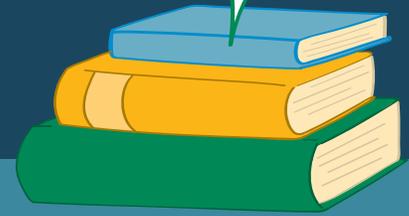


BRIGHT HORIZONS Growing Readers Review

Celebrating
20 Years

July
2022



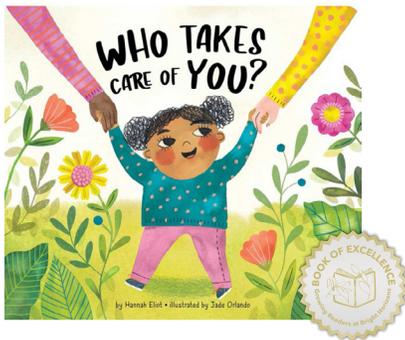
Books of Excellence and Notable books are selected annually by a panel of Bright Horizons early childhood experts and represent some of the best new writing in children's literature.

Book of Excellence

INFANT & TODDLER

NEW!
Growing Readers
Book Club videos!
See page 2
for further details.

Who Takes Care of You?



Written by Hannah Eliot; Illustrated by Jade Orlando

They say it takes a village to raise a child, and this charming book celebrates all the caregivers in children's lives – mommies, daddies, grandparents, siblings, sitters, and more. Caregivers are all different, but they're alike in one way: their love and care for children.

Storytelling Tips

- ▶ **Notice the poetry.** Learning to hear rhymes is an important early literacy skill. Occasionally point out words that rhyme, e.g., "Listen, lunch and crunch sound almost the same."
- ▶ **Observe the details.** Play a game of searching for details in the illustrations. There's an animal or flower on almost every page, for example. Can you find them?
- ▶ **Make text-to-self connections.** Comment on how the book relates to your life. "She has a big brother just like you."

Extend the Learning

- ▶ **Let life imitate art.** Do some of the experiences described in the story. Make pancakes together for breakfast or go for a walk to the park.
- ▶ **Celebrate caregivers.** Talk about your child's caregivers, naming them one by one

We believe that books have the power to build empathy in children, introducing them to new perspectives and ideas. Through stories, children come to understand others' hopes, dreams, joys, and sorrows. We're committed to offering diverse stories and voices to our readers.

Notable Books

Other great books we recommend.

Point your smart phone camera at the code to link to the Growing Readers website for more book recommendations.



PRESCHOOL

Arlo, the Lion Who Couldn't Sleep

Written and Illustrated by Catherine Rayner

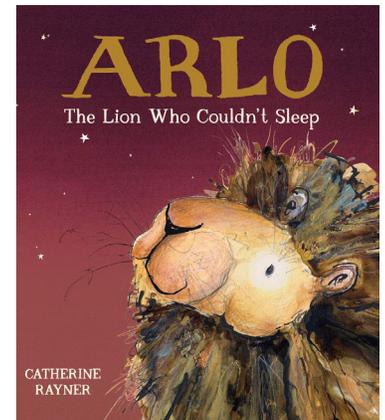
Arlo the lion can't sleep. That is, until he meets Owl, a very wise friend. She teaches him how to slow down, relax, and be mindful. Beautifully illustrated and gently narrated.

Storytelling Tips

- ▶ **Snuggle up.** This is the perfect story for bedtime. Grab a blanket and snuggle up for an evening read-aloud.
- ▶ **Share the illustrations.** Catherine Rayner's layered, multi-media illustrations are gorgeous. Point out how she's combined pencil, pen, paint, and collage.
- ▶ **Make a text-to-self connection.** Talk about Owl's song. What does your child do to go to sleep? What makes it hard to sleep?

Extend the Learning

- ▶ **Try some mindfulness.** Take a cue from owl and practice mindfulness. Sit in a quiet place, slow your breathing, relax your body, and imagine you're sinking into the ground.
- ▶ **Keep a sunset journal.** The sunset depicted in the story is vivid yellow, green, and blue. What do sunsets look like where you live? Keep a sunset journal with your child for one week. Write notes, take photographs, or draw pictures. Do the sunsets change from day to day?



Check it out!

Don't miss this month's riveting video episode of the Growing Readers Book Club! Become Teacher Nate's co-researchers as you and your child are introduced to high-quality children's books along with ideas to explore, create, and investigate further!

Growing Readers
Book Club

Join Teacher Nate for this month's video featuring the book "Who Takes Care of You?" Become inspired to create a book with pictures, words, or drawings of the very special people who care for you each day!



[Watch the video here!](#)

We are proud to partner with The Book Vine for Children on our Growing Readers book selections. [Click here](#) to order these books and more.

SCHOOL-AGE (K-2)

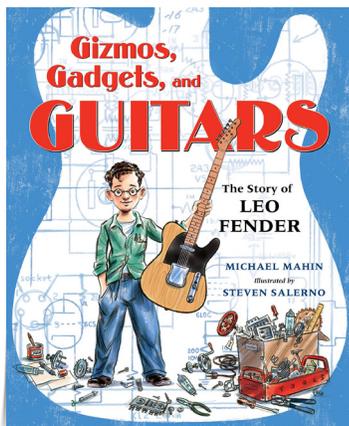
Gizmos, Gadgets, and Guitars

Written by Michael Mahin; Illustrated by Steven Salerno

Leo Fender loved to “thinker and tinker and take things apart,” eventually becoming famous for his invention of the electric guitar. Learn more about this brilliant, resilient innovator.

Storytelling Tips

- ▶ **Follow your child’s cues.** This is a longer picture book, full of interesting illustrations and details. Read it in one sitting or over several days, depending on your child’s interest.
- ▶ **Give some context.** Leo was born in 1909 and his story spans a period of rapid innovation and technological development. Give your child a simple explanation of the history of that time. Describe the Great Depression, for example, or explain the many inventions of the early 20th century.
- ▶ **Walk down memory lane.** Point out the (now obsolete) electronic devices in the illustrations such as a typewriter, phonograph, or old radio.
- ▶ **Focus on character.** Leo experienced adversity and failure, but he persisted and found solutions. Ask questions about his character, e.g., “I wonder if Leo ever felt like giving up. What would you do if you were Leo?”



Extend the Learning

- ▶ **Do some thinking and tinkering.** Gather some loose parts such as pvc pipes, cardboard tubes, boards, funnels, or cardboard boxes. Challenge your child to create something.
- ▶ **Make music.** String rubberbands over an old shoe box to make a guitar or cover the end of a cardboard tube with wax paper to make a horn. Listen to music from the early 20th century or visit a music museum.
- ▶ **Learn more.** Do an internet search to find out more about Leo Fender or early 20th century inventors.