



2019

### Animal Babies Like to Play

Karen Abbott

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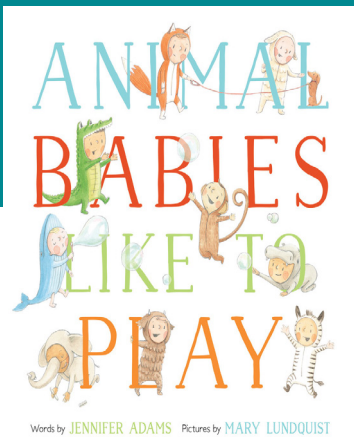
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## Book Review

# Animal Babies Like to Play

### Author

Jennifer Adams

### Illustrator

Mary Lundquist

### Reviewer

Karen Abbott

### Rating

Excellent

### Level

Preschool, Primary

### Pages

32

### Year

2019

### Publisher

Balzer + Bray

### ISBN

9780062394477

This rhyming alphabet books shows youngsters in animal costumes playing together. The rhyme is slightly reminiscent of Edward Gorey's Gashley Crumb Tinies but way, way, way over on the cute side. Narwhal baby and Octopus baby are sweet enough to boost the income of dentists nationwide. The true joy of this version of the alphabet lies in the stre-e-e-e-tch attained by Ulysses butterfly baby and Vulture baby and X-ray tetra baby—you can't leave letters out of the alphabet just because they are difficult!

We have all seen alphabet books before, so if your going to sell a new one you need an angle. Kudos to artist and illustrator who provides a sweet and slightly off-base version of a traditional alphabet book. This book has just enough humor mingled with cuteness to succeed in that mission. Seriously, x-ray tetra baby? Yes, you have to look it up! At first the traditional book was a little hum-drummingly boring, if cute, but serious hats off to Jennifer Adams and Mary Lunquist for bringing it back at the end. The ending makes the story, but getting to the fun twist end of the alphabet will educate your toddler and give you a smile every time!