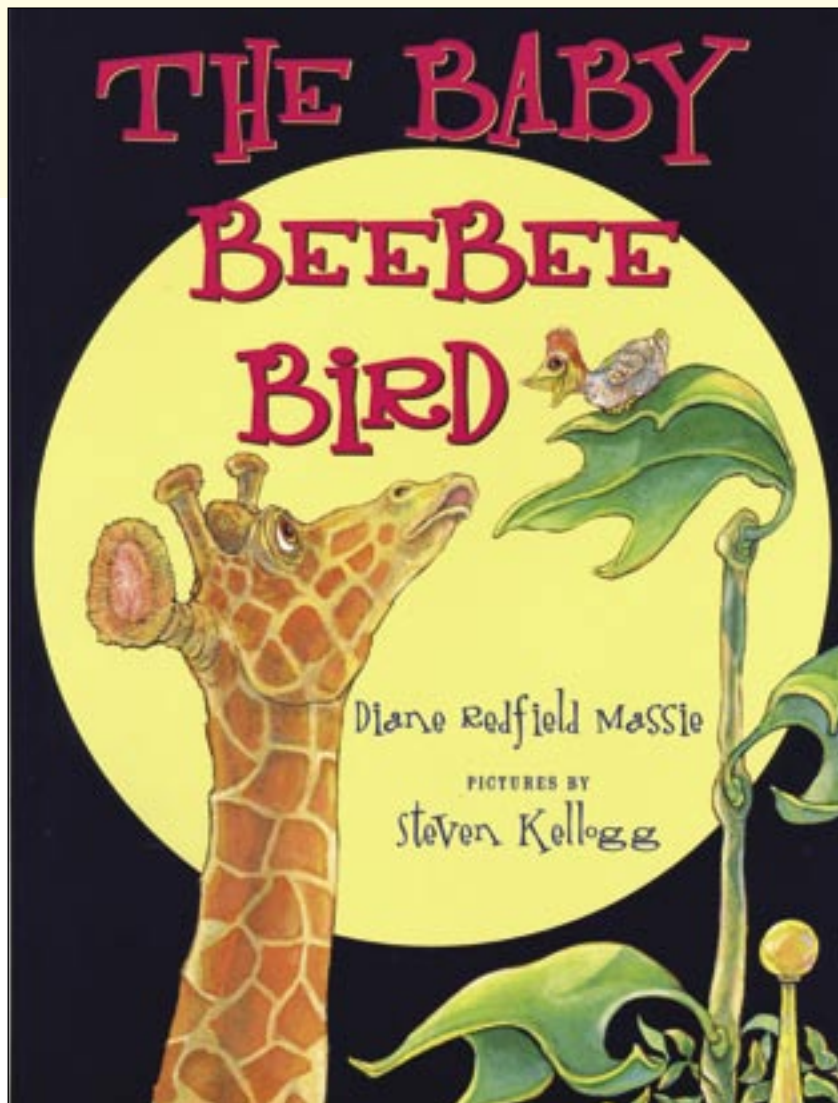


The Baby Beebee Bird

By Diane Redfield Massie

The zoo animals are kept awake by the new bird that sings all night long. They make a plan to help the baby bird sleep at night.



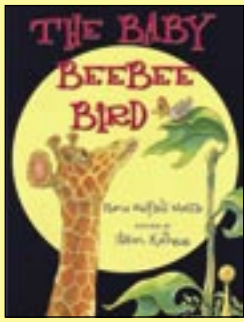
First Reading

Before you read this story, **set the stage** for enjoying the book with an introduction. Here are some ideas or you could make up your own.

“This is the cover of the book. Where do you think these animals are living?

What do you think they are saying to each other?

Do you think they are talking at nighttime or daytime?”



Read It Again (and Again) and Start a Conversation

Have your child point to each animal and guess how the animal talks. You can prompt them by asking questions such as “what does the lion say?” If the child makes a different sound than the one in the book, say “yes, the animal can make that sound and they can also make this sound (model the correct sound).”

“Why are the animals so tired?”

What woke the animals up?

