

# Summer Reading

The 2010 booklist from Reading Rockets  
for kids up to 3 years old

## **Colors, Numbers, Letters** by Leo Lionni

Three concept books have been combined in a newly formatted and highly appealing wordless board book featuring Lionni's signature mice. Readers are sure to find lots to talk about, from colors to counting to mice embracing letters of the alphabet as they examine the uncluttered, child-sized, durable, and appealing pages.

## **Daddy Calls Me Doodlebug** by J.D. Lester

Fathers often have special names for their children. Each nickname is a fitting one, giving a hint as to what characterizes the young one and his parent. The human dad calls his child Doodlebug, while a snail's father calls it "Goo-and-Go." Soft illustrations convey affection and playfulness between parents and children.

## **Feeding the Sheep** by Leda Schubert

A train of children "chuff" and "choo choo" down the tracks, through a tunnel, and into the sun – until they get to the beach. "Hooray!"

## **Kitten's Spring** by Eugenie Fernandes

From morning to nighttime, a small kitten explores a farm. At the end of the day, a tired young cat returns home to rest, sleep, and dream. A simple, rhythmic staccato text and textured collage illustrations are used to convey the pleasure in everyday adventures.

## **Let's Save the Animals** by Frances Berry

Rounded corners and carefully crafted half (or cut) pages introduce and hide various animals that stomp, prowl, stroll and scuttle across the pages of this book. Each animal is endangered though there's plenty more to engage young readers. Animal facts are included, as are child-accessible activities to help.



## **My Little Baby** and **Counting Duckies**

by Begin Smart

Count and feel the five smooth rubber ducks as one by one they go into the bathtub and touch the soft baby animals as they meow, woof, and peep in these simply illustrated, sturdy books. Crisp illustrations and minimal language make these ideal to share with the youngest child.

## **Sleepy ABC** by Margaret Wise Brown

Round-faced children watch animals prepare for bedtime in this soothing tale in a newly illustrated edition of an earlier book by Margaret Wise Brown. The alphabet is used as the device to countdown from A to children who "...zip into bed/not another peep/go to sleep!"

## **Sweet Dreams Lullaby** by Betsy Snyder

When the day is over, a young rabbit cuddles with a parent to let the dreams begin. Soft illustrations combine with a calm, rhythmic, rhyming text to quiet young ones who share the tranquil appreciation of nature and nighttime as they drift off to a cozy sleep.

## **What About Bear?** by Suzanne Bloom

When Goose and Bear are joined by Fox, Bear feels left out. It is up to Goose to mediate and find a way for old and new friends to play together – which they happily do! With straightforward language and charming illustrations, Goose and Bear are back for another everyday adventure familiar to many children.

## **What Shapes Do You See?** and **What Color Is Your Apple?** by Begin Smart

Basic shapes are introduced on one side of each sturdy double page spread; on the opposing side, die-cuts hint at what is hidden. Lift the flap to see the shape in an easily recognizable object. A similar approach is used to introduce basic colors in both of these interactive books sure to hold up to small, rough hands.