



Spot Goes To The Park

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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. Share a story with your friends today!

It's a great day to play outside and Spot, Helen and Spot's mum decide to go the park. There are lots of fun things to do like chasing the pigeons, playing on the swing and throwing around the ball. But oh no...the ball has rolled into the water! .Lucky for Spot he meets a very kind duck who helps him get his ball back. This is a great story about friendship and being kind and helpful to others.

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 babies, 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 3: Children have a strong sense of wellbeing.

- Children become strong in their social and emotional wellbeing.
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Welcome

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

Book Introduction

Draw, trace or photocopy a picture of Spot from the book and attach it to a popstick to make a puppet. Introduce Spot to the children. Do they know who he is? If you have other Spot books in your collection, show them to the families and have them available for borrowing after the Story Time.



During Reading

Depending on the number of children and their ages, you may be able to have some helpers to assist you in lifting the flaps in the book.

Chatting to the children about what is happening in the pictures helps develop both their vocabulary and comprehension.

After Reading

As this is a short, simple story you might be able to read another Spot book to the children. Or introduce another favourite book character such as Maisy or Grug.

Songs and Rhymes

Singing songs and moving to music are all fantastic fun for children. But that's not all . . . they are great ways to develop vocabulary, coordination, an understanding of rhyme, an awareness of rhythm and are a simple way of having quality time with your little ones. You will be amazed at how even the youngest of children soon start to join in with simple actions, long before they can sing the words.

Introduce the children to *Five Little Ducks*. Place emphasis on simple hand actions to go with the song and little ones will be joining in before you know it.

Activity Time

SPOT PUPPET

- Provide materials for the families to make their own Spot puppet to take home, just like the one you used for the book introduction.
- You could also make puppets of Spot's family and friends to encourage talking and interaction.

MORE SPOT FUN:

Use our free template to make some invites and a to do list for your own picnic at the park.

<http://www.thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/resources/spot-goes-to-the-park-activity-time-sheet>

Visit our website for more fun activities with Spot:

Read *Spot Can Count* and make a counting carrots mobile.

<http://www.thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/resources/spot-can-count-activity-time-sheet>

Read *Spot Goes To The Circus* and make a monkey on a trapeze.

<http://www.thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/resources/spot-goes-to-the-circus-activity-time-sheet>

Read *Spot's First Christmas* and create a simple Christmas tree or a beautiful paper dove.

<http://www.thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/titles/spots-first-christmas>

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

thelittlebigbookclub.com.au

