

# The Early Years Count Literacy Connection



## Bunny's Book Club

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*Preschool edition*  
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### Overview of Book

Bunny loves books and stories! He listens outside the library as children hear books read aloud. But Bunny does not know about library cards, so he (with the help of friends who also love stories) breaks in to the library by night, borrows and reads them to return in the morning. All is well until the librarian discovers him and his friends! Now what?

Genre: Fiction

### Vocabulary

Books are a rich source of words new to children. Here are some from *Bunny's Book Club* to introduce in your classroom:

yanking	return
twitching	stern
beamed	official

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

Use age-appropriate definitions and/or the illustrations to help children gain an understanding of each word's meaning.

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

### Connecting with the HighScope Curriculum

*COR Advantage 1.5*

Approaches To Learning  
item A (Initiative and  
planning), item B (Problem  
solving with materials)

Language, Literacy and  
Communication item Q  
(Book enjoyment and  
knowledge)

### Reading Tips

Throughout the read-aloud, use the drawings of Bunny as your guide about your tone. He is excited, sneaky, delighted... When Bunny imagines himself as the various literary characters, use a tone that mirrors his magical imagination!

The librarian in the story uses a **stern** voice; you can too! This will help define the word. There are several new verbs (trembled, bristled, groaned) that describe how the animals react to being "caught" by the librarian. Act out the meaning of these verbs in your posture and tone. Ask, "What will the librarian do?"

Three readings are recommended to familiarize children with the story. Each reading provides an opportunity to 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.

Brainstorm with the children at **Greeting Time** about which books were the characters' favorites.

Create a classroom job of "librarian." This child gets to make sure all the books on the shelf are facing out and all are returned at **Clean Up Time**.

Have the children choose which animal from the story to move as during **Transitions**.

### **Around the Room**

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

Place cut card stock in the **Writing Area** for children to make library cards to use in the classroom.

Have duplicate copies of the children's favorite stories in the **Book Area**.

Put other library-related stories in the **Book Area**. Examples include *Lola at the Library* by Anna McQuinn, *Library Mouse* by Daniel Kirk and *DW's Library Card* by Marc Brown.

### **Open-ended Questions**

Enhance active engagement and early critical thinking skills by asking open-ended questions. These questions encourage children to explain why or how things happen, make predictions, or brainstorm possibilities rather than give one "right" answer.

Here are some questions you might ask for *Bunny's Book Club*:

How did the animals know how to read?

Why do you think the librarian was not scared when she saw the animals?

What is your favorite story? Why do you like it?

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

website—  
[www.famconn.org](http://www.famconn.org)

Facebook—  
@famconnsjc

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### **@ Home**

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

Does your child enjoy going to the library? We've been talking a lot about libraries in our classroom after reading *Bunny's Book Club*. If your child does not already have a library card, consider getting one soon! Later, talk with your child about the many ways people enjoy the library. Notice how many people are there when you go. People of all ages use many different services at the library. Most libraries offer storytimes for preschoolers. Your child can be a part of these, just like the children observed by Bunny in the story.