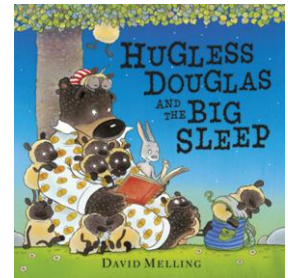


Hugless Douglas And The Big Sleep by David Melling

During October 2012 we featured three beautiful books about making new friends and holding onto old ones. These stories are great for teaching young children about being kind, accepting others and also what it means to be a good friend.

Douglas is so excited about Rabbit's sleepover that he wants to bring all his friends with him, but he collects so many along the way that soon it's hard for everyone to fit in Rabbit's small burrow! Can Douglas think of a way for them all to get some sleep!



Key Message for Parents

The Best Learning Happens In Nurturing Relationships

- Children have better outcomes when they have relationships that are consistent, warm and loving.
- Look for opportunities to spend time with other toddlers, children, family, friends or community groups so your child can be part of a wide network and develop social skills while learning from others.
- Sometimes you don't have to do anything special – just spend time talking, cuddling, tickling, giggling and just messing around. You are never 'wasting time' while you are having fun with your child.

EYLF Learning Outcomes

Outcome 1: Children have a strong sense of identity

- Children learn to interact in relation to others with care, empathy and respect.

Welcome

Sharing a welcome song helps develop strong relationships between you, children and their families, which in turn promotes strong wellbeing.

Book Introduction

Engage the children and introduce the story with some real life sleepover props. Many children of this age may not have had a sleepover before. Explaining the concept to them first will help with their comprehension and enjoyment of the story.

Show the children all the things you would take on a sleepover, like pyjamas, sleeping bag, pillow, toothbrush, favourite cuddly toy and a bedtime story.

Can they guess where you are going and what you are doing?

Draw, trace or photocopy a picture of Hugless Douglas from the book and attach it to a popstick to make a puppet. Introduce Hugless Douglas to the children. Explain to them that Hugless Douglas is very, very excited because he is going on a sleepover at this friend's house.

For more book suggestions, tip sheets, nursery rhymes, songs and fun things to make and do please visit:

thelittlebigbookclub.com.au



During Reading

Point out when the characters are being good friends and explain how that makes the other character feel.

For example, "Poor Hugless Douglas, I think he is probably feeling sad and worried that he is lost. Lucky Sheep knows the way to Rabbit's house. That was kind of him to show Hugless Douglas the way. I am sure he is feeling happy now."

After Reading

There are several other books about Hugless Douglas that you could share with families:

- Hugless Douglas
- Don't Worry, Hugless Douglas
- We Love You, Hugless Douglas (coming in 2013)

Families might be interested to know that there is a website with information about the books and the author/illustrator as well as some colouring sheets you can print out www.huglessdouglas.com.au. There is also an app called Hugless Douglas based on the first book in the series.

Songs and Rhymes

Gentle bedtime songs can be just as valuable as a bedtime story in your bedtime routine. Ask families to share what lullabies they sing to their children.

Other songs you can suggest include:

- *Twinkle Twinkle*
- *Baa Black Sheep*
- *Hush Little Baby*

The Little Big Book Club website has a number of nursery rhymes which you can download for free.

Activity Time

There are many wonderful books about bedtime that families might find useful for their bedtime routine.

The Little Big Book Club has created many printable activities that match these books which are available on our website. Our suggestions include:

- *Tuck Me In* – Make a bed and some animals to tuck in.
- *Time for Bed, Isobel* - Make a bed for a cuddly toy out of a tissue box.
- *Sleepy Bears* – Make a shiny moon and sleepy bear mobile.
- *Hugless Dougless and the Big Sleep* – Make a backpack filled with everything you need for a sleepover
- *Check On Me* – Make a day and night poster.

The above activities are suitable for a variety of ages.

Collate a list with the children and families of their favourite bedtime picture books. Or ask families to prepare their own lists. Copy and share their lists as a great way of introducing new books to each other.

It's Bed Time

This beautifully illustrated picture book features commissioned bed time stories by established Australian authors, tips and suggestions to help parents/carers establish bed time routines and a recommended book list of additional bed time stories.

You can listen to and share the downloadable music by Mike Steer that has been specifically commissioned for *It's Bed Time*.

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