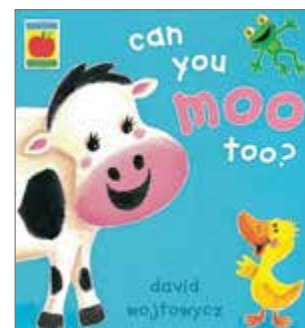


Story of the week: "Can You Moo?" by David Wojtowycz.

Orchard Picture Books, Australia, 2002.

- At first glance you might think your child is too old for this book because it is all about the sounds or "performatives" that we associate with animals. However, the performatives associated with animals give you an opportunity to listen to your child's speech and ensure the vowel and diphthong content in them is accurate, which is this week's speech goal. On a higher level, you can ask your child what sound each animal makes. This is the type of language all children this age can use and understand. You should be able to ask your child, "What sound does the tiger make?", and he should be able to answer you with the correct sound. You can also raise the level of the book by hiding the picture while you ask the question and show your child after he comprehends and makes the sound. An even higher level is to give a clue about the animal first, "It hops. What is it?", and when he answers then ask him what sound the animal makes.
- Expand this book by gathering a variety of toy animals and make the sound for each animal. You can also reverse the activity and make a sound and have your child get the associated animal.
- The language associated with animal sounds is rich in vocabulary also. You can teach your child that a cat purrs, a dog barks, a bird tweets, etc. Bring books to life through dramatisation, acting out and varying and changing your voice to suit the situation. These strategies will keep your child's interest in the book.



Song of the week: "Baa Baa Black Sheep"

Words: "Baa Baa Black Sheep have you any wool? Yes sir, yes sir, three bags full. One for the Master and one for the Dame. And one for the little boy who lives down the lane."

- This is a fun song to teach your child as he will have fun making the animal sound 'baa baa' and repeating the 'yes sir, yes sir'. This song lends itself well to teaching your child there are four distinct parts to the song. It is fun to act out using family members to be the Master and the Dame and your child can be the little boy. Use three pillows as the bags of wool and find a toy or stuffed sheep and make it black (put black paper on it or a black scarf).
- Expand the song by changing the animal. Draw pictures or find the actual objects so your child learns new vocabulary and concepts.
 - Woof, woof brown dog, have you any bones.
 - Quack, quack yellow duck, have you any worms.
 - Ribbit, ribbit green frog, have you any bugs.

★ **TIP:** *Encourage your child to explore, let them get dirty and make a mess – this is learning.*

