

The Early Years Count **Literacy** Connection



Good Morning, Farm Friends

Written and illustrated by
Annie Bach

Infant/Toddler edition

Overview of Book

Enjoy sweet rhymes as you follow the animals through a morning on the farm from quiet sun up till the rooster's crowing that awakens even the laziest of farm friends.

Genre: Poetry/verse, fiction

Vocabulary

Books are a rich source of words new to children. Here are some words from *Good Morning, Farm Friends* to introduce in your classroom:

weary	trot
dozing	pasture
nibbling	

Each time you read the book, highlight 2 or 3 words.

Use age-appropriate definitions and/or refer to the illustrations to help children understand each word's meaning.

Use the new words throughout the day, reminding children, "That's a word from our story!"

Connecting with the HighScope Curriculum

COR Advantage 1.5

Language, Literacy
and Communication
Item N
(Phonological awareness)
Item P
(Reading)

Creative Arts
Item AA
(Pretend play)

Social Studies
Item HH
(History)

Reading Tips

Read each page at a pace slow enough to emphasize the rhyme but fast enough to keep the meaning. It's fine to read this book out of order or skip to the pages the children particularly enjoy.

Ask a question after reading a page. For example, "The llamas nibble wildflowers. What do you nibble on in the morning?"

Three readings are recommended to familiarize children with the story. During each reading the adult can introduce new vocabulary words, pose open-ended questions, and engage children in activities that make the story "come alive."

Throughout the Routine

Refer to the book throughout the day and use new vocabulary words in meaningful ways. Active engagement with the story helps the content come alive.

Pretend to be farm animals at **Choice Time**. Make all the animal sounds and walk on all fours.

Imitate the animals at **Outside Time**. Trot like the horses and roll on the ground like the dogs and pigs.

Toddle in a line as ducks while on **Transitions** in or out of the classroom.

Around the Room

Highlight the book's content and build on the children's excitement in a variety of locations.

Provide farm animals for pretend play in the **Block Area**.

Post labeled pictures of real farm animals around the classroom.

Have stuffed farm animals and blankets in the **House Area** so the children can put them to sleep and wake them up.

Have soapy water and washcloths available to give the pigs a bath.

Open-ended Questions

Enhance active engagement and early critical thinking skills by asking open-ended questions. These "wondering aloud" questions support children's developing focus and attention as they encourage young children's capacity to make connections and see possibilities.

Here are some questions you might ask for *Good Morning, Farm Friends*:

What is the kitty cat doing in the barn with the cows?

What is your favorite food to eat at breakfast?

What do the people do on the farm?

*For more information on how to use books and stories with children to enhance your curriculum, contact **The Family Connection:***

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phone—
574-237-9740

@ Home

Since many children in our county will have this book at home, use it to further the home-school connection. In your daily contact—in person or by text, email or other notes home—encourage families to share *Good Morning, Farm Friends* with their children. Here's a sample message you can send:

While enjoying *Good Morning, Farm Friends* with your child, notice the fun rhymes on each page. Point these out as often as you want and repeat the words together. "Hear that? Who's that dozing in the HAY? Wake up, pups, Let's start our DAY. They sound alike—HAY and DAY. PLAY sounds like that too!" If your child likes a particular page, go ahead and linger there. Talk about what you see on the page. For example, "Look at the cows. They're waiting for the farmer to milk them. What do you think their names are?"