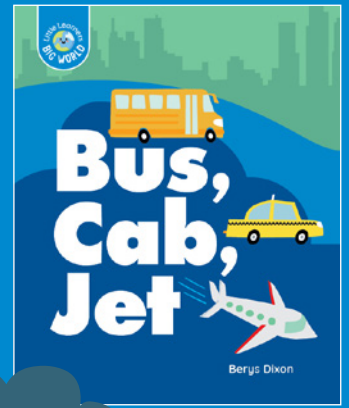


Stage 4: Bus, Cab, Jet



Read this page to children (it is not decodable). Use the questions and prompts to talk and write about the topic. While children are learning to read with decodable books, it is important to read other books to them in order to build their vocabulary and comprehension skills. What other books could you read to children about transport?

Did you know?

More about transport

Bus

London's bright red double-decker buses might be the most famous buses in the world.



Millions of people take the red buses around London every day.

Cab

The first cabs were **carts** pulled by horses.



Cabs are also known as **taxis**, or taxicabs!



Not all **taxis** are cars. There are **taxi-boats** too!

Jet

The person who flies the jet is called the **pilot**. It takes hundreds of hours of flying practice to become a pilot.

'Taxi' is a word used for planes too! A plane's movement along the **runway** is called 'taxiing'.



Talk about it

- Which job from the book would you like to do – cab driver, pilot or bus driver? Why?
- What other sorts of transport do you know of?

Write about it

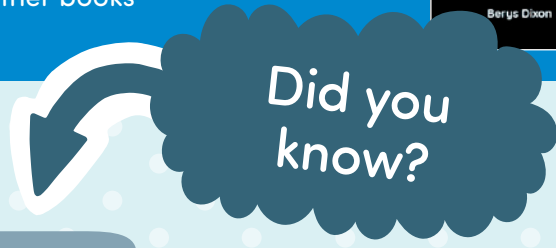
Ask children to choose their favourite job from the book and draw a picture of it. They can write a sentence about what they are doing. For example, 'I get Kit to the Hip Hop Hub.'; 'I am on my bus. I rev it up and the kids hop on.'



Stage 4: Bugs



Read this page to children (it is not decodable). Use the questions and prompts to talk and write about the topic. While children are learning to read with decodable books, it is important to read other books to them in order to build their vocabulary and comprehension skills. What other books could you read to children about bugs?



More about bugs



Although insects are often called 'bugs', true bugs are insects that have a special **straw-shaped mouth** to suck up the juicy sap from plants!

Insects may sometimes be **pests**, but they are an important **food** for many animals.



A bug with ten legs, like the Balmain bug in the book, is actually a **shellfish**. Although it lives in the sea, it is more like an **insect** than a fish. Like an insect, it has no backbone and has a hard shell covering its body.

Stink bugs produce a yucky smell when they are in danger, but other insects have different tricks to keep predators away.



Crickets and grasshoppers

Crickets and **grasshoppers** can jump great distances.

Bees sting.



Other insects can be **brightly coloured** to warn off predators!

Other insects



Talk about it

- How can you tell if a creature is an insect?
- How many legs do insects have?
- What insects have you seen and how might they protect themselves?

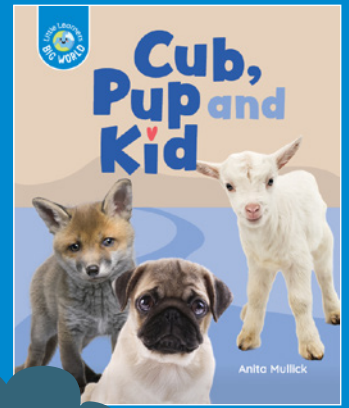
Write about it

Ask children to choose their favourite 'bug' from the book and draw a picture of it. They can write its name and add one or two fun facts.



Stage 4: Cub, Pup and Kid

Read this page to children (it is not decodable). Use the questions and prompts to talk and write about the topic. While children are learning to read with decodable books, it is important to read other books to them in order to build their vocabulary and comprehension skills. What other books could you read to children about animal babies?



Did you know?

