

BABIES

READ

In English

Animals (2015) by Virginie Graire. Die-cut pages form animals in different habitats when you turn the pages. Good for a habitat theme but more of a list than a story.

A Baby Like You (2019) by Catherine Thimmesh. Adorable baby animal photographs from around the world.

Black Cat and White Cat (2016) by Claire Garralon. A fast-paced story with vivid black-and-white illustrations and a colorful ending.

Doggies: A Counting and Barking Book (1984) by Sandra Boynton. A fun classic that counts different dogs' barks. In a group, you can have caregivers bark along.

Over in the Meadow (2020) by Jane Cabrera. A fun variation on a classic counting rhyme.

Stack the Cats (2018) by Susia Ghahremani. This silly counting book shows that there is more than one way to stack the cats. Older children will also enjoy this read-aloud.

Tails Are Not for Pulling (2005) by Elizabeth Verdick and Marieka Heinlen. Simple words teach the basics of caring for animals.

That's Not My Puppy (2018) by Fiona Watt. Bright, textured pictures help to develop sensory and language awareness (better for one-on-one than story-time).

Bilingual/Spanish

Animals, Animales (2015) by Katherine Del Monte. Cute pictures of baby animals in their natural habitats. Left page in English, right page in Spanish. (Bilingual)

Besos for Baby: A Little Book of Kisses (2014) by Jen Arena and Blanca Gomez. Baby wants kisses from everyone around, including dogs, cats, and butterflies. (English with Spanish words)

Little Mice/Ratconcitos (2017) by Susie Jaramillo. Bilingual edition of the beloved Latin American fingerplay "Cinco ratoncitos de colita gris."

Ten Little Puppies/Diez perritos (2011) by Alma Flor Ada, F. Isabel Campoy, and Ulises Wensell. Caregivers can bounce babies along to the repeating numbers; this popular Spanish counting rhyme has the potential to become a storytime favorite. (Bilingual)

EARLY LITERACY TIP:

When reading books with babies, be sure to make time before or after to ask engaging questions about animal sounds or facial expressions.

STORYTIME TIP:

Before you read, explain your book choices to caregivers. Did you choose it because of its rhymes, repetition, onomatopoeia, or bold illustrations? Do you recommend other books from this author? This is an easy way to share early literacy tips and help caregivers to find great books to read at home.

BABIES
SING
Movement: This Is the Way We Pet

To the tune of “Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush.” Simulate petting throughout whole song; repeat with different animals.

This is the way we pet the dog, pet the dog, pet the dog.

This is the way we pet the dog, soft and slow.

Bounce: One, Two, Three Doggies Got a Flea

Lyrics by Sally Jaeger and audio version from Jbrary here: <https://bit.ly/2YY-1cKg>

One, two, three	(count with fingers)
Doggie's got a flea, doggie's got a flea	
And now it's on me!	(point to self with both hands)
One, two, three	(count with fingers)
Doggie's got a flea, doggie's got a flea	
And now it's on me!	(point to self with both hands)
It's on my nose, it's on my toes,	(point to nose, point to toes)
It's on my ear, it's over here	(point to ear, point over there)
It's on my tum, it's on my thumb	(point to stomach, point to thumb)
One, two, three	(count with fingers)
Doggie's got a flea, doggie's got a flea	
And now it's on me!	(point to self with both hands)
One, two, three	(count with fingers)
Doggie's got a flea, doggie's got a flea	
And now it's on me!	(point to self with both hands)

Song: Yo Tenía Diez Perritos

Adaptation of a classic song. Audio version from Library of Congress: <https://bit.ly/2yFLj0B>

Yo tenía diez perritos
 Uno se callo en la nieve
 Y me quedan solo nueve (repeat “nueve” 5 times)

De los nueve que quedaban
 Uno se fue con Pinocho
 Y me quedan solo ocho (repeat “ocho” 5 times)

De los ocho que quedaban
 Uno se subió a un cohete
 Y me quedan solo siete (repeat “siete” 5 times)

Spanish/English

diez perritos = ten puppies

BABIES

De los siete que quedaban
 Uno se trago un cien pies
 Y me quedan solo seis (repeat “seis” 5 times)

De los seis que me quedaban
 Uno pego un brinco
 Y me quedan solo cinco (repeat “cinco” 5 times)

De los cinco que me quedaban
 Uno se perdió en el teatro
 Nada mas me quedan cuatro (repeat “cuatro” 5 times)

De los cuatro que me quedaban
 Uno se lo llevó Andrés
 Nada mas me quedan tres (repeat “tres” 5 times)

De los tres que me quedaban
 A uno le dio tos
 Y me quedan solo dos (repeat “dos” 5 times)

De los dos que me quedaban
 Uno se lo llevó Bruno
 Nada mas me queda uno (repeat “uno” 5 times)

Ese uno que quedaba
 Lo cuide se enamoro
 Diez perritos me devolvió

Fingerplay: Finger Greetings

Each finger greets the one on the opposite hand.

Ton, ton.	(index fingers)
¿Quién es?	(ring fingers)
Soy yo.	(pinky fingers)
Abre la puerta.	(thumbs)
¿Qué tal? ¿qué tal? ¿qué tal?	(middle fingers)

PLAY

Where Is Kitty?

Create a stack (or row) of cardboard boxes with large holes cut out of the sides and hide stuffed kitties (or any stuffed animal pets) inside. Babies or caregivers reach inside or turn over the boxes to find the hiding pets. A good opportunity to practice opposite words such inside/outside, above/below.

TODDLERS**Feed the Pets**

Set bowls in front of stuffed animal pets, and let babies fill their bowls with plastic balls or large pom-poms. With younger babies, set the bowls on top of tables so babies they can drop the balls into the bowls while caregivers carry them.

Circle Fetch

Start with multiple plastic balls. Call out each baby's name before rolling a ball in their direction. Let them hold the ball after they catch it, or they can roll it back to you. This a fun way to learn names and get babies moving at the end of circle time.