



## Hello Bugs! By Smriti Prasadam

### Theme: Bugs and Butterflies May 2013

*A charming introduction to ten beautiful bugs. With first words and noises to join in with, this beautiful book will captivate sparkly little babies everywhere!*



### Key Message For Parents

#### Children Learn Language By Listening To It And Using It.

- Babies begin to learn language skills from the moment that they are born.
- Early interactions between adults and babies in nurturing relationships have an amazing impact on brain development.
- Every baby learns to talk by listening to people talk, by playing with sounds and words and by talking with to others.

### Outcome Five: Children Are Effective Communicators.

*Children interact verbally and non-verbally with others for a range of purposes.*

Educators promote this learning when they:

- Engage in enjoyable interactions with babies as they make and play with sounds.
- Are attuned and respond sensitively and appropriately to children's efforts to communicate.
- Listen to and respond to children's approximations of words.
- Model language and encourage children to express themselves through language in a range of contexts and for a range of purposes.

### Welcome

Ask carers to write name tags 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.

### Sing

#### 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.

#### Good Morning

Good morning to you  
 Good morning to you  
 Good morning everybody  
 And welcome to you!



## Song

Because our story today has the word **'hello'** repeated in its text, let's use this in a song.

Position your infants on your knee or in your arms so that they are facing you. Let's sing to your children so that they know just how much you love them. You can rock them or bounce them gently as you sing the words.

Finish the song with big hug and a kiss.

### **Hello to You**

Hello to you

Hello to you

Hello dear (say your child's name) and...

Mummy (or who ever is at story time today) loves you!

## Book Introduction

*Hello Bugs* is such a delightful book for babies. The text is simple and repetitive and the illustrations feature bright, clear and high-contrasting, black and white patterns with a glittering burst of colour on every page.

## Share with parents:

The first language skill to develop is known as *receptive language* or understanding *what is heard*.

*Expressive language* or *speaking skills* develops later.

**You can help babies develop both kinds of language through the following ways:**

- Talking
- Listening
- Sharing Books
- Playing
- Singing
- Finger games and rhymes

## Rhymes

### **Here is the Beehive**

Here is the beehive

Where are the bees?

Hiding Away, where nobody sees!

Watch them come creeping

Out of their hive

1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Bzzzzzzzzzzzz

Curl your (or you infant's) fingers up into a fist)

Place fist on the open palm of your other hand

Slowly uncurl your (or you infant's) fingers

Make your hand fly around and make a buzzing sound, before returning them to 'the hive'.



## Activity Time

As You Read ... Become the bug! Turn your index finger into a creeping caterpillar and walk it up the leg of you infant or make your hand into a tickling spider alerting your baby to book play. Turn your index fingers into two talking worms, "Hello, Worm!" "Hello!" Place your fingers 15 – to - 30 centimetres from your baby's eyes, giving your child time to focus on one wiggling finger before moving the next. Make the bee fly. Wait until your baby's eyes settle on the black and yellow cover image, then slowly move the book through the air according to your little one's looking and tracking abilities. BUZZ!

Tap the page in rhythm with the verse: *Hel-lo, Grass-hop-per! Tap-tap, tap-tap-tap!* This draws baby's eyes to the page and accentuates language rhythm. You could make a simple chanting (almost song-like) rhythm with your voice as you move your fingers across the words on the page, or change the tone of your voice to become those of the different bug characters.

If you are multi-lingual, share this book with your infant in more than one language.

## Other ideas

- Babies learn language by listening to it, imitating, practising and then using it contextually. Hide a stuffed toy under a rug. Help your baby find the animal by lifting the rug off and saying (for example) "hello teddy".
- Lift your baby up in front of a mirror and say his/her name (for example) "hello Dana"). Lower your child from the mirror and then repeat. You will sense your infant's anticipation to repeat this activity.
- Play peek-a-boo using the language of "hello..."
- Take your baby for a walk what sounds can you hear? Put a name to the sounds that you hear because this will help your infant understand the world of sounds and learn new words at the same time.

## Goodbye

Conclude the session with some suggestions of books that parents might want to borrow that relate to the theme of bugs.

### 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.....)!*