

The Early Years Count **Literacy** Connection



**Bedtime here I
come!**

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Infant/Toddler edition

Overview of Book

Young children flourish when routines are predictable and routine. Bedtime is a part of the day just designed for routine. This board book presents each step of a bedtime routine, inviting young children to connect that routine with their own. The text is simple and rhyming and the illustrations are gentle and familiar. This book would be a nice addition to stories read before rest at school or bedtime at home.

Genre: Board book

Vocabulary

Books are a rich source of words new to children. Here are some words from *Bedtime, here I come!* to introduce in your classroom:

Yawn	Squeaky clean
Toothbrush	Snoring
Burrito	Flick
Crickets	Cozy

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 HighScope Curriculum

COR Advantage

Social and Emotional
Development
Item G
(Community)

Physical Development
and Health
Item K
(Personal care and
healthy behavior)

Social Studies
Item FF
(Knowledge of self and
others)
Item GG
(Geography)

Reading Tips

Each page in this book is about one part of a typical bedtime routine. The story lovingly captures what it's like to have a regular routine and support from adults to make that routine happen. If children in your classroom are not used to such a routine, you might want to be ready to talk about that. If the children have a different routine, talk about that too!

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.

At a Group Time with materials, bring out baby dolls, blankets, washcloths, plush animals and invite the children to 'put the babies to bed.' Or, have photos of parts of bedtime or pre-nap routines and invite the children to put them in the order they think works.

At a Music and Movement Group time choose songs about sleeping and waking up ("See the bunnies sleeping" for example). Sing and move to these songs and make up their own routines!

Around the Room

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

In the House Area, add some new blankets, plush or other items that might be a part of bedtime routines.

Add photos of children (best if families can send in their own!) getting ready for bedtime. Invite families to let you know their children's favorite bedtime stories and add those to the Book Area.

Add small fabrics to the Block Area in case children might want to create their own places for animals or babies to sleep.

Active Engagement

Reading with infants and toddlers is all about relationship, connection, and words.

The text in this book is simple and fun. It can be slow-paced, matching the feeling of getting ready for bed. Invite children to tell you about their own bedtime routines as you read the words—do you take a bath? What are your favorite pajamas? What do you think dinosaurs wore to bed? What helps you feel warm and cozy?

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

website—
www.famconn.org

Facebook—
@famconnsjc

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 *Play with me* with their children. Here's a sample message you can send:

Bedtime is all about routine and even though children might not be seeking bedtime, they are seeking routine! As you explore the different ways the children in this book prepare for sleep, talk with your child about your typical routines. What helps your child feel settled, comfortable and cozy enough for sleep? This book is a peaceful way to end the day.