

The Early Years Count Literacy Connection



Bedtime for Baby

Written by
Sassy Books

Infant/Toddler edition

Overview of Book

Each page represents a step in a bedtime routine for baby. Dad gently helps the baby settle in to sleep, following a familiar routine. There are sensory opportunities on each page, inviting the baby to follow the routine along with the baby in the book.

Genre: Realistic fiction

Vocabulary

Books are a rich source of words new to children. Here are some words from *Bedtime for Baby* to introduce in your classroom:

yawn	pajamas
story	lullaby
first...next...now	

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 1.5

Social and Emotional
Development
Item S (*Community*)

Social Studies
Item HH (*History*)

Language, Literacy
and Communication
Item Q (*Book enjoyment
and knowledge*)

Reading Tips

The contrast at the edges of the page help to draw the baby's attention to the images on the page.

This book works well in a one-on-one read, as there are many opportunities to talk about the child's routine at home. It could also work well in a small group as you read and talk through the "first-then" sequence.

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.

Describe the steps of each routine as you go through the day.

Use "first / then / next" statements.

Sing lullabies to the children before they sleep.

Match children's actions with those in the *Bedtime for Baby*—"You're yawning, just like the baby in our book."

Around the Room

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

Display photos and illustrations of the children and families engaged in bedtime routines at home.

Display photos of children in diverse cultures and their sleeping arrangements.

Put *Bedtime for Baby* on display in the book area so the children can easily find it on their own.

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 *Bedtime for Baby*:

What do you see out your window at nighttime?

What stories do you read before bedtime?

What lullabies do you like to sing?

What should we do next?

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](https://www.facebook.com/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 *Bedtime for Baby* with their children. Here's a sample message you can send:

Bedtime for Baby, a book we've been reading often, follows a family's steps in the routine of getting baby ready for bedtime. Routines are important. In our classroom, we follow a daily routine that honors each child's natural rhythms and helps to build a sense of security and trust. If you have a routine with your child, talk out loud about what is happening. Just as in the book, use words like "first, then, next." Another thing we enjoy about *Bedtime for Baby* are the textures on each page. Sensory experiences encourage children to explore and investigate. They also offer good opportunities for new, descriptive vocabulary words such as "bumpy" or "scratchy" or "smooth."