

Spot Goes to the Farm

By Eric Hill

Infants and toddlers can visit a farm with Spot as he and his tractor-driving father look for newborn kittens and piglets on a farm. The lift-up flaps show other animals, too.

Some new sounds and words your baby might

learn: horse, cat, cow, hen, pig, animal sounds.

Before:

- Hold your baby on your lap. Say a rhyme or sing a song about animals.
- Show your baby a stuffed dog, a picture of one, or your own real dog. Say, "This is a dog."
- Let him look at, touch, hold, and even taste the book.

During:

- As you look at the pictures, say the names of the animals and make the animal sounds.
- Point to Spot and say, "This dog's name is Spot."
- After playing with the book many times, see if your baby can point to Spot on each page, when you ask "Where is Spot?"
- Help your older baby lift the flaps. Ask, "What do you see?" and then name it for him.
- Read the story with enthusiasm. Your baby will enjoy your voice and may join in with "babble-talk."

After:

- Sing a short version of the song *Old McDonald Had a Farm*. Pause during the song for your baby to babble or for your older toddler to try to make the animal sounds.
- When you see animals, point them out to your baby and name them. You might say, "Look, there's a puppy, like Spot."

Try some of the ideas above. Continue to use your own imagination during book play too. Have fun with the book and enjoy your time together.

Family And Child Education

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