

# IT'S SPRING!

In a seasonal story that children will love, breezy rhyming verse and beautiful watercolor illustrations spread the news that spring is here.

Authors: Samantha Berger and Pamela Chanko

Illustrator: Melissa Sweet

Ages: 0-4

Pages: 30

Themes: Animal noises and identification; love of nature

After a South Dakota winter, I think we're all ready for spring! The beauty of green grass and leaves growing and buds on plants blooming make this season a time of new beginnings.

As you're reading this book with your child, identify the animals and birds on each page. Make the sound that each one makes as you talk about them...tweet- tweet of the bird; quack of the duck; moo of the cow. If you're not sure what sound the animals makes, show your child how the bunny hops or hold your hands on top of your head to show the deer's antlers. After you've read the book a couple of times (or 20), your child will "beat you to the punch" at identifying the animal either by name, sound or action.

To truly enjoy the beauty of plants growing and blooming, take time to smell the roses either in your yard or when you go to the store. There are so many greenhouses set up everywhere, take a couple of minutes to walk through and let your child look at the plants and see all of the colors. For some really young children, even the feel of fresh grass on their bare feet is a cool new experience!