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**Title:** Mouse Tales

**By:** Arnold Lobel

**Back Cover:** “When Papa’s seven little mouse boys ask for a bedtime story, Papa does even better than that – he tells seven stories, one for each boy!”

**Contents:**

The Wishing Well

Clouds

Very Tall Mouse and Very Short Mouse

The Mouse and the Winds

Journey

The Old Mouse

The Bath

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**Title:** A Nest Full of Eggs

**By:** Priscilla Belz Jenkins

**Illustrated by:** Lizzy Rockwell

**Back Cover:** “What’s inside that pretty blue egg? A baby bird is growing inside that egg. Slowly the bird develops, until one day it cracks through the shell. Safe inside the nest, under the care of its parents, the chick grows stronger. Soon it will learn how to fly and take care of itself. By next spring it will be ready to build its own nest and raise chicks of its own.”

**Vocabulary:** robins, weaves, seeds, twigs, nest, yolk, albumen, cushion, air sac, shell, hatching, beak, wobbly, worms, peeping, squawking, feathers, bird of paradise, hummingbird, spotted woodpecker, cedar waxwing, guinea fowl, flamingo, parrot, peacock, finch, junco, blue jay, mandarin duck, parakeet, budgerigar, pheasant, regent parrot, macaw, crimson rosella, owl, herring gull, house wren, sparrow, goldfinch, cowbird, house finch, whippoorwill, northern oriole, northern flicker, peregrine falcon, bald eagle, barn swallow, ostrich

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**Title:** Are You My Mother?

**Written and Illustrated By:** P.D. Eastman

**From Amazon:**

“A baby bird is hatched while his mother is away. Fallen from his nest, he set out to look for her and asks everyone he meets – including a dog, a cow, and a plane, --“Are you my mother?”

**Vocabulary:** bird, egg, jumped, up, down, fly, walk, kitten, hen, bird, dog, cow, car, boat, plane, snort, tree

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**Title:** Uncle Elephant

**By:** Arnold Lobel

**Back Cover:** “A little elephant visits his Uncle Elephant, who makes wishes come true, tells amazing stories, and even trumpets the dawn!”

**Contents:**

Uncle Elephant Opens the Door

Uncle Elephant Counts the Poles

Uncle Elephant Lights a Lamp

Uncle Elephant Trumpets the Dawn

Uncle Elephant Feels the Creaks

Uncle Elephant Tells a Story

Uncle Elephant Wears His Clothes

Uncle Elephant Writes a Song

Uncle Elephant Closes the Door

**Vocabulary:** sail, boat, trunk, throat, storm, sea, curtains, wrinkles, tree, leaves, wrinkles, sand, sky, stars, train, peanuts, window, country, counting, fields, telephone poles, shells, lamp, shelf, magic, airplane, fly, polka-dot suit, striped pants, banana split, scoops, ice cream, cigars, lamp, spider, crawled, peace, shelf, garden, flapped, breeze, dawn, deserves, trumpet, planted, flowers, introduce, roses, daffodils, marigolds, nephew, favorite, kingdom, prince, crowns, trunk, ouch, creaks, back, knees, feet, uncomfortable, chair, footstool, wrinkles, castle, woods, edge, lion, jumped, roared, hats, ties, shirts, pants, jackets, closet, wearing, clothes, smiled, giggled, laughed, song, loop, swoop, vines, sled, snow, munch, chew, duet, tune, telegram, rescued, houses, fields, telephone poles, piano

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**Title:** What Do You Do With a Tail Like This?

**By:** Steve Jenkins & Robin Page

**Caldecott Honor Book**

“Ingenious.” –*The Bulletin*

**Back Cover:** “A nose for digging? Ears for seeing? Eyes that squirt blood? Explore the many amazing things animals can do with their ears, eyes, mouths, noses, feet, and tails in this beautifully illustrated interactive book by Steve Jenkins and Robin Page.”

