eating, playing and waving. Others in the series are: *Tickle, Tickle, Say Goodnight* and *All Fall Down*.

Patricelli, Leslie. *Binky*. Candlewick, 2005.

Follow the baby through the house in a search for the lost Binky.

- Patricelli, Leslie. *Blankie*. Candlewick, 2005.
Meet Blankie, the best companion a toddler could have.
- Pearson, Tracey Campbell. *Diddle, Diddle, Dumpling*. FSG, 2005.
This familiar rhyme finds new life in a board book version featuring a sleepy young African-American boy sharing a bedtime story with his dad.
- Pearson, Tracey Campbell. *Hector Protector*. FSG, 2004.
A child dresses up a dog and later snuggles up with him.
- Pearson, Tracey Campbell. *Little Bo Peep*. FSG, 2004.
A baby loses his sheep over the side of his crib and cries until his parents help him find them.
- Pinkney, Andrea. *Pretty Brown Face*. Illustrated by Brian Pinkney. Red Wagon, 1997.
An African-American baby boy discovers the unique features that make his face so special.
- Simmons, Jane. *Go to Sleep, Daisy*. O'Brien Press Ltd., 2000.
A soothingly repetitive text describes how Daisy is distracted by the nighttime animals.
- Taylor, Ann. *Baby Dance*. Illustrated by Marjorie Van Heerden. HarperFestival, 1999.
While Mama is napping, Father tries to comfort the baby by singing and dancing.
- Wells, Rosemary. *Goodnight Max*. Viking, 2000.
Max's Bedtime. Viking, 2003.
Max's Birthday. Viking, 2004.
Max's Breakfast. Viking, 2004.
Max's New Suit. Viking, 2003.
Max's Ride. Viking, 2003.
Max's Toys. Viking, 2004.
Max and his "helpful" big sister Ruby are perennial favorites.
- Wells, Rosemary. *Old MacDonald*. Scholastic, 1998.
Old MacDonald is a rabbit in this familiar song.

SONGS AND RHYMES

- Calmenson, Stephanie. *Good for You: Toddler Rhymes for Toddler Times*. Illustrated by Melissa Sweet. HarperCollins, 2001.
An appealing collection of rhymes addresses daily life for young children from the potty to the playground, from blocks to bedtime.

DePaola, Tomie. *Tomie DePaola's Mother Goose*. Putnam, 1985.

An illustrated collection of 204 Mother Goose nursery rhymes.

Opie, Iona. *Here Comes Mother Goose*. Illustrated by Rosemary Wells.

Candlewick, 1999.

A collection of nursery rhymes including "Peter, Peter, Pumpkin Eater," "Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush," and "I'm Dusty Bill from Vinegar Hill."

Opie, Iona. *My Very First Mother Goose*. Illustrated by Rosemary Wells.

Candlewick, 1996.

A collection of more than sixty nursery rhymes including "Hey Diddle, Diddle," "Pat-a-Cake," "Little Jack Horner," and "Pussycat, Pussycat."

Sendak, Maurice. *Chicken Soup With Rice*. HarperCollins, 1962.

This infectious rhyming book takes you through all the months.

Yolen, Jane. *This Little Piggy*. Illustrated by Will Hillenbrand. Candlewick, 2006.

This charmingly illustrated collection includes instructions on how to play bouncing and clapping games and act out rhymes, as well as providing musical notation for songs, all of which will encourage parents and grandparents to enjoy actively sharing these verses with young listeners.

Zelinsky, Paul. *The Wheels on the Bus*. Orchard Books, 2006.

The wheels on the bus go round, the wipers go swish, the doors open and close, and the people go in and out in this movable book version of the classic song.

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