Why was the beebie bird singing? Can you remember a time when you didn't feel like sleeping at night? What did you do?

What did the zoo animals do when the beebie bird sang all night long?

How did the zoo animals feel in the morning?

When the beebie bird finally went to sleep, what did the animals do?

Why did the animals whisper to each other?

Can you remember some times when you have made a plan?

(Talk about plans, such as plans for a holiday or plans for dinner, etc.)

What do you think the bear sounded like when he moaned? What are some of the things that you might moan about? Does going to bed make you feel like moaning? Does losing something make you feel like moaning?

What do you think the elephant sounded like when he trumpeted Beebeebobbi? (Find a picture of a trumpet to show your child.)

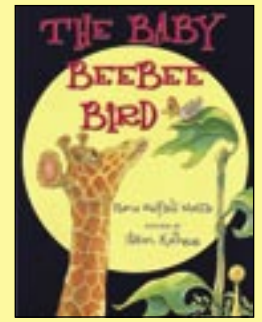
What do you think the bears sounded like when they bellowed Beebeebobbi? Do you think it was a high sound or a low sound?”

Play With Language

Game: Letter “B”

Ask your child to guess what name you are going to say. Repeat the “Buh-Buh-Buh” sound for the letter B. If your child doesn't understand at first, give them a hint, it is the name of the little bird in this story. Once your child has said “Baby BeeBee Bird” (with or without your help), ask him for some other words that start with the “B” sound. After your child understands this game, invite them to take the lead and have you guess!

Other “B” words in this story are: bed, be, bear, bellowed, buffalo and best. What other words have the “B” sound?



Game: Find Objects with Rhyming Names

Collect a set of familiar objects such as a rock, boat, pan, car, keys, etc. Have your child pick an object and think of a word that rhymes with it. For example, if they pick up a rock, they may guess block or sock. Games such as this will encourage phonological awareness.

Songs

Singing helps children understand that words have different parts.

Sing the song *Old Macdonald Had a Farm*. On the “E-I-E-I-O” part, make a rhythm sound. Clap hands, stamp feet, click tongues, etc. You can sing *Old Macdonald Had a Zoo* and think of animals that might be in a zoo and make their sounds.

Make a silly song or rhyme with lots of BEEBEEBOBBIS in it, such as:

Bob Beebeee, Bob Beebee, BobBob Boo,
Bob Beebee, Bob Beebee, I love you.

Rhymes

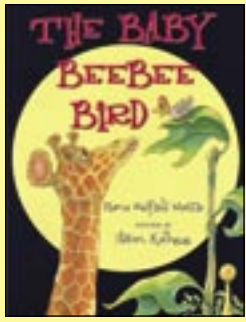
I Like Animals

I like animals,
Yes I do-oo-oo-oo-oo
I like animals in the zoo
I like monkeys and tigers to-oo-oo-oo-oo
I like animals in the zoo.
(Have your child choose his favorites to include.)

Two Little Blackbirds

Two little blackbirds sat on a hill,
One named Jack and the other named Jill.
(hold up one finger on each hand)
Fly away Jack, fly away Jill.
(one hand flies behind back, then other)
Come back Jack, come back Jill.
(hands fly back, one then the other)





Other Activities To Do Together

Go to the library and look in the Easy Nonfiction section. You can find books about the animals in *The Baby Beebe Bird*, such as lions, bears, rhinos, etc.

Take a walk and listen to birds. What sounds do different birds make? What does a crow sound like? How about a chickadee?

Visit the zoo and talk about the animals. What are they doing? See if you can find the animals that were in *The Baby Beebe Bird* story.

Make bird watching binoculars by taping two toilet tissue tubes together. Then go outside and look for birds.

Buy or collect bird feathers and have your child use them as paint brushes with watercolors to create fanciful, feathery works of art.

More Books About Birds and Animals

Alphabears by Kathleen Hague

Baby Bird by Joyce Dunbar

A Children's Zoo by Tana Hoban

Giraffes Can't Dance by Giles Andreae

If I Ran the Zoo by Dr. Seuss

Mole and the Baby Bird by Marjorie Newman

