

SEVEN ESSENTIAL LIFE SKILLS

Skill Building Book Tips

You can read *Moo, Baa, La La* in a way that highlights Communicating, a Life Skill that promotes Executive Functions. This Life Skill is much more than understanding language, speaking, reading and writing. It is the skill of **determining what you want to communicate** and **realizing how our communications will be**.

TIP:

This book provides an opportunity to have your child listen to what the animals in the book say. Ask your child:

- “What do cows say? What do sheep say? What do pigs say in this book?”

If your child says, “La La La,” you can ask what pigs really say.

SKILL:

Communicating involves **listening to what others say**.

TIP:

Children appreciate a sense of humor. See how your child reacts to the three singing pigs saying, “La La La!” Keep the joke going and ask your child to make up other silly things that animals might say.

SKILL:

As your child gets older and if she or he wants to pretend or make jokes about what animals say, enjoy the **humor**.

TIP:

You use this story to begin a conversation with your child about what your child wants to say. When your child is younger, repeat the sounds your child makes. When your child is older, you can ask:

- “What do you say when you are hungry? What do you say when you want me to pick you up?”

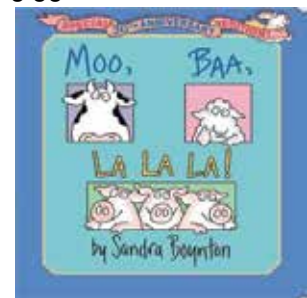
SKILL:

Communicating involves **thinking about what you want to say**. Use what child development researchers call “**Take-Turns Talk**” to have this conversation—you or your child does something and the other responds, back and forth like a game of ball. Watch your child’s response to the book and your questions and build on what your child says (with sounds, with looks, with movements) and extend it. If your baby makes a noise like, “bbbbbb,” you can say, “bbbbbb” back. When your child uses words, continue the conversation. This is a vitally important brain-building activity.

Moo, Baa, La La

By Sandra Boynton

This rhyming romp is a favorite of countless families. As expressive barnyard animals make the wrong sounds, children delight in correcting them. Along the way