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Have You Heard the Nesting Bird?

Ariel Woodbury

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Book Review

Title: Have You Heard the Nesting Bird?
Author: Rita Gray
Illustrator: Kenard Pak
Reviewer: Ariel Woodbury
Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers
Publication Year: 2014
ISBN: 9780544105805
Number of Pages: 32
Interest Level: Toddler
Rating: Outstanding



Review

As two children are outside they hear the calls of many different birds. But one bird is silent. The nesting bird isn't singing or moving around. Then, the eggs begin to hatch and baby robins are born.

This book has great illustrations with earthy tones and pops of color. As part of each bird's introduction in this book there is an attempt to mimic the sounds it makes. This is sometimes difficult to say and won't teach children to recognize the bird call (unlike cows say 'moo' and cats say 'meow'). For example, the onomatopoeia for a starling is, "Whistle-ee-wee-tree". Aside from that the book has great rhyming narrative and an educational portion at the end which tells you more about the birds. This section answers many questions the children may have from reading this book, such as why the nesting bird is so quiet, what the father bird does, and what happens to the baby birds after they leave the nest.