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Good Night, Chirp!

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Chirp, the chick, is restless. He is supposed to be sleeping, but he’d rather embark on an adventure. While the other hens in the henhouse slumber on, Chirp slips out to go catch the moon. On the way he meets many of his farm animal friends and invites them to join him. But they are too sleepy. Only Kitty is up for the challenge. Kitty even knows where to find the moon. On their way back home, Chirp and Kitty get lost in the woods. They hear scary noises, but it’s just the Owl family. The owls show Chirp and Kitty how to get home. Resting on Kitty’s back, and tired from the adventure, chirp finally falls asleep.

Good Night, Chirp! by Satoshi Iriyama, will definitely engage children with the cut outs and flaps. The story also introduces young children to animals found on a farm and in the forest. The illustrations are simple; the strokes are soft and they work well for a children’s book. However, even though it’s a book for children, the theme is a bit empty. Chasing the moon has no real purpose and the end of the book leaves the reader wishing that Chirp had learned something from the moon or learned that as fun as night adventures are, sleeping isn’t so bad. The book has strengths, but in the end it leaves the reader wanting a little more.