**Vocabulary:** platypus, hyena, elephant, mole, alligator, jackrabbit, bat, hippopotamus, cricket, humpback whale, giraffe, skunk, lizard, scorpion, monkey, eagle, chameleon, four-eyed fish, bush baby, horned lizard, blue-footed booby, chimpanzee, water strider, gecko, mountain goat, pelican, egg-eating snake, mosquito, anteater, archerfish

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**Title:** Never Smile at a Monkey

**By:** Steve Jenkins

**Book Jacket:** “When it comes to wild animals, everyone knows that there are certain things you just don’t do. It’s clearly a bad idea to tease a tiger, pull a pythons’ tail, or bother a black widow spider. But do you know how dangerous it can be to pet a platypus, collect a cone shell, or touch a tang fish? Some creatures have developed unusual ways of protecting themselves or catching prey, and this can make them unexpectedly hazardous to your health.

 In this dynamic and fascinating picture book by Steve Jenkins, you’ll find out what you should never do if you encounter one of these surprisingly dangerous animals.”

**Vocabulary:** tigers, crocodiles, sharks, predators, dangerous, threats, rattlesnakes, black widow spider, piranhas, creatures, teeth, claws, spines, venom, platypus, cone shell, poisoned bars, harpoons, harass, hippopotamus, threatened, enormous, tusks, jostle, jellyfish, stinging, tentacles, stingray, poisonous, perceives, cane toad, amphibian, poach, puffer fish, prickly, toxin, black bears, aggressive, stare, spitting cobra, caress, electric caterpillar, cassowary, flightless, lethal, antagonize, African buffalo, domestic, vicinity, tang, coral reef, aquarium, blue-ringed octopus, kangaroo, confront, badger, beaded lizard, squid, rhesus monkey

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**Title:** Big Tracks, Little Tracks – Following Animal Prints

**By:** Millicent E. Selsam

**Illustrated by:** Marlene Hill Donnelly

**Back Cover:** “Do you know who made these tracks? If you look closely, you’ll see that they were made by an animal with little front paws and big hind feet – a rabbit! Read on and find out how to identify tracks made by lots of different animals, from a dog to a seagull.”

**Vocabulary:** detective, paws, claws, hoofprints, deer, baby fawn, bank, bullfrog, snake, slithered, crayfish, raccoon, sea gulls, tracks, rabbit, dog, cat, fox

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**Title:** Starfish

**By:** Edith Thacher Hurd

**Illustrated by:** Robin Brickman

 **Back Cover:** “How many kinds of starfish are there? How do they move? How do they eat? Learn about starfish and how they live in the deep blue sea.”

**Vocabulary:** starfish, pools, sunflower starfish, rays, glide, slide, basket star, brittle stars, mud stars, mussels, oysters, clams, tide, prickly

**Simile:** “They move as slowly as a snail.”

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**Title:** What’s It Like to Be a Fish?

**By:** Wendy Pfeffer

**Illustrated by:** Holly Keller

**Back Cover:** “You can’t breathe underwater, but a fish can. You can’t eat underwater, but a fish does it every day. A fish’s body is perfectly designed for life in water, just as your body is perfect for living on land. Read and find out how a fish’s sleek body, fins, scales, and gills keep him in the swim! Then read on to learn how to set up your own goldfish bowl.”

**Vocabulary:** Lake Whitefish, Common Shiners, Smallmouth Buffalo, Coho Salmon, Grass Pickerel, lakes, ponds, Goldfish, Bleeding-heart Tetra, Hatchetfish, Angelfish, Fantail Goldfish, aquariums, plastic bags, Calico Goldfish, fins, caudal (tail) fin, anal fin, pelvic fins, dorsal fin, pectoral fins, scales, overlap, slime, seeping, Arrowtail Goldfish, Common Shiner, inhale (oxygen), exhale (carbon dioxide), Black Goldfish, Comet, Veiltail, Black Telescope Eye

**Simile:** “They overlap like shingles on a roof.”

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**Title:** Where Are the Night Animals?

**By:** Mary Ann Fraser

**Back Cover:** “Did you know that a barn owl has one ear higher than the other? This helps it find squeaking mice that humans can’t hear. Baby opossums hang onto their mother’s fur for safety. Read and find out more about what nocturnal animals do as we sleep.”

