

Opening the Gift



Vol. 16 No. 5

January 2012

Hip, Hip, Hippos, Hooray!

The Hippo Hop by Christine Loomis

Hippos Go Berserk! by Sandra Boynton

Love From Uncle Clyde by Nancy Winslow Parker

Never Babysit the Hippopotamuses by Doug Johnson

Hippopotamuses, an Animal Safari Book by Kari Schuetz

Kiss Kiss! by Margaret Wild & Bridget Strevens-Marzo

Daddy, Can You Play With Me? by Harriet Ziefert

Am I Beautiful? by Else Holmelund Minarik

Hilda Must Be Dancing by Kara Wilson

CD: *Dream Big* by Roger Day (*Happy Hippos Hopping*)



Nursery Rhyme: Rock-a-bye Baby

Songs & Fingerplays to Share:



The Hippo Hokey Pokey (Tune: *The Hokey Pokey*)

You put your right foot in.
You take right foot out.
You put your right foot in.
And you squish it all about.
You do the hippo pokey and
you hop down in the mud..
That's how a hippo cools off!

Additional verses...

left foot
right hand
left hand
elbows
head
whole self

thebestkidsbooksite.com

I'm a Hippo

I'm a hippo
Hot, hot, hot

I'm going to my favorite spot.
Down to the mudhole,
Squish, squish, squish.
Where I can get cool,
As cool as I wish. AHHHH!



Hippo on a Bus Chant

(beat a rhythm on knees)

A hip, a hip, a hippopotamus
Got on, got on a city bus
And all, and all, and all
the people said,
"You're squishing us!"
"You're squashing us!"
(squish face with hands)

adapted from: bestkidsbooksite.com

H-I-P-P-O Clapping Song

(tune: B-I-N-G-O)

There was a boy who had a pet,
and HIPPO was his name-o.

H-I-P-P-O

H-I-P-P-O

H-I-P-P-O

and HIPPO was his name-o.

There was a boy who had a pet,
and HIPPO was his name-o.

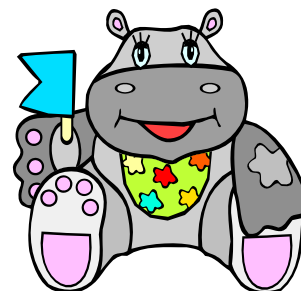
(clap) I-P-P-O

(clap) I-P-P-O

(clap) I-P-P-O

and HIPPO was his name-o.

*Repeat, dropping a letter each verse .
The last verse will be all claps!*



Your next visit will be: February _____

Next month's theme will be: "I ♥ Hugs"



More Books to Share:

Too Loud Lily by Sofie Laguna

Hot Hippo by Mwenye Hadithi

A Hippo's Tale by Lena Landström

Elmer and the Hippos by David McKee

A Mama for Owen by Marian Dane Bauer

The Hippo-NOT-amus by Tony and Jan Payne

Hippo Goes Bananas! by Else Homelund Minarik

George and Martha-One Fine Day from the series by James Marshall

Activity Ideas:

Marshmallow Hippos: Have children connect two large marshmallows end to end with a pretzel stick for the body. They can then attach another large marshmallow with a pretzel stick perpendicular to the body for the head. Use white icing to stick gumdrops underneath the body for the legs and decorate the facial features with piped colored icing.

ehow.com

Gray Animals Game: Prepare children for this game by reviewing animals that are gray, then teach them this rhyme:

"I know an animal that is colored gray.

It moves around like this, all day!"



Let your children take turns reciting the poem and moving like a gray animal. Other children try to guess what animal they are supposed to be. *Examples: Hopping bunnies; scurrying mice; elephants stomping around, tip-toeing hippos or horses galloping.*

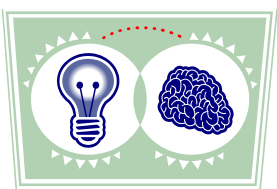
Preschoolexpress.com

Book of the Month:

The Whole-Brain Child—12 Revolutionary Strategies to Nurture Your Child's Developing Mind

by Daniel J. Siegel, M.D. and Tina Payne Bryson, Ph.D.

PTC 649.1019 S



"Your toddler throws a tantrum in the middle of a store. Your preschooler refuses to get dressed. Your fifth-grader sulks on the bench instead of playing on the field. Do children conspire to make their parents' lives endlessly challenging? No—it's just their developing brain calling the shots! Complete with clear explanations, age-appropriate strategies for dealing with day-to-day struggles, and illustrations that will help you explain these concepts to your child, *The Whole-Brain*

Child shows you how to cultivate healthy emotional and intellectual development so that your children can lead balanced, meaningful, and connected lives."



Road to Reading Tip:

Telephone Talk: Developing oral language is a precursor to reading and writing. Children should be involved in informal conversations on a daily basis. Using language in a variety of ways supports children's knowledge and vocabulary development. Using telephones motivates children who normally don't talk much.

Literacy Play by Sherrie West & Amy Cox PTC J 372.6 W



QUESTIONS OR SUGGESTIONS?! Call Melinda Chase, Bel Air Branch, at 410 638-3151, ext. **2279**. e-mail: chase@hcplonline.org
If you have an urgent message for me, please speak with the operator at 410-638-4800 (beginning at 8 AM)



Rock-a-bye, baby, on the tree top!
When the wind blows, the cradle will rock.
When the bough breaks, the cradle will fall;
Down will come baby, cradle and all!