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Tabbed Board Books: My First Farm: Let's Get Working! (Tab Board Books)



Synopsis

My First Farm: Let's Get Working! helps kids develop first language skills by introducing them to the animals and machines on a farm. Each tabbed section focuses on a different category of farm life, from baby animals to tractors.

Book Information

Age Range: 1 - 3 years

Series: Tab Board Books

Board book: 28 pages

Publisher: DK Children; Brdbk edition (November 16, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0756655447

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Product Dimensions: 9.1 x 0.7 x 9.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (23 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #90,512 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #163 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Where We Live > Farm Life #246 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Animals > Farm Animals

Customer Reviews

First, let me say this is a great book. My 13 month old got it for her birthday and she loves turning the pages and looking at all the animals. It's perfect for both boys and girls, too; it's gender neutral and there is something in here every kid will love. The pictures are fantastic, too. Very clear and crisp and easy for little eyes to focus on. I can tell my daughter really enjoys it, and we have fun naming everything as we look through it, and making the animal sounds. The reason I gave it four stars may seem nitpicky, but hear me out: the sheep page shows wool. OK, sheep make wool. The goats show goat cheese, the chickens show eggs, etc. But the pigs - NOTHING. No pork chops, no bacon, no ham. This doesn't make sense. I'm a chicken keeper, beekeeper, grow my own food and a psychologist by training: I feel very strongly that we should be honest with our children and TEACH THEM WHERE THEIR FOOD COMES FROM. Why are we perpetuating the illusion that food magically appears on the grocery store shelves? That nothing died for our food? That someone (namely a farmer) didn't put their hard work into growing/raising the food that shows up on our plates? Let's be honest with our kids and give them all of the information from the beginning.

This is how our grandparents and great-grandparents and everyone before them grew up: knowing the reality of our food. That said, it's really a fun book. I'm just going to explain to my daughter that pork chops come from pigs and burgers come from cows.

We first bought the "My First Words: Let's Get Talking" book by DK publishing. It was the only book our toddler liked. So at about 20 months when language development was really taking off, we also purchased "My First Busy Home", "My First Animals", "My First Colors" and "My First Farm". All of them are great. I will repeat what another reviewer said, some of the photographs are reused in the books, but not so that you feel like it's the same book. The pages are bright, colorful and filled with photographs of real things, not illustrations (that was important to us)! Our toddler's favorites are the Animals and Farm book, followed closely by the Words and Busy Home book. Colors is currently at the bottom of the list. If your toddler is as rough on board books as ours is, I'd recommend reinforcing the spine with packing tape. That's not a fault of these books, just well-used board books in general! I also read someone complain about the Farm book having milk and cheese on the goat and cow pages, but no bacon on the pig page. To clarify, NONE of the animal pages show meat products of farming. There's wool for the sheep page; eggs from chickens and geese; milk and cheese from goats; and milk, cheese and butter from cows. There aren't any lamb chops or steaks shown, so it's consistent- only non-meat products of animal husbandry are shown. I personally don't have a problem with it.

I bought all 6 books in this series. I think they are excellent books for building vocabulary in a young child. I much prefer the format of pictures rather than cartoons or sketches. The tabs on the pages help small fingers (and large!) turn the pages easily (board books tend to stick together). There are more pages than you usually get in a board book, too, and therefore more vocabulary words. They really put a lot onto each page. My minor criticism of the series: they reuse some pictures from one book to the next, and they could have made the "Colors" and "Numbers" books more interesting. This is my rank order of the books in the series: Animals Words Farm Things That Go Colors Numbers

I bought this board book for my then 18 month old granddaughter prior to our Pennsylvania State Farm Show visit, hoping to give her a frame of reference for the day. Together, we enjoyed the book once before our busy day and as a reminder of the sights many, many times since. The DK publishers produce sturdy board books with clear, eye-catching photographs, and the copy I

purchased of this one even has tabs to help little readers to zero in on favorite pages. Every major farm animal has a full double-page spread devoted to that animal with photos of baby animals, different breeds, and animal mommies and daddies. (Now that my granddaughter is turning 2, she is very interested in this, generating simple discussions of ways mommy animals feed their babies and how big daddy animals are and how colorful daddy birds are.) The vocabulary is more specific than most animal books for toddlers, using terms like kid, foal, piglet, gosling, duckling, along with the usual calf, kitten, and puppy. In addition to identifying the impressive variety of animals and birds, toddlers, both boys and girls, will enjoy vivid pages of big tractors and vehicles, farm food products, and farm buildings and tools. In spite of the many words, the pages do not seem cluttered. Most farm books focus just on animal sounds and perhaps one example of each animal; many farm books are available with "touch and feel" features, but few pages. However, *My First Farm: Let's Get Working* encourages language growth, with helpful prompts for readers to do more with the pages. The design makes the experience more enjoyable for multiple readings--and believe me, we spend plenty of quality time with every page. I actually learned to recognize some new things myself at the farm show from sharing this book. I hope DK uses this comprehensive format for more publications, perhaps for zoo animals, birds, plants, to name a few, to appeal to eager toddlers and those who read with them.

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