**Vocabulary:** harvest mice, scampering, barn owl, hoots, gopher, munching, cautiously, waddles, raccoon, crayfish, snails, brown bat, moths, mosquitoes, dawn, retreat, diurnal, nocturnal, adapted, coyote, den, skunk, beetle, bounds, scurry, swoops, source, snatches, ramble, opossum, dashes, reeds, tree frogs, amphibian, navigate

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**Title:** Where Do Chicks Come From?

**By:** Amy E. Sklansky

**Illustrated by:** Pam Paparone

**Back Cover:** “Read and find out all about eggs- and how baby chicks grow inside of them. Learn how chicks develop, how they get the food they need to grow, and how a mother hen helps keep them safe in this simple introduction to the life cycle of a baby chick.”

**Vocabulary:** egg, yolk, unfertilized, albumen shell, chicken, rooster, fertilization, chicks, clucks, hatched, feathers, pecks, wobbly, fluffs, barnyard

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**Title:** What Lives in a Shell?

**By:** Kathleen Weidner Zoehfeld

**Illustrated by:** Helen K. Davie

**Back Cover:** “A house is a home for you, a nest is a home for a bird, and a cave is a home for a bear. But for some animals a shell is a home. Snails and turtles and crabs and clams all have shells that act as their homes and protect them from harm. In this book you’ll learn all about these and other crustaceous creatures, for whom a shell is just the right sort of home.”

**Vocabulary:** shell, nests, tunnels, underground, cave, land snail, tentacles, leaves, birds, turtles, frog, cat, frightened, seashore, crab, whelks, conchs, Santa Barbara Spindle Shell, Western Ribbed Top Shell, Kellet’s Whelk, Dire Whelk, Pale Northern Moon Snail, Giant Atlantic Pyram, Junonia (Volute), Hawk Wing Conch, hermit crab, oyster shell, Lion’s Paw Scallop, Atlantic Deep-sea Scallop, Zigzag Scallop, San Diego Scallop, Ravenel’s Scallop, Giant Pacific Scallop, hinge, surroundings

**Similes:** “It is as hard as a stone.”

“It is smooth, like glass.”

“It is hollow inside, like a cup.”

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**Title:** What Do You Do When Something Wants To Eat You?

**By:** Steve Jenkins

**A NSTA – CBC Outstanding Science Trade Book for Children**

**Booklist Editors’ Choice**

**Back Cover:** “What would *you* do if something wanted to eat you? Stick out your tongue? Play dead? Find out what wild animals do to protect themselves from their enemies as Steve Jenkins explores their unique defense mechanisms.”

“Jenkins has produced another marvel…Young children will delight in first guessing, then seeing, how each of fourteen unusual animals avoids becoming someone else’s dinner.” – *Horn Book*

“Thrilling, beautiful…dramatic.” – *Booklist*

“The youngest animal enthusiasts will find this an intriguing introduction to adaptation.” – *The Bulletin*

**Vocabulary:** octopus, squirts, attacker, bombardier beetle, defends, chemicals, puffer fish, prickly, glass snake, lizard, wriggling, pangolin, armor-plated ball, basilisk lizard, South America, threatened, hog-nosed snake, predators, clownfish, tentacles, sea anemone, immune, hover, mimicking, wasp, gliding frog, Asia, webbed feet, silkmoth, Javanese leaf, flying fish, blue-tongued skink, startles

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**Title:** Biggest, Strongest, Fastest

**By:** Steve Jenkins

**Outstanding Science Trade Book for Children, National Science Teachers Association – Children’s Book Council**

***FamilyFun* Magazine’s Book of the Year, 1996**

***Booklist* Editor’s Choice**

“Beautiful double-page-spread cut-paper collages illustrate a picture book about ‘some of the biggest and smallest, fastest and slowest, strongest and longest’ record holders in the animal world…Here’s proof that power isn’t just about size and that science can be a lot of fun.” – ***Booklist,* starred review**

Large, clear print; fascinating facts; and beautiful, detailed, cut-paper collages make this excellent title a delight…An all-round superlative effort.” – ***School Library Journal,* starred review**

“A book that will stimulate through and discussion about animals, art, and comparisons.” – ***The Horn Book***

“The variety of animals portrayed shows kids that, when it comes to world record holders, four legs are sometimes better than two.” – ***The Bulletin of the Center for******Children’s Books***

**Inside Cover:** “The biggest snake, the anaconda, can swallow a goat whole. The smallest mammal, the Etruscan shrew, is little enough to sleep in a teaspoon. And the tiny flea can jump 130 times its own height.

