



BEST BEGINNINGS

Alaska's Early Childhood Investment

BOOK TITLE: A House Is a House for Me
AUTHOR: Mary Ann Hoberman
ILLUSTRATOR: Betty Fraser

SUMMARY OF BOOK: With delightful rhyme and rich illustrations, the author describes houses for different animals, people, objects, foods, etc. The idea is that everything has its own place to live and call home.



***BEFORE READING** (Ask questions and use what the child already knows to add to the discussion, assisting the child in understanding and enjoying the book):

Try questions such as these:

1. Before you even open the book, talk about what people live in, what animals live in.
2. "Can we change the house we live in? Can we live in the ocean? In the sky?"
3. "What is your foot inside? Could we call a shoe a house for your foot?" This book is going to think up some funny houses like that.

DURING READING (ask these questions):

1. These are very complex illustrations. Take as much time as your child wants to explore: "How do the animals get in and out? Where are the doors?"
2. Try to identify the different animals and their houses. What sounds do they make?
3. What varieties of houses are the children in? "Have you ever made a house like that?"
4. Some of the illustrations may not be familiar to your child; try to describe where it might be.
5. "How would you describe our house?"

AFTER READING (activity to extend book experience):

1. "I spy" - search for hidden animals or objects in the detailed illustrations.
2. Build a house out of sheets or an umbrella. Pretend to be animals that live in dens, caves, nests.
3. Look around outside or in a pet store to observe different animal homes.
4. In your kitchen, find the "homes" for different foods. In the bathroom, find the "homes" for toothbrushes, soap, or towels. Get imaginative

Compliments of:



* This activity created by students at the University of Alaska Anchorage.

For additional activities, visit www.AlaskamaginationLibrary.org.

