



RSVP/*Born to Read*
Bibliography of Titles for First-Time Child Care Providers
Listed Alphabetically by Title

Bark, George! by Jules Feiffer

George tries to bark for his mother, but every time he does, other animal sounds come out. What will solve the problem? Feiffer's line drawings emphasize the silliness of George's predicament.

Caps for Sale by Esphyr Slobodkina

Based on an old folk tale, this humorous book brings to life the troubles of a peddler with a very mischievous band of monkeys. Children will love the repetition of phrases and the peddler's exaggerated gestures; in fact, they will want to re-enact the story on the spot!

Chicka Chicka ABC by Bill Martin Jr. & John Archambault, illustrated by Lois Ehlert

Adapted from the popular *Chicka Chicka Boom Boom* by the same author/illustrator team, this board book uses a bouncy chant and brightly colored lower case letters to introduce the alphabet. What happens when all the letters reach the top of the coconut tree will delight readers from 6 months to 60 years of age.

Each Peach Pear Plum by Janet and Allan Ahlberg

This variation on "I Spy" books encourages the reader to search for characters from nursery rhymes and fairy tales. Repetitive phrasing and hinting rhymes make it easy for children to chant along or fill in the missing words.

Eating the Alphabet by Lois Ehlert

Ehlert's bold illustrations take readers well beyond "A is for Apple." The wealth of color and the variety of fruits and vegetables (eggplant and persimmon!) bring the alphabet literally to life.

Freight Train by Donald Crews

Any child who loves machinery and motion will enjoy looking at this book over and over again. The simple text makes it an ideal book for beginning readers or adults with limited literacy skills, while the brilliant colors catch the eye of even the youngest child.

Growing Vegetable Soup by Lois Ehlert

Ehlert's bold, colorful drawings document the "growth" of soup from seed to pot. This book lends itself well to follow-up activities such as cooking or vegetable printing.

Humpty Dumpty and Other Rhymes compiled by Iona Opie, illustrated by Rosemary Wells

A shortened, board book version of *My Very First Mother Goose* that contains nine rhymes, each complemented by one of Wells' colorful illustrations.

It Looked Like Spilt Milk by Charles G. Shaw.

Using white shapes on a blue background, the author creates simple, vivid images of the forms a cloud can take. After reading this book, children may be inspired to watch the sky and come up with their own "cloud-pictures."

Kitten's First Full Moon by Kevin Henkes

The 2005 Caldecott Award-winner is the charming adventure of a kitten who mistakes the moon for a bowl of milk. The charcoal- and cream-colored pictures are easy for young children to enjoy; the simple story grabs their attention and rewards them with a satisfying ending.

The Lady with the Alligator Purse by Nadine Bernard Westcott.

Clapping rhymes never go out of fashion, and Westcott's adaptation emphasizes the absurd elements in this well-known verse. Children will love the unusual responses which the wacky lady gives Miss Lucy. If you know the tune (or even if you don't), sing it!

The Little Red Hen by Margot Zemach.

Zemach's playful illustrations vividly depict the industrious red hen and the lazy pig, goose, and cat, as well as the hen's loyal brood of chicks, whose antics add depth to this old story of hard work rewarded.

Machines at Work by Byron Barton.

With one line of text per page and bright, blocky pictures, Barton brings to life the world of machines. A perennial favorite with budding engineers and construction workers.

Max's Bath. Rosemary Wells.

Big sister Ruby finds out that giving Max the bunny a bath is no easy task. Bold illustrations and simple text draw an infant's attention; the everyday situation and the silliness appeals to both toddlers and older children, and parents will identify with Ruby's struggle!

"More More More," Said the Baby by Vera B. Williams.

In three separate scenes, three babies are swung, tossed, and cuddled by the adults who care for them, and they can't get enough. The swirling colors of the pictures add life to Williams's rhythmic text, which is simple enough for toddlers but rich enough for older children.

My Very First Mother Goose compiled by Iona Opie, illustrated by Rosemary Wells.

Wells gives traditional nursery rhymes new life through her whimsical animal characters. Opie's choices include most of the well-known rhymes, as well as some you may not recognize.

On Mother's Lap by Ann Herbert Scott, illustrated by Glo Coalson.

Every child who has had to share his mother with a new sibling will relate to this story of an Inuit boy who brings all his toys on to his mother's lap but claims there's no room for his baby sister. Coalson's soft illustrations enhance the peacefulness found in Scott's lilting refrains.

Rumpelstiltskin retold and illustrated by Paul O. Zelinsky.

In this Caldecott Honor Book, the familiar tale of spinning straw into gold is enriched by glorious, detailed pictures. This book's large size is wonderful for group read-alouds.

Ten, Nine, Eight by Molly Bang.

This “countdown” story is at once a lulling bedtime rhyme and a chance for older children to practice their counting and classifying skills. Bang’s soft illustrations of a little girl, her father, and her snug bedroom add to the soothing rhythm of the words.