 Illustrated with striking cut-paper collages, *Biggest, Strongest, Fastest* is an appealing introduction to the “world records” held by fourteen members of the animal kingdom.”

**Vocabulary:** microscope, record holders, African elephant, giraffe, flexible, grazing, blue whale, Etruscan shrew, ping-pong ball, bee hummingbird, acrobatic, dime, sun jellyfish, tentacles, filaments, bird spider, cheetah, antelope, electric eel, voltage, light bulb, land snail, anaconda, deer, goat, flea, leap, Galapagos tortoise

**Similes:** “There are animals that move as fast as a car and animals that would need half an hour to cross a room.”

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**Title:** Earthworms

**By:** Franklin Watts

**Photography:** Barrie Watts

**Back Cover:** “Take a really close look at earthworms! Discover how they grow and where they live, what they eat and who eats them. Colorful, large photographs take you into the world of this minibeast.”

**Contents:**

All Sorts of Worms

Finding Earthworms

A Worm’s Body

Feeding

Moving

Tunneling

Mating

Hatching

Enemies

Food for Birds

Worm Wonders!

Glossary

Index

**Glossary:**

**bristle** – a tiny, stiff hair

**cocoon** – the hard, oval case where a worm’s eggs grow

**compost heap** – a place where people pile dead plants and fruit and vegetable peelings. These plants rot to become compost, which is used to feed the soil.

**muscle** – the part of an animal’s body that helps it move.

**saddle** – the swollen part of an adult worm’s body where the eggs are made, and which it uses during mating to make a cocoon.

**shrew** – a small animal that looks like a mouse but has a longer nose.

**worm cast** – the soil that passes out of a worm’s body and makes a little pile on the grass

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**Title:** How Animals Work Why and how animals do the things they do

**Publisher:** DK

**Back Cover:** “Burrow underground with a naked mole rat, go fishing with a brown bear, dance along with a honeybee, and soar through the air with a flock of flamingoes! HOW ANIMALS WORK gives you an incredible, in-depth look at how creatures around the world move, communicate, hunt, and eat in their natural habitats. Get up close and personal with corals and kangaroos, snakes, and centipedes, butterflies and blowfish!”

**Book Jacket: “**Have you ever wondered how fish breathe underwater, how caterpillars transform into butterflies, why stags grow huge, cumbersome antlers, every year, or how snakes slither? HOW ANIMALS WORK compares and contrasts the wonders of the animal world, exploring the anatomy and behavior of animals – in an irresistibly engaging way.

 Astonishing action photography reveals wild animals interacting in their native habitats, putting their natural behavior and anatomy into context. Absorbing artworks detail the inner workings of animal bodies, from a bird’s wing to toxic amphibian skin.

 Animal lovers will be delighted, inspired, and informed by this lavish visual celebration of the natural world.”

**Contents**

**Body Basics –** Soft-bodied animals, Shells and cases, Exoskeletons, Bony skeletons, Skin, Fur and hair, Feathers, Scales

**Animals on the Move** Creeping and sliding, Moving on legs, Jumping and climbing, Gliding, Flying, Swimming and diving, Borers and burrowers

**Life Support** – Breathing and circulation, Nerves and brains, Temperature control, Keeping clean, Animal rhythms, Migration, Surviving extremes

**Animal Diets** – Fuel for living, Grazing and browsing, Feeding at flowers, Eating fruit and seeds, Omnivores, Filter-feeders, Scavengers and recyclers

**Hunters and Hunted** – Solitary hunters, Hunting together, Traps and tricks, Feeding on blood, Camouflage and mimicry, Stings and venom, Animal armor, Emergency escapes

**Senses** – Eyesight, Hearing, Seeing with sound, Taste and smell, Touch and motion, Special senses

**Keeping in Contact** – Signaling by sight, Calls and songs, Signals in scent, Staying in touch, Attracting a mate, Pairing up

