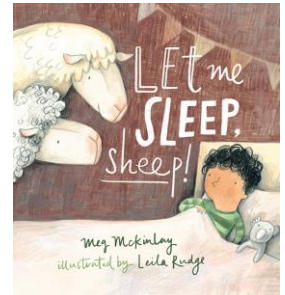




Let me Sleep Sheep!

by **Meg McKinlay & Leila Rudge**

Amos is counting himself to sleep. However, when Amos starts counting sheep, there's one thing he doesn't quite count on. How's he supposed to sleep when the sheep land THUD! THUD! in his bedroom?



A laugh out loud cleverly written and beautifully illustrated bedtime story which incorporates every day numeracy concepts – counting, opposites, colours and measurements.

Key Message for Parents | Children Are Born Ready To Use And Learn Mathematics

- Mathematics is more than just number and counting, it includes sorting and comparing, measurement, opposites, patterning, shape and colour
- Young children learn and understand mathematical concepts more effectively through trying things and finding out things themselves, rather than by rote or drill
- Children's fingers have an important role in their mathematical development. More brain development occurs through hands on learning than those developed by rote learning

Australian Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF) | Outcome 4: Children are confident and involved learners

Children develop a range of skills and processes such as problem solving, inquiry, experimentation, researching and investigating. We can see evidence of these skills when children:

- Make predictions and generalisations about their daily activities and environments, using patterns they identify and communicate these using mathematical language and symbols
- Create and use representation to organise, record and communicate mathematical ideas and concepts.

Welcome

Ask carers to write nametags for themselves and their children.

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.

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.

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

thelittlebigbookclub.com.au     



Good Morning

Good morning to you

Good morning to you

Good morning everybody

and welcome to you!



Song – Five in the Bed

There were five sheep in the bed

And Felix said,

'Roll over, roll over',

So, they all rolled over and one fell out.

There were four in the bed

And Felix said,

'Roll over, roll over',

So, they all rolled over and one fell out.

There were three in the bed

And Felix said,

'Roll over, roll over',

So, they all rolled over and one fell out.

There were two in the bed

And Felix said,

'Roll over, roll over',

So, they all rolled over and one fell out.

There was one in the bed

And Walter said,

Goodnight!

Welcome everyone! – You are going to love today's story, it is called Let me SLEEP Sheep!

Before Reading

Introduce the book by showing the children the front cover. Read the title and name of the author. Ask: "Who do you think the story will be about? What animals can you see on the front cover?" Continue "What else do you notice? What do you think the boy is wanting to do? Explain "This story is about Amos and he's wanting to go to sleep, but when he starts counting sheep to help him fall asleep, something strange happens.

During Reading

Let me Sleep Sheep! Is a fun story to share with lots of complexities on every page! With this story take time to stop and talk about what is happening on the pages. *The sheep are slightly grumpy, I wonder why? How many sheep are jumping over Amos bedhead and why? Would you want Felix and Walter living in your bedroom? What does Walter mean when he says we are sheep and not rabbits? Can rabbits jumper high than sheep?* There are lots of fun discussions to be had throughout the story.



After Reading

Talk about the concepts that make up the story – numeracy (opposites, counting, colours and measurements) and rules. What are rules ... give examples - do the children have to brush their teeth morning and night? Do they have to wash their hands before eating? Are these actions a rule? Yes. When Amos is counting sheep to go to sleep, do the sheep have to jump over a fence? Yes. For the sheep, this is a rule they must do to help Amos fall asleep.

Extension Activities:

Explore the concept of opposite and how it relates to this story - too low, too high, too hard, to soft – wet - dry.

Children learn by doing so get the children to stand up and shake out their wriggles. Next ask them to crouch down low. Recite the rhyme, here we go up, up, up, here we go down, down, down. The children stretch up high then crouch down low again. Repeat a few times getting faster each time. The children will love to go faster and faster, then repeat by moving your body very s l o w l y.

Song – The Grand Old Duke of York

*The grand old duke of York,
He had 10,000 men,
He marched them up to the top of the hill,
And he marched them down again.*

*And when they were up, they were up.
And when they were down, they were down.
And when they were only halfway up,
They were neither up nor down!*

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.

For some more stories to share, we recommend the following titles:

- *How Many Legs?* by Kes Gray, Jim Field
- *Oi Duck-Billed Platypus* by Kes Gray, Jim Field
- *Dinosaur Day Out* by Tania Cox, Jedda Robaard

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 choice.

Goodbye

This is the way we say goodbye (wave) say goodbye, say goodbye

This is the way we say goodbye to all our library friends (or) (to our friend.....)!