Baby, You Were
Born to Read!

In-Store Activities

Illustrations 2008 © Marc Brown

Random House
Children’s Books
Alfred A. Knopf
Dear Reader,

Here is a story about a boy named Sam, who was born to read!

As booksellers, parents, and teachers know, those who read can do anything! That’s why the bestselling author and illustrator team of WILD ABOUT BOOKS has created BORN TO READ, another picture book that is full of smart, playful rhymes and an underlying message that readers like Sam can be anything or go anyplace because of the power of reading.

The following pages include different reproducible activities and event suggestions for you to print and give out at your BORN TO READ in-store storyhour.

Enjoy your event!
Random House Children’s Books Marketing Department
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Print these name tags out on an 8-1/2 x 11 inch sheet of labels that are 4 x 2 inches large.
Let’s Talk About the Book!

“One point remains a mystery:
Just what will Sam grow up to be?

A baseball player?
A city mayor?

A firefighter?
A mystery writer?

A movie actor?
A chiropractor?

A statistician?
A rock musician?”

In BORN TO READ, Sam says that good readers can grow up to be anything. Ask the children what they will be when they grow up.
Reading Stars!

“Sam became a reading star!”

Sam reads all sorts of books! He reads through the dictionary, a road atlas, and more!

★ Ask the children if they are reading stars. What are their favorite books? Why?

★ Ask if they have read any of the books they see Sam reading in the story. Ask them to count how many they’ve read!

Hand out a photocopy of the reproducible on the next page to each child. Encourage the kids to draw a picture of themselves doing something shown in one of their favorite stories.
Born to Read—and Draw, Too!

Draw a picture of yourself doing something shown in one of your favorite stories.
Reading Race!

“Here’s my secret,” Sam decreed. “Readers win and winners read.”

Can you help Sam race to his favorite book in the maze below? Follow Sam from beginning to end on his race—don’t get lost!
Create Your Own Reading Door Hanger!

Fold the piece of paper in half along the dotted line and cut around the solid lines to create a door hanger for your room.

Hush!
I’m reading.

Come in and read with me!
Wild About Books—and Animals!

Judy Sierra and Marc Brown also created WILD ABOUT BOOKS—an instant storyhour classic. Read their first book to the children and play a game with them!

“It started the summer of 2002, when the Springfield Librarian, Molly McGrew, by mistake drove her bookmobile into the zoo.”

• Animal charades: Ask each child to act out the sounds and movements of their favorite animal while the other children guess the animal’s identity.

• In WILD ABOUT BOOKS, all of the animals take up reading, and each has a favorite book. What are some of your guests’ favorites? Read aloud another title mentioned in the text, or any book that the kids are extra wild about.

  • Raffle off a family pass to the local zoo.

  • Invite someone from a zoo or pet shop to bring in one or two small exotic animals.