



## BOO

*By Margaret Wild and Andrew Joyner*

*Boo! is a playful and hilarious book that will delight young and old! Margaret Wild's rhyming text is rhythmic and fun to read. Andrew Joyner's illustrations are colourful and energetic and bounce off the page!*



### Key Message for Parents | Children learn language by listening to it and using it.

As parents we can optimise language acquisition by:

- Reading daily to your baby
- Singing songs and rhymes with your baby
- Talking, responding and listening attentively to your baby.
- Sharing regular songs, stories and rhymes with young children from birth will give them approximately 5000 words in their vocabulary by the time they start school!
- Playing games with your baby, today's story just might inspire one!

### Australian Early Years Learning Framework Outcome 5: Children are effective communicators

We can help babies become effective communicators in the following ways:

- The more a baby experiences language the quicker they will pick it up! Talk with your baby whenever you can! When changing a nappy, mealtimes or out shopping!
- Singing lots of songs such as nursery rhymes, playing games together such as Peek-a boo!
- Copying the sounds your baby makes! This teaches them "turn taking" in conversation and will encourage them to make even more sounds and to make more attempts at communication. These early "babble" sounds mark the very beginning of a baby's language development.
- Using eye contact when communicating with your baby and lots of facial expressions

### 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

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

[thelittlebigbookclub.com.au](http://thelittlebigbookclub.com.au)     



### 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*

### Songs Finger Play : Round and round the garden

*Round and round the garden like a teddy bear*

*One step, two step*

*Tickly under there!*

*Round and round the garden goes the little mouse*

*One step, two step*

*Into his little house!*

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.

### Before Reading

Encourage parents and carers to get comfortable and try to settle their babies ready for the story. Babies can sit facing forward in laps or any other comfortable position, but make sure they are safely supported by loving arms!

Babies love sensory experiences! Using a little bell or a toy with a squeaker or puppet will help gain baby's attention. You could have a baby doll hiding under a blanket as well that pops out - Babies will enjoy this element of surprise and it is a perfect fit for today's story too!

Introduce the book by looking at its cover – what can we see? It's a baby hiding under a rug! BOO!

### During Reading

This book is so much fun! From the first line to the last, the repetitive rhythm gives it great readability that you can really enjoy!.

"Boo!" said the baby to the monkey in the cot! The word "Boo!" is repeated throughout the book and is an integral part of the story. Encourage parents and carers to say "Boo" with you as you read, and to look at their babies as they say it!



When it gets to “ready, steady, count 1,2,3” slow down the pace and get parents to count with you as well!

It is here that the perspective changes and the animals then say “Boo!” to the baby! When the monkey says “Shhhhh!”, will that quieten things down? Ask parents to make a shhhh sound too...then turn the page for the surprise!

### After Reading -Peek a boo!

Peek a boo is a traditional games and one of the first games babies often learn! Babies love the repetitive nature of the game and enjoy the interactive excitement of it! Peek a Boo develops language skills and emotional engagement. Using the following rhyme, encourage parents to touch baby’s nose, toes and tickle tummies as they play.

Peek a boo! (cover eyes for “peek”, take hands away for “boo”)

Peek a boo!

I see you (tickle tummy)

I see you

I see your button nose ( touch nose )

I see your tiny toes ( tickle toes )

I see you!

Peek a Boo!.

### Extension ideas

#### Activity time – Bubble Fun!

Babies love bubbles and this is a lovely sensory play activity which encourages gross motor development and spatial awareness as well as visual tracking.

Have parents sit in a circle with babies in the middle. Ask a couple of parents/carers to be the ‘bubble blower’. Play music and encourage fun!

#### Animal Adventure!

Have some toy animals hidden under a big rug or blanket. Sitting in a circle get the parents to hold the edges of the rug or blanket. On the count of three get the parents to lift the rug to discover the animals inside! If parents hold rug up babies could crawl under. Encourage parents and carers to help their child find the animals and make the animal sounds together.

Peek-a-boo toy! All you need is a paper cup, a pop stick and a picture of an animal! Make a small incision at the bottom of the cup and thread the stick through. Attach an image to the top of the stick. As you push the stick through the, picture rises to the top of the cup and says “BOO!”



### Goodbye

Conclude the session with some suggestions of books that parents might want to share with their children.

An Activity Time for this book is available to download for FREE from our website. This is a great resource to share with families, you are welcome to print and distribute as necessary.

For more stories to share, we recommend the following titles and if your library has copies, make them available for families to borrow or include them in your story time session:

- *Find Spot at the Zoo* by Eric Hill
- *Dear Zoo* by Rod Campbell
- *Time for Bed* by Mem Fox

### 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.

Sung 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.....)!*