

## *Barnyard Book Buddies!*



**Goal:** Students will participate in discussion about barnyard Animals names, sounds and characteristics.

### **BookSpring will provide:**

- Read Aloud Books and Family Corner handouts
- Farm Puzzles
- Cowboy Hat
- Bandanas
- Barnyard animal puppets
- Stamp and ink pad
- Animal riddle activity
- Cow “costume” (overshirt)

### **What to do BEFORE reading the story**

- Dress in the cow wrap or use the bandana and cowboy hat. Tell the children that today you are a farmer. Have they been to the farm? Do they know what a farmer does? What animals live on a farm? Explain, “I take care of animals by giving them food and water and making sure they are healthy.”
- Tell the kids that today you will be talking about animals that live on a farm. Ask them which animals can be found on a farm. List a few.
- Introduce the story by reading the title of the book, naming the author and illustrator, and sharing the cover of the book.
- Talk about the book you are about to read and give the children a chance to tell what they think it might be about.

### **What to do DURING the story**

- Please be sure you are very familiar with the story so that you know what to say on pages that have little or no text. Be aware of story spots in which you can use your voice to bring the story alive for the children!
- When reading the story, give each character its own voice so that the children can easily distinguish who’s talking.
- While reading, take the time to ask the children to spot the animals and foods shown in the book
- Pause to ask the children what they predict the kid will see out his window next.
- Ensure that every child has the opportunity to look at the details in the pictures.

### **What to do AFTER reading the story**

- Bring out the puppets. Ask the kids what sound each animal makes. Make the animal’s sound and have them repeat the sound. After you have covered all the animals, sing *Old McDonald Had a Farm* with the kids using the sounds you practiced.
- For 3 and 4 year olds, use the “Animal Riddle” game. Read the riddles and ask the students to guess which animal is being described. Open the folder to show them the answer.
- Explain the book selection process. Tell the children they will walk to the tables and will choose one book they would like to take home and keep forever. (The teacher will help them write their names in the books later.)
- After the children have selected their books, volunteers and teachers should sit down with the children and begin reading the books the children selected for a short period of time.

## Suggested Read-Aloud Books

We will try to include multiple copies of the suggested read-aloud books in your book collection.

**Infants: *Farm/Granja* (6-18 mos), *On the Farm-Bright Baby*  
**Toddlers: *Old Macdonald had a Farm* 18 mos-3 years)****

**Discussion Points: On the Farm/Farm** Talk with the infants about the farm. Identify the different animals in the book. Let the children feel the animal's fur and feathers.

**Old Macdonald had a Farm** Have fun singing the song and making the animal noises! Familiarize yourself with the stories ahead of time. If you are comfortable using a sing-song voice to read the stories, do so, and ask the children to join in with actions or by reading along.

**Preschoolers: *Animales de la Granja/Farm Animals*, *Big Red Barn* (3-5 years), *Click Clack Moo, Cows that Type* by Doreen Cronin**

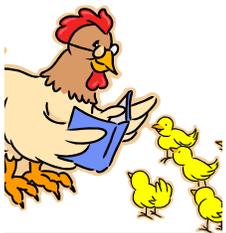
### Discussion Points:

Use the animal pictures and puppets as you wish before & during story time.

**Animales de la Granja:** As you read this book, don't show the children the page at first, ask the question and then show the answer with the picture.

**Big Red Barn:** What was your favorite animal in the barnyard? How are they like us? (eat, play, make noises, go to bed at night) How are they different? (4 legs, fur, horns, beaks, feathers, etc.)

**Click Clack Moo, Cows that Type:** This story is appropriate for later in the year or for older children. Talk about how cows communicate in real life, and how they communicate in the book.



### For younger children...

It is necessary to be more interactive with your words. Using a "motherese" voice, talk about the children and how they are feeling/doing. Motherese is adult-to-child talk that helps babies learn language and includes the use of short, simple phrases and changes in the pitch of your voice. Other important visual changes are your facial expressions and your body language.

### **Recommended Barnyard Titles:**

*The Farm Alphabet Book*, by Jane Miller

*Giggle Giggle Quack*, by Doreen Cronin

*Cock-A-Doddle-Moo*, by Julia Dallas-Conte and Alison Bartlett

*Click, Clack, Moo: Cows That Type*, by Doreen Cronin, Betsy Lewin and Alberto Jimenez Rioja

### **Developmental Standards for Reading, Writing, Speaking, and Listening:**

The student will: demonstrate knowledge of print and its uses by showing interest in books.