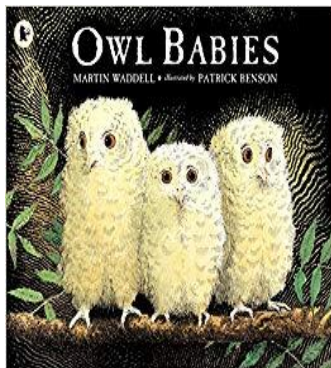


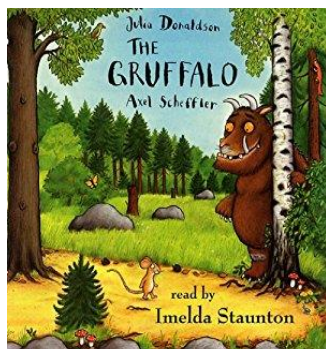
## Brilliant Books to Share with Your Reception Child and Questions You Can Ask

We have compiled a list of books that you might like to read with your child. We have taken inspiration from books recommended by the leading literacy expert, Pie Corbett. These books build on the books recommended in the Nursery Home Learning pages of our website. There is plenty to discuss and wonder about. You can talk through what has been read and retell the stories, creating new versions or further adventures featuring the same characters. All of these books are available from major bookstores. We recommend that you spend **around 10 minutes** per day reading with your child.



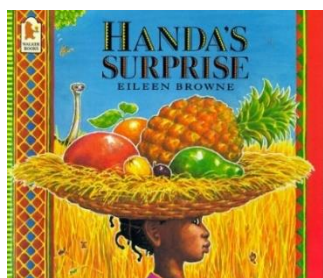
### **Owl Babies** Martin Waddell (Walker Books)

- Help your child to draw the distinction between the person who wrote the book and the artist.
- Enjoy discussing the baby owls' reactions with your child.
- The author says that he got the idea for the book from hearing a lost child in a supermarket crying, 'I want my Mummy'. This is a great book for discussing basic feelings and comfort.



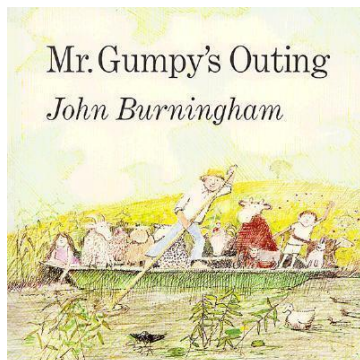
### **The Gruffalo** Julia Donaldson (Macmillan)

- Read and re-read this lovely story until it is in your child's heart forever.
- Ask your child why they think that the animals ask the mouse to come to their houses. Why does the mouse tell the animals about the Gruffalo? How is mouse really clever? Why is the Gruffalo 'bursting with laughter'?



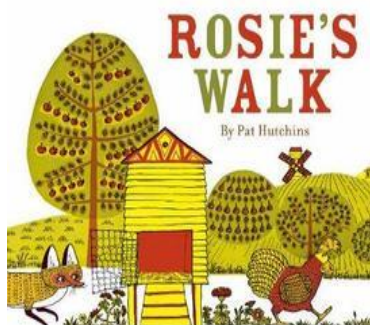
### **Handa's Surprise** Eileen Browne (Walker Books)

- This is another picture book in which the pictures say more than the words.
- Retell the story and act it out with your child.
- Change the animals and fruit to invent a new version.



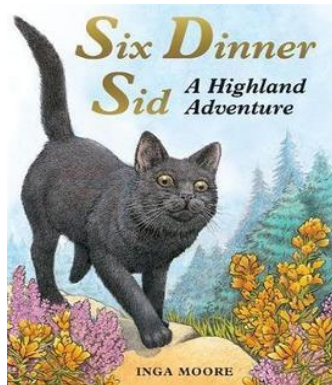
**Mr. Gumpy's Outing** John Burningham (Bloomsbury)

- Ask your child what happens when everyone comes 'for a ride another day'.
- Help your child to draw the different animals and write what they say inside speech bubbles.
- Ask who in the story is naughty and whether Mr. Gumpy should have been more sensible.



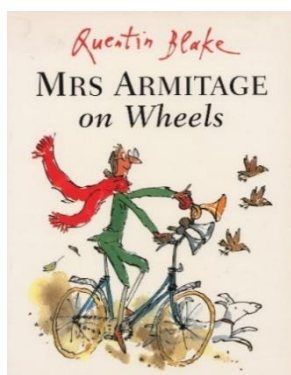
**Rosie's Walk** Pat Hutchins (Random House)

- First read this book to your child without looking at the pictures. Then show the book and enjoy the comedy.
- Ask your child whether they think Rosie is clever or the fox is silly.
- Pick up on any design or pattern that interests your child and imitate with crayons or paints.



