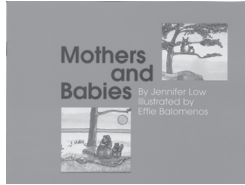


# MOTHERS AND BABIES

By – Jennifer Low  
 Illustrations by – Effie Balomenos  
 Set 2 – 79 words

## Building Anticipation – Setting the Context

Discuss how mothers care for their babies. How do mothers feel about their babies? List the children’s ideas on chart paper (e.g., A mother feeds her baby. A mother keeps her baby safe).



Introduce the book and guide the children through a book-walk. Before they start reading, focus the children’s attention on strategies they can use when they come to an unknown word.

## Discussion – Book Talk

What reading strategy did you use when you came to an unknown word?

What are the animals in the story doing? Are the mothers taking care of the babies? What do you think would happen if the mothers did not look after their babies?

## Creative Response – Independent Practice

Children can:

- draw a picture of an animal mother and her baby. Under the picture, write a sentence using the sentence starter “Mother \_\_\_\_\_ and her baby \_\_\_\_\_ are \_\_\_\_\_.”
- create a mural showing a pond, a river, a meadow, the sea, and a house. Draw the animals in the story and place them on the mural. Label the animals.
- write a story about a baby animal who has lost its mother.
- draw pictures and finish the sentences on the reproducible master to discuss the things they like to do with their mothers.
- make a card for their mother, or someone who loves them, thanking this person for looking after them.

## Read-Aloud Connection

*The New Baby Calf* by Edith Newlin Chase. Scholastic Canada, 1984.

- Barbara Reid’s Plasticine art illustrates this book about a variety of baby animals.

*Alligator Baby* by Robert Munsch. Scholastic Canada, 1997.

- When Kirsten’s mom loses her new baby at the zoo and comes home with a baby alligator, it’s up to Kirsten to fix the problem.

*Welcome Little Baby* by Aiki. HarperCollins, 1987.

- The warm feelings of parents and loved ones toward new babies are tenderly depicted.

Learning About Language - Focused Teaching		
High Frequency Words	are, up, down, and, My	Practice writing these words on an erasable board.
Letters and Letter Clusters	R — Raccoon r — river b — bear, beaver	Write the letter <i>r</i> in the air with a finger while saying the sound.
Rhymes and Word Families	down, town, brown	Print “down,” “town,” “brown,” “clown,” “frown,” and “gown” on a chart to display in the classroom.
Compound Words	bedroom	Combine “room” with other words to make new compound words (e.g., classroom, sunroom).

## Reproducible Master - Mothers and Babies

What do you like to do with your mother?

Draw pictures and complete the sentences.

I like to \_\_\_\_\_  
with my mother.

I like to \_\_\_\_\_  
with my mother.

I like to \_\_\_\_\_  
with my mother.