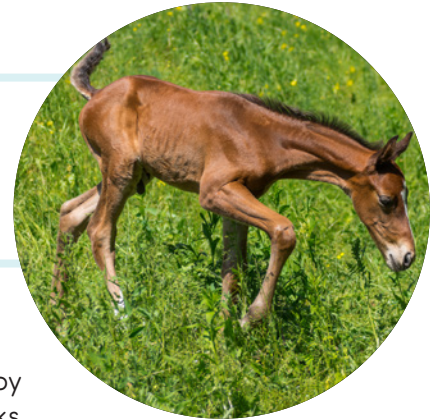
More about animal babies

A baby kangaroo is called a **joey**. A joey is born outside its mother's pouch, but soon crawls in there. The pouch is warm and safe, and the joey can drink its mother's milk.



A baby echidna is called a **puggle**. Like kangaroos, echidnas are marsupials, so the female has a pouch. Unlike a joey, a puggle hatches from an egg!

Baby horses are called **foals**. Most children are at least one year old when they start walking. Foals can walk within a few hours of being born!



Adult swans have long necks but **cygnets** (baby swans) have short necks and brown or grey feathers. Their feathers only change colour (usually white) after two years.

Write about it

Ask children to make a simple table with the headings 'Cub', 'Pup' and 'Kid'. They can complete the table by writing the names of the animals in the book in the correct heading, or draw the animals.

Talk about it

Ask children to talk about a baby animal they have seen.

- What is the name for that animal baby?
- What kind of things did the baby animal do?
- Did it do the same things as the baby animals in the book?



Stage 4: In My Hut

Read this page to children (it is not decodable). Use the questions and prompts to talk and write about the topic. While children are learning to read with decodable books, it is important to read other books to them in order to build their vocabulary and comprehension skills. What other books could you read to children about types of buildings?



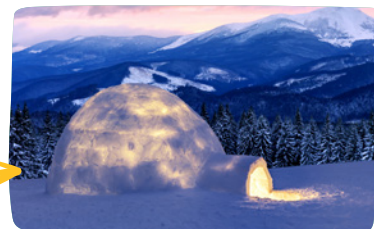
Did you know?

More about huts



A **house** and a **hut** are both kinds of shelters. What can be some of the differences between a hut and a house?

The **materials** used to make a hut are usually natural things that are found nearby, such as wood, mud, leaves and stone. Even snow can make a hut!



A hut is usually **smaller** than a house. It may only have one room.

Some huts, like beach huts, are **not used all the time**.



Long ago, **shepherds** travelled from place to place with their sheep, so the sheep could find grass to eat. They would live in small huts – sometimes with their sheep!

The **mud hut** in the first double-page spread of the book is in India. Mud is a natural resource that is easy to work with. It is a popular material for hut building in hot areas like India and parts of Africa.

Write about it

Ask children to draw their favourite huts from the book. They can write a short sentence, caption or a single word from the book depending on their ability and confidence.

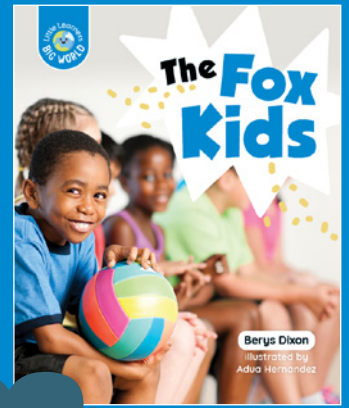
Talk about it

Ask children to talk about the huts in the book.

- What do they look like?
- What are they made of?
- Do they make good shelters? Why or why not?



Stage 4: The Fox Kids



Read this page to children (it is not decodable). Use the questions and prompts to talk and write about the topic. While children are learning to read with decodable books, it is important to read other books to them in order to build their vocabulary and comprehension skills. What other books could you read to children about volleyball or other sports?

Did you know?



More about volleyball

Volleyball was invented over 100 years ago.

Children as young as five play volleyball.

Volleyball can be played on the **beach**. The sand gives you a soft landing.



Sitting volleyball is a type of volleyball for athletes with a disability. It has been played at the Paralympics since 1980.



There are many ways to **practise** volleyball at home. You could try:

- keeping a **balloon** in the air for as long as possible
- spiking a ball into a **washing basket**
- practising **jumping** really high!



Talk about it

- Do you think it would be fun to play volleyball?
- What would you need to do to get good at it?
- Where's a good place to practise?

Write about it

Ask children to draw themselves or a character from the book playing volleyball. They can write a caption to go with it. For example, 'Jen digs it up. I jab. Bam!'

