

# The Early Years Count **Literacy** Connection



## ABC Look at Me

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*Infant/Toddler edition*  
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### Overview of Book

Photos of babies' expressive faces accompany descriptions of emotions, feelings and moods. Written in rhyme and arranged in alphabetical order, this book is a fun way for babies and toddlers to hear letter names as well as learn about feelings.

Genre: Concept based (Alphabet and Social/Emotional)

### Vocabulary

Books are a rich source of words new to children. Here are some from *ABC Look at Me* to introduce in your classroom:

|           |         |
|-----------|---------|
| cheerful  | bashful |
| impatient | rowdy   |
| zany      | drowsy  |
| grumpy    | joyful  |

Each time you read the book, highlight 2 or 3 words.

Use age-appropriate definitions and/or refer to the illustrations to help children understand each word's meaning.

Use the new words throughout the day, reminding children, "That's a word from our story!"

### Connecting with HighScope Curriculum

#### COR Advantage 1.5

Social and Emotional  
Development  
Item D  
(Emotions)

Social and Emotional  
Development  
Item H  
(Conflict resolution)

Language, Literacy  
and Communication  
Item O  
(Alphabetic Knowledge)

### Reading Tips

Read the book in no particular order. Focus on the pages the children like best and read until their interest fades.

Remembering to be concrete, add to the descriptions of the emotions. For example, "K is for kind, like when I'm nice to my friends. Being nice is when we do things for others that make them feel good. See, this baby is hugging the doll. He is making the doll feel good."

Three readings are recommended to familiarize children with the story. During each reading the adult can introduce new vocabulary words, pose open-ended questions, and engage children in activities that make the story "come alive."

### **Throughout the Routine**

Refer to the book throughout the day and use new vocabulary words in meaningful ways. Active engagement with the story helps the content come alive.

At **Choice Time**, encourage doll play and, as children play, label moods, emotions and the dolls' feelings.

During play, conflicts and throughout the routines, label the children's emotions that are described in the book. For example, at **Nap Time**, you might comment, "You look so tired; I bet you will fall asleep fast." At **Departure Time** you could say, "You are joyful Mommy is here! You are joyful like the baby in our book."

### **Around the Room**

Highlight the book's content and build on the children's excitement in a variety of locations.

Use mirrors throughout the room and at Bodily Care times so that children can see their own facial expressions and can practice others.

Post pictures of the children making various faces from the book. Label the ones that authentically relate to a specific emotion.

Put *ABC Look at Me* on display in the book area so the children can easily find it on their own.

### **Open-ended Questions**

Enhance active engagement and early critical thinking skills by asking open-ended questions. These "wondering aloud" questions support children's developing focus and attention as they encourage young children's capacity to make connections and see possibilities.

Here are some questions you might ask for *this book*:

What makes you cheerful?

Impatient is when it is hard to wait. What makes you impatient?

This baby is being kind to his dolly. How are you kind?

*For more information on how to use books and stories with children to enhance your curriculum, contact*  
***The Family Connection:***

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### **@ Home**

Since many children in our county will have this book at home, use it to further the home-school connection. In your daily contact—in person or by text, email or other notes home—encourage families to share *ABC Look at Me* with their children. Here's a sample message you can send:

*ABC Look at Me* provides many opportunities to tell stories with your child. You might say, "Look at this baby, he's got an ouch! Remember you got an ouch and it hurt. It's happened to me too." This is a book that can be read in any order, so if your child brings it to you opened, just start on that page. If your child squirms away or looks uninterested, simply put the book down—the squirming says, "All done for now!" There are lots of rich new words that you can use from the book, like "zany," "impatient," "bashful," "grumpy," and "rowdy."