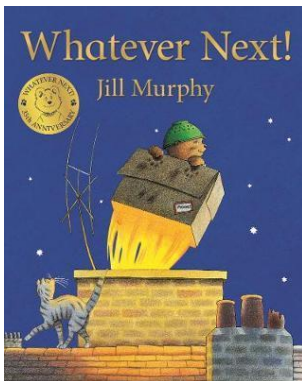
**Six Dinner Sid** Inga Moore (Hodder)

- Talk with your child about pets and the vet before starting the story. Then read and enjoy the beautiful art work.
- Ask your child why they think the cat would want six dinners. Why don't the neighbours talk to each other?
- Discuss the six different characters and then invent new ones, using alliteration, such as: As Clive he was curious...
- Ask how are the people in Pythagoras Street different and why was this better?



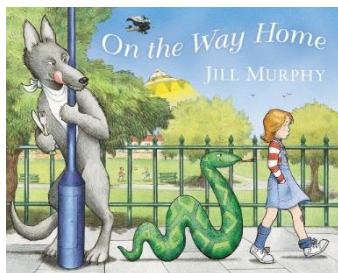
**Mrs. Armitage on Wheels** Quentin Blake (Random House)

- With your child, read and chant the story together. Discuss the pictures and words.
- Draw a basic bike and add extra ideas like Mrs. Armitage. Think about what might be added to the bike, like roller skates. Ask your child for their ideas and discuss them.



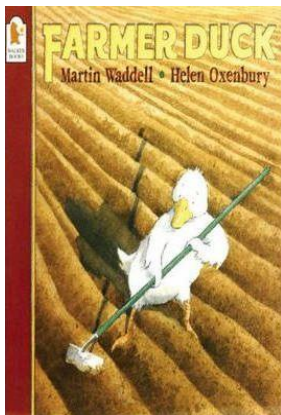
**Whatever Next!** Jill Murphy (Macmillan)

- Show your child the inside title page and ask them what sort of character they think the bear will be.
- Wonder 'how could we make a rocket, where would we travel and who would we meet?'
- This could lead to new versions of the story ('You and your stories. Whatever next?'). Ask if they thought that Baby Bear really did travel to the moon.



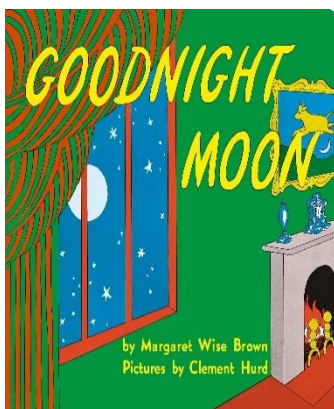
**On the Way Home** Jill Murphy (Macmillan)

- Look carefully at the front cover and ask your child what they think is going to happen in the story.
- Ask why Claire doesn't tell the truth. Why does she cry at the end?
- Notice how each mini story fits the basic story mountain pattern – main character, dilemma, resolution.



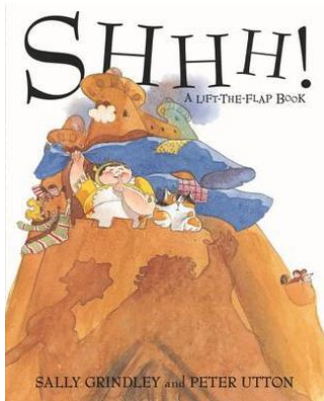
**Farmer Duck** Martin Waddell (Walker Books)

- With your child, compare the inside cover spread at the front with the back – and the cover – what do they think is going to happen?
- Then look at the inner title page for more clues.
- Tell the story of what the farmer did next. Ask: What did the animals say? Did they all set to work?
- Help your child to write messages to the farmer!



**Goodnight Moon** Margaret Wise Brown (HarperCollins)

- Ask your child what other stories have a moon in them (Owl Babies, Where the Wild Things Are, Can't You Sleep Little Bear?).
- Make a list of all the things in your room and say: In the room there was a clock, chair.... Then say good night to all these things and extend each idea – present this as a list poem. For example: Goodnight clock that ticks...



**SHHH!** Sally Grindley (Bloomsbury)

- The way that this book is written demonstrates to parents how to read with your child.
- Read together and enjoy the story many times.
- Look for clues about what is on the next page and look carefully at each page as there is plenty to notice and comment upon.
- Think about how the characters feel.