**Animal Families** – Starting life, Changing shape, Building a home, Parental care, Instinct and learning, Living together

**The Animal World** – Animal evolution, Invertebrates, Mollusks, Arthropods, Insects, Fish, Amphibians, Reptiles, Birds, Mammals

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**Title:** Finn Family Moomintroll

**By:** Tove Jansson

“A masterpiece.” – ***Neil Gaiman***

“Jansson was a genius. These simple stories resonate with profound and complex emotions.” – ***Philip Pullman***

“Jansson’s evocations of nature are powerfully succinct…This is a terrific book for reading aloud.” *–* ***The Washington Post Book World***

“A lost treasure now rediscovered…A Surrealist masterpiece.” – ***Neil Gaiman***

“Jansson was a genius of a very subtle kind. These simple stories resonate with profound and complex emotions that are like nothing else in literature for children or adults: intensely Nordic, and completely universal.” – ***Phillip Pullman***

“Tove Jansson is undoubtedly one of the greatest children’s writers there has ever been. She has the extraordinary gift of writing books that are very clearly for children, but can also be enjoyed when the child, like me, is over sixty and can still find new pleasures with the insights that come from adulthood.” – *Sir Terry Pratchett*

“Clever, gentle, witty, and completely engrossing.” – **Jeff Smith, author of** ***Bone***

“It’s not just Tove Jansson’s wonderfully strange fairytale world that so appeals but also her beautiful line work and exquisite sense o design.” – **Lauren Child**

“The Moomin world is afflicted by floods, falling rockets, volcanic eruptions, and hurricanes. But these adversities serve only to heighten what is most important of all: liberty, friendship, and love…The Moomin books…show a genuine way to live.” – ***The Horn Book***

“[Tove Jansson] is a master.” – ***The Times Literary Supplement* (London)**

“The most original works for children to be published since the *Pooh* books, and possibly, since *Alice.*” – ***Saturday Review***

“You will declare yourself a citizen of Moominvalley and call the stories your own – the Moomin world is that compelling.” – ***The Riverbank Review***

**Back Cover:** “In *Finn Family Moomintroll,* springtime arrives in Moominvalley, along with a shiny magic top hat that Moomintroll and his friends Snufkin and Sniff discover can turn anything – or anyone – into something else!”

**Chapter 1:**

*“In which Moomintroll, Snufkin, and Sniff find the Hobgoblin’s Hat; how five small clouds unexpectedly appear, and how the Hemulen finds himself a new hobby.”*

**Vocabulary:** cuckoo, hoarsely, thronged, coax, verandah, spindly, incredulously, dawned, suspicious, stamens, soothingly, shrilly, flailing, walloping, scrum, wailed, scornfully, crinkly, burst, despair, imposter, pleaded, jasmine, lure, swine, pleaded, huffily, haughtily, propeller, whirling, heaved, summoned, muffled, gingerly, agitated, withered, whimpered, dejectedly, obstinately, clambered, retorted, current, pattering, slunk

**Chapter 2:**

“In which Moomintroll suffers an uncomfortable change and takes his revenge on the Ant-lion, and how Moomintroll and Snufkin go on a secret night expedition.”

**Vocabulary:**

**Chapter 3:**

“In which the Muskrat has a terrible experience; how the Moomin family discover Hattifatteners’ Island where the Hemulen has a narrow escape, and how they survive the great thunderstorm.”

**Vocabulary:** hammock, unpardonable, gloomily, dignified, philosopher, protested, dignity, deserted, cliffs, porridge, excursion, grumbled, severely, bristling, incoherent, fled, dignified, clambored, mauve, wreckage, jeeringly, flattered, christen, virtuously, prow, haze, reefs, depths, foraging, gala, seething, botanizing, spade, vegetation, glade, barometer, haughtily, enraptured, stamens, swarmed, mahogany, tread, distress, voles, predicament, nettles, horizon, loomed, boulder, phosphorus, solemnly, ominous, glint, shrouded, botanical, refuge, hurled, rending, disentangled, fury

**Chapter 4**

*“In which owing to the Hattifatteners’ night attack the Snork Maiden loses her hair, and in which the most remarkable discovery is made on Lonely Island.”*

**Vocabulary:**