

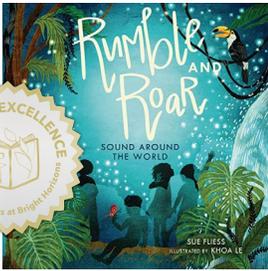
Growing Readers Review



Books of Excellence books are selected annually by a panel of Bright Horizons early childhood experts and represent some of the best new writing in children's literature.

Books of Excellence

Rumble and Roar



Preschool

Written by Sue Fliess; Illustrated by Khoa Le

Follow four children in different places of the world as they explore the sounds all around them. The onomatopoeia-inspired rhyming verses and animated illustrations take you on an adventure through swooshing waterfalls and rumbling volcanoes.

Extend the Learning

- ▶ **Explore animal habitats.** Visit or research the types of terrains shown in the book (online or in person). Think about a dense forest, a desert mountain, or a lake. What kind of animals live in each environment?
- ▶ **What do you hear?** Take a walk in your neighborhood and notice the sounds around you. It could be the swish-swoosh of tree leaves or the beep, beep of a car horn. Explore the sounds in a new place such as a grocery store or at a park.
- ▶ **Scientific inquiry.** Dive into the science of sound in the reference guide at the end of the book. Learn how sound travels through the human ear and what types of noise animals make to communicate.

The Hair Book



Infant & Toddler

Written by Latonya Yvette; Illustrated by Amanda Jane Jones

This lyrical book is an appreciation of every kind of hair. Poetic rhyme and bold graphics followed by a mirror at the end, make this a fun and engaging read for children and parents alike.

Extend the Learning

- ▶ **Mirror Play.** Look in the mirror at the end of the book together and narrate what you both observe. "I see your hair is curly. Look how it bounces when you move. My hair is short and sways as I nod my head."
- ▶ **Explore color.** Notice how the colors complement one another on each spread. Explore and identify the different colors through a painting activity. Make it a sensory play by mixing paint with dirt, sand, salt, or other textured materials for your little one to explore with their hands.
- ▶ **Compare and contrast.** Review the concepts across each page. The author introduces the concept of opposites as you turn each page. Allow children to explore the difference between long and short, up and down, or full and empty.

We believe that books have the power to build empathy in children, introducing them to new perspectives and ideas. Through stories, children come to understand others' hopes, dreams, joys, and sorrows. We're committed to offering diverse stories and voices to our readers.

Reading News

At Bright Horizons, the concept of **Mirrors and Windows** serves as a teaching practice offering children opportunities to see reflections of themselves (mirrors) and observe differences in the world (windows). When children explore books with characters that look like them, they feel a sense of belonging. The first step is finding quality and diverse children's books.

We Need Diverse Books aims to promote children's books that mirror the lives of all people by advocating for change in the publishing industry. With board members such as Hena Khan, author of *Amina's Voice*, the group helps promote change, equity, and diversity in the world of children's literature. Find out more at <https://diversebooks.org/>



WE NEED
DIVERSE
BOOKS™

Growing Readers Book Club

Become Teacher Nate's co-researchers as you and your child are introduced to high-quality children's books along with ideas to explore, create, and investigate further!

This month's video features the book "Rumble and Roar: Sound Around the World" by Sue Fliess. Join Teacher Nate as he explores the element of sound. Bring your musical instrument and join him in creating a soundtrack!

[Watch the video here!](#)

Storytelling/Reading Tips

Follow Your Child's Cues

Books are more than story time. Books offer a way for children to make connections, ask questions, learn something new, and much more. Each book offers an abundance of information and illustrations that take the reader on an adventure.

Next time you pick up a book to read, **follow your child's cues**. Notice where their eyes dart on the page, what they point at, or if they lose interest in the book. Observe and discuss their interests throughout the book. For example, "I see you pointing at trees. Do you remember the last walk we took at the park? These trees look similar to the ones we saw." During the early years, make reading a joyful experience and follow your child's lead.

*Other High-quality Books
We Recommend*

Visit the Growing Readers website to see a list of other great books we recommend checking out!

Point your smart phone camera at the code to link to the Growing Readers website for more book recommendations.

