



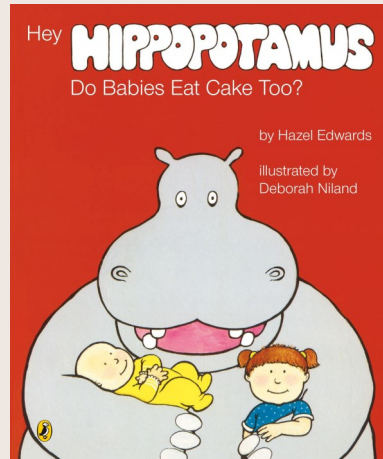
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Book Tip Sheet

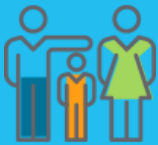
Hey Hippopotamus Do Babies Eat Cake Too?

Hazel Edwards and Deborah Niland

The famous hippo on the roof is back, this time to help answer some questions about babies. This book is particularly great for children who have a new sibling on the way. A new baby can bring mixed emotions. This book can help reassure children at this special time of transition.



BEFORE READING...



- ▶ Look at the front cover together and ask your child what they think the story will be about. Help them find clues: there is a baby, an older child, and a hippo!
- ▶ Read the title of the book. Ask if they think babies eat cake?
- ▶ Break hipp-o-pot-a-mus into its syllables. Help your child clap and say each syllable of this long word.

WHILE READING...



- ▶ You can make the book more fun and engaging by changing your voice as you read. Try different voices for the different characters.
- ▶ Ask questions to suit your child's experiences: do they know anyone who is going to have a baby? Do any of their friends or cousins have a baby sibling?

AFTER READING...



- ▶ Drawing and playing can help children express themselves. You could draw your family with your child or play pretend and talk about who is in their family.
- ▶ Look at photos together of your child when they were a baby. Talk about how they are different now that they are older. Ask them what they can do now that they couldn't do as a baby (for example: eat cake or play football).

Email read@unitedway.com.au for address changes or any questions!