

The Very Noisy Baby

By Alison Lester

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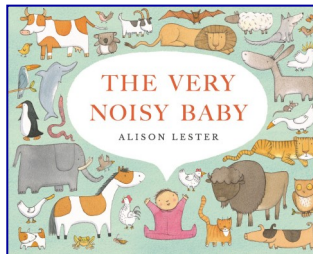
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Here is the story of a very noisy baby.

She could bellow like a buffalo
And roar like a lion
And howl like a wolf for a very long time.

The baby loves to make all kinds of sounds. She's really very loud.
But when some animals in the town go missing, can the very noisy baby help?

Find out in this wonderfully boisterous story, full of action, fun (and noise!).



Teacher Notes have been based on those supplied by the publisher, Affirm Press. A full version is available on our website.

Themes:

- Community
- Professions/roles
- Uniqueness and individuality
- Problem solving

Discussion Questions & Activities:

- Before reading the story, ask the students to look at the front and back covers, and to discuss what might happen in the story. What do the animals have to do with a noisy baby?
- There are many animals in the story. Ask the students to identify their favourite animal from the story and recount or write down everything they know about that animal: habitat, noises, origin, movement, diet.
- Ask the students to choose their favourite animal in the book and write a story about this animal. Have them study the illustrations in *The Very Noisy Baby* and use them as inspiration for their own illustrations to accompany their own story.
- As a group, discuss neighbourhoods and community. Questions to ask the students may include: What makes a group of people a community? How do we know that the neighbours in the book are a community? Do you know any of the people on your street? Are there other children that live on your street? Do your neighbours have any pets? What are the jobs these characters do in the community?
- The very noisy baby lives in a pink house on the edge of town. Ask the students to about where they live: What kind of house or apartment do they live in? What colour is it? Do they live on a quiet street or a loud street? Near the centre of town or far away? Ask students to draw their home.
- In the book the animals all live in different places. Together, identify where each of the animals lives and ask the class to discuss why certain animals live in particular places. Why can't you keep a tiger in your backyard as a pet? Why can't you have a horse in your bedroom?
- Some babies are noisy and some are giggly, some cry a lot and some are wriggly. Ask the students if they know what they were like as babies and to share stories they may have been told about their own babyhood and development. Where were they born? Do they have brothers and sisters?
- The book is set in autumn. Looking at the illustrations ask the students how we can tell that it's autumn. Talk about different seasons and what we would see in a drawing of winter, summer, spring and autumn. Ask the students to draw a picture of their favourite season.
- What is the baby's unique talent that allows her to solve the problem of the missing animal? Ask the students to identify their own unique talent, and to imagine a situation where it could be used to solve a problem.