



Age Group  
**Kinders**

# The Bookworm

From your  
local library  
and Idaho's Read  
to Me program

March 2013

## Vocabulary

**Vocabulary** is knowing the names of things. This is a very important skill for children to have when they are learning to read. Most children enter school knowing between 3,000 and 5,000 words.

**Why is it important for children to hear a wide range of words?**

Children need to know the meaning of words to understand what they are reading.

When you think about it, you know if you are reading a word correctly if you have heard it before. The more words children hear, the more ready they will be to make connections between sounding out words and knowing they're pronouncing them correctly.

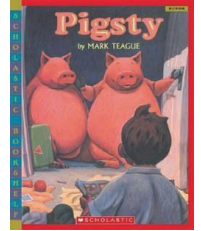
**The best way to help your children build vocabulary is to talk and read with them.**

- Studies show that children whose parents talk to them a lot, better understand what they read.
- Talk to your child about what is going on around you. Talk about how things work, feelings and ideas. Listen when your child talks to you.
- Speak in the language that is most comfortable for you.
- Read to your child every day. Children's books have more rare words than everyday conversations. Talk about the stories and the pictures in books.
- Learn together by reading information books. Help your child pick out books about the things he or she is interested in.

## Book of the Month

***Pigsty*, by Mark Teague**

When Wendell's mom declares his room a pigsty and tells him he can live like that if he wants, it's not surprising that Wendell is delighted. It's even more fun when two round pigs move in with him - making the bedroom a real pigsty!



**Mark Teague** is the best-selling children's author and illustrator of more than 40 books. Here are some favorites:

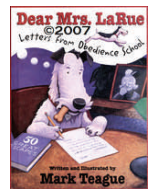
**LaRue series:**

*Dear Mrs. LaRue: Letters from Obedience School*

*LaRue for Mayor: Letters from the Campaign Trail*

*Detective LaRue: Letters from the Investigation*

*LaRue Across America: Postcards from the Vacation*



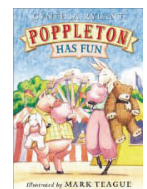
***How Do Dinosaurs... series***

(written by Jane Yolen)



**Poppleton series**

(written by Cynthia Rylant)



To see more books written and/or illustrated by Mark Teague and to watch an interview, visit [www.readingrockets.org/books/interviews/teague/](http://www.readingrockets.org/books/interviews/teague/)

## More fun with *Pigsty*...

**Talk about it...** Here are some phrases in the book to talk about with your child:

Wendell's room is *turning into a pigsty*.

The pigs *hogged his pillows*.

*Many hooves make light work*.

His room was too clean *from a pig's point of view*.

**Play it again...** In the story Wendell plays Monopoly™ with his pig friends. Board and card games are a great family activity and help your child practice reading, math, and problem-solving skills. Your kindergartener will enjoy classics like Chutes and Ladders™, Guess Who?™, Monopoly Jr.™, Old Maid, Go Fish, and memory games. You can find lots of great games at discount stores, yard sales, and resale stores; or consider trading games with friends or family.

**What's missing?**... Arrange a few items, like some things that might have been in the pictures of Wendell's room. Talk about the items with your child. Ask her to close her eyes, then take one or two items away. When your child opens her eyes ask her if she can figure out which items are missing. You can make the game easier or harder with the number of items you begin with and the number you take away.



## Clean-Up Song

*Playing music or singing songs with your child while cleaning up makes the task more enjoyable!*

Clean-up, clean-up  
Everybody get some toys.

Clean-up, clean-up  
All the little girls and boys.

Clean-up, clean-up  
Everybody do your share.

Clean-up, clean-up  
Everybody, everywhere.



## Action Song

### Farmer in the Dell

The farmer in the dell,  
The farmer in the dell,  
Heigh ho the derry-o,  
The farmer in the dell.

The farmer takes a wife,  
The farmer takes a wife,  
Heigh ho the derry-o,  
The farmer takes a wife.

Repeat with the following:

The wife takes the child...

The child takes the cow...

The cow takes the pig...

The pig takes the dog...

The dog takes the cat...

The cat takes a mouse...

The mouse takes the cheese...

The cheese stands alone...



### What your library can do for you...

Don't have a library card? You can still visit your library for storytimes or to read with your child. Or you can ask your librarian about how to apply for your own card today!

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