

# Activity Sheet



## “Down on the Farm”

By Merrily Kutner

The three R’s – rhythm, rhyme, and repetition – are harvested abundantly in this story about farm animals. Horses say “nay, nay, nay,” geese go “honk, honk, honk,” etc. Look closely at the pictures and notice a little mouse on each page.

### Before you read this book:

Ask children what animals are on a farm and the sounds they make.

### While you read this book:

On each new page, ask the children to identify the animals and look for the mouse. To engage the children, let them repeat the refrain with you. Add a clap at the words “down” and “farm” to encourage them to feel the rhythm.

### After you read this book:

Go back and count together the number of times the mouse shows up. Talk about other aspects of life on a farm, like growing food. Ask the children what food grows on a farm. Sing familiar songs: Old MacDonald Had a Farm, Bingo, Five Little Ducks. Or listen to Super Simple farm songs online:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D7MhqeV9yA8>

### Try this at home:

Print a pig picture and let your child “paint” the pig with chocolate pudding, mud or whatever you might have on hand – be creative! Using small plastic farm animal toys, let your child dip their feet in the “paint” to make an animal tracks picture – or, let your child use their fingers and hands to make different animal tracks. Sign up at Ranger Rick for a free baby animal matching game:

[https://rangerrick.org/crafts\\_activities/baby-animal-memory-game/](https://rangerrick.org/crafts_activities/baby-animal-memory-game/)

### Additional Farm Animal Fun Books:

“Sheep in a Jeep” by Nancy Shaw

“Barnyard Dance!” by Sandra Boynton

“Click Clack Moo: Cows that Type” by Doreen Cronin