

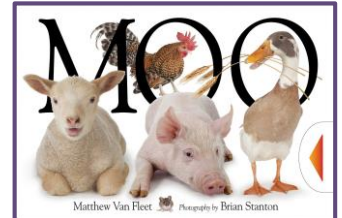
Learning Time – session plans



Moo

By Matthew Fleet and Brian Stanton

Moo is a fun and interactive farm book that is jam packed with sensory experiences and surprises! Simple rhyming text describes the sounds the animals make. Clever paper technology and stunning photographs bring these gorgeous farm animals to life. Little ones will delight in mimicking the sounds and petting the animals textured fleece and fur.



Key Message for Parents | Children Learn from Listening and Copying

The ability to imitate is present at birth and is essential in the development of the brain. Parents can support their baby's brain development by:

- Singing songs, playing games and reading books
- Engaging in sensory experiences and playing with objects or toys that they can touch, move, shake and see and hear
- Facing baby when talking and making lots of eye contact.

Today's picture book engages sight and touch through beautiful photos of animals with clever flaps and textures. Think about your home environment and how you could create some sensory experiences which will encourage your baby to be engaged and doing, and therefore, learning.

Learning Outcomes | Outcome 4: Children are Confident and Involved Learners

We can help young children become confident and curious learners by firstly developing their disposition for learning through:

- Babies also need opportunities to develop a range of fine motor and cognitive skills so engage babies in a range of physical experiences such as rolling, bouncing, and rocking
- Using finger plays, songs and rhymes every day
- Playing games such as hide and seek, "Peek-a-Boo" and ball games. Use simple language such as "Where is the...?" Vary the intonation and volume of your voice to engage baby

Let babies explore through play in a safe and stimulating environment.

- Use cause and effect toys which require pushing and pulling to develop fine motor coordination, like a ball or wheeled toy
- Model and encourage - Demonstrate how by pushing the duck, it quacks! *Moo* is full of lots of fun and learning

Find booklists, tip sheets, nursery rhymes and activity and learning time sheets @

thelittlebigbookclub.com.au





Welcome

Ask carers to write nametags for themselves and their babies. Welcome everyone, introduce yourself, remind adults to turn their mobile phones off and that there will be time for adults to chat after the story and songs.

Welcome Song (or your preferred song)

Have the words available as a handout or written on a board or butcher's paper for the adults to read and join in.

Welcome song - Come Along

Come along and sing with me, sing with me

Come along and sing with me, It's time for story time

Repeat and replace 'sing' with bounce, rock, clap etc.

- *Come along and bounce with me, bounce with me, bounce with me*
- *Come along and bounce with me, it's time for story time*

Finger Plays

Round The Farmyard

Round and round the farmyard

Goes the little mare

One step, two step – tickly under there!

Round and round the farmyard

Goes the little mouse

One step, two step into his little house!

This Little Piggy

This little piggy went to market

This little piggy stayed home

This little piggy ate roast beef

This little piggy had none.

But this little piggy went wheeeeeeeeeeeee!

All the way home!

Encourage parents to sing facing their baby so that baby can watch their mouth move as they sing and talk – this helps babies learn to speak themselves.





Songs

I Went To Visit A Farm One Day

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=caE6mFSZlqs>

This nursery rhyme asks *what sounds do animals make*, so encourage the parents or carers to make the animal sounds with you! When talking, singing and reading to babies, it is important to use eye contact and respond positively to their attempts to communicate with lots of smiles to show them you are proud of their efforts!

I went to visit a farm one day

I saw a cat across the way

And what do you think I heard it say?

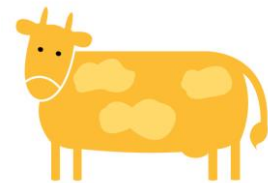
Meow! Meow! Meow!

I went to visit a farm one day

I saw a cow across the way

And what do you think I heard it say?

Moo! Moo! Moo!



You might like to ask the parents to choose an animal as you sing, or use picture cards, finger puppets or soft toys to prompt the next animal.

Other Farm Songs

- Old MacDonald
- Baa Baa Black Sheep
- Five Little Ducks
- Mary Had a Little Lamb

Before Reading

Make sure babies and parents are seated comfortably - you might like to sing a 'getting ready to begin' song. This one is sung to the tune of ***Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star***, Alternatively a bell or triangle could signal story time and help gain baby's attention.

Let's get ready to read a book

Settle down and have a look

Ears are listening, eyes to see

We are ready, you and me

Stories, songs and lots of rhymes

Here is our book, its story time!



During Reading

With the tactile qualities of this book, it would be ideal if multiple copies were available to share. Look at the cover together. Pass it around and encourage babies and parents/carers to run their fingers across the cover. With a simple press of the arrow, the rooster comes to life, pecking at the wheat.

The text is written in easy to read rhyme, using fun alliteration like “strut and stretch”. Each page finishes with either a moving image or a flap that reveals a surprise beneath it, plenty to discover for babies.

Activity time

Farm Fun | Simple play and sensory fun to conclude the session.

What you need:

- Egg shakers
- Cardboard box with holes cut out (for babies to drop eggs into)
- Feathers or ribbons (placed in a basket for tickling and feeling)
- Long cardboard tubes (to drop eggs down)
- Planks to roll eggs down



NOTE: Babies learn by mouthing objects, so ensure that all objects are clean and cannot be swallowed.

What to do:

- Encourage parents and carers to interact in play together.
- Touch and feel objects, role model language that supports sensory play. Encourage parents to describe what they are doing or seeing, for example, “Listen...what can you hear? *Shake, shake, shake the rattle!*”

Goodbye

The Little Big Book Club suggests the following books to support learning in this area. If your library has copies, make them available for families to borrow or include them in your story time session. For more stories to share, we recommend the following titles:

- **Spot Goes To The Farm** by Eric Hill
- **Noisy Farm** by Rod Campbell
- **Bizzy Bear On The Farm** by Benji Davies

Goodbye Song

Depending on the size of your group, you may wish to insert each child’s name in the place of ‘you’ as it develops a more personal relationship between yourself, the child and the family. Sing to the tune of (*Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush*) **or** your preferred choice.

Goodbye

This is the way we say goodbye (use a waving action)

Say goodbye, say goodbye

This is the way we say goodbye

To all our library friends (or) (to our friend.....)!