



In the Bush I See

By **Kiara Honeychurch**

In the bush I see is part of a lovely board book series by Magabala books. Each book is by a young Indigenous Australian artist. In the bush I see is a playful collection of birds and creatures found in our Australian bush. While the text is simple it aptly describes each of the eight Australian animals. With crisp white backgrounds and bold pops of colours on each animal, babies will delight in learning all about animals you find in the bush.



Key Message for Parents | The Best Learning Happens in Nurturing Relationships

Babies brains are ready to learn from birth. Providing them with positive early experiences like reading, singing and playing helps build a strong foundation for all future learning.

Some ideas to share with parents are;

- Encourage families to talk with their baby. Sit facing the baby while you read, they will love to watch your face as you read, and they will try to copy.
- Be patient. Babies may not always want to sit and listen to a whole story. If your baby becomes restless during a book, stop and try again another time.

Australian Early Years Learning Framework | Outcome 3: Children have a strong sense of wellbeing

We can help babies become confident learners by;

- Allowing time in your day for play, songs and stories. Have fun with babies while you read, make silly voices, do animals noises.
- Families are a baby's first teacher. We can be active role models for families by inspiring them and giving them ideas for play activities that they can enjoy at home.
- Providing opportunities for baby to explore, experiment and be hands on with books. Ensure books are accessible for babies to play with, have them on the floor where baby can reach. Put some in your bag or pram so they are always part of baby's day.

Welcome

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





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

Good Morning

*Good morning to you
Good morning to you
Good morning everybody
and welcome to you!*

Song

Walking in the bush

Walking in the bush
Walking in the bush
There is nothing quite like it
Walking in the bush

Walking in the bush
Walking in the bush
There is nothing quite like it
Walking in the bush

You may come across an emu
Strutting about in the sun
You may come across a gecko
Ready to take off and run

Walking in the bush
Walking in the bush
There is nothing quite like it
Walking in the bush
Walking in the bush
Walking in the bush
There is nothing quite like it
Walking in the bush

You may come across a brolga
Dancing about with his mate
You may come across a lazy lizard
Couldn't care less if he's late

Walking in the bush
Walking in the bush
There is nothing quite like it
Walking in the bush

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



Walk your
fingers up and
down your
babies arms and
legs as you sing



Before Reading

Provide a space which allows parents and babies to sit comfortably together, babies in laps or laying on floor in front of the parent. Ideally have copies of the book so each parent can share it with their baby.

You are a parent's role model for how to hold and read a book to their baby. Use this time before starting the story to talk about the cover and read the title while running your finger under the words.

Talk about what can we see on the cover of the book? What animal is that?

Encourage parents to let their baby touch and grab the book- this is how they learn about books and the way they work!

During Reading

To build some suspense, before turning each page use the phrase- in the bush I see.... Then turn the page and say what animals it is.

Underline the words with your finger- this helps build that word/sound/print association.

Make animal noises where you can, this helps bring the story to life and babies will delight in hearing your voice.

Talk about the pops of colour on each animal and the colours on the words.

After Reading

Plays some games with your baby;

- Play a game of "In the room I see". Look around the room and spot different objects. Eg: In the room I see ... a seat, a rug, a bed. Finish the game with seeing your baby- In the room I see... my baby. Give them a big hug.
- Play a game of peek a boo. Peek a book is a timeless game that can be played simply by facing the baby, holding your hands over your eyes then peeking out from behind. Alter the tone of your voice and expression on your face as you say, 'peek a boo'.

Extension Activities

- Take your baby for a walk in the bush. Time in nature is beneficial for both your baby and you. Point out the things you see, spot animals and insects, stop and look at plants.

Goodbye

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

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:

- *Let's Play* by Ali Durham
- *Where's Mrs Hen?* by Ingela Peterson Arrhenius
- *Brown Bear, Brown Bear What Do You See?* Bill Martin Jr, Eric Carle

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.....)!