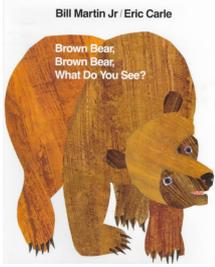


# Let's Share: **Brown Bear, Brown Bear...**



This is a classic picture book with colourful illustrations and simple repetitive verse. Children love meeting new animals on each page and trying to guess

which creature will show up next. The pattern is repeated over and over again and children are able to 'chime in' and predict the next lines. Children will delight in the strange animals they discover (purple cat, blue horse).

There is a strong link between **oral language** (listening & talking) and later **reading ability**.

To promote oral language, you can:

- Read favourite books over and over again.
- Read with your child, not to your child. Let them lead.
- Make comments (I wonder..., I notice..., This reminds me..., I think..., I remember...)
- Ask questions to help your child label, recall and predict. Give your child enough time to respond.
- Ask open-ended questions (more than one answer).
- Comment on letters/words that are the same.
- Help build a bridge (or connection) between the story and your child's own life experiences.

## When reading the story:

- Sweep your finger under the repeated sentences (What do you see?) and pause so your child can say the last word (see).
- Ask your child to predict (guess) what animal might come next.
- Emphasize the rhyming words *see-me* and point to your eyes and to yourself when you say the words.
- Touch the animal when you read and let your child turn pages.

## Play I spy!

- Focus on names of colours in the book.
- Say "I spy with my little eye, something that is green. Do you remember the green frog we saw in the book?"



## Benefits of Reading with Toddlers

You can introduce new vocabulary (words they might not use in everyday conversation).

Helps build oral language skills (listening and speaking) that are necessary for later reading success.

Helps your child learn book handling skills and to see that reading and sharing books is pleasurable.

*The body says what words cannot. Follow your child's lead. Talk about what he/she is interested in on the page.*

**Recite these fun rhymes with your child and then move about like the animal:**

Five green and speckled frogs  
Sat on a speckled log,  
Eating some most delicious bugs, yum-yum.  
One jumped into the pool  
Where it was nice and cool,  
Now there are four green speckled frogs, glug-glug!  
*Continue with 3,2,1,0.*

Red bird, red bird  
How are you today?  
Red bird, red bird,  
Fly away!  
Yellow duck, yellow duck  
How are you today?  
Yellow duck, yellow duck,  
Waddle away!  
Green frog, green frog  
How are you today?  
Green frog, green frog,  
Hop away!



*Continue with other animals in book!*

**Re-tell the story** using puppets, plastic animals or characters made from fun foam or felt.

**Make comments:**

*I see a red bird flying.*

**Ask questions:**

*What does your black sheep say?*

Use language such as first, next and last, or before and after.

*First I see a brown bear, next I see a red bird and last I see a yellow duck!*

Make up your own story using different animals your child can name.

*I see a white bunny looking at me.*



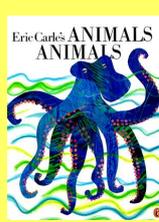
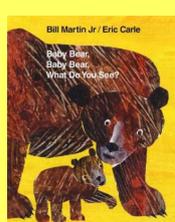
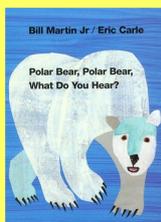
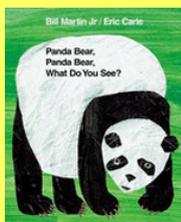
**Let's Play!**

- Take a walk with your child and look for animal tracks in the dirt or the snow. Name the different things you see.
- Make an animal collage placemat. Look for pictures in magazines, flyers and in photos. Help your child cut and then describe what your child is doing-You are cutting! Cover with mac-tac or laminate and use with meals.
- Make homes for animals inside your house using blankets and furniture. Play the role of different animals. Make the animal sounds, move in creative ways and talk, talk, talk!

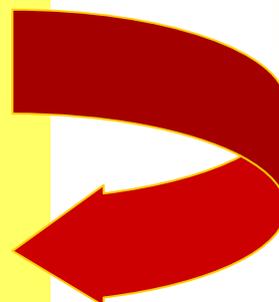
**Few children learn to love books by themselves. Someone has to lure them into the wonderful world of the written word: someone has to show them the way.**

**-Orville Prescott, (A Father Reads to His Children)**

If you enjoyed this book, look for these other great stories at the Library or Book Store:



Choose books your child is interested in. Change your voice, use facial expression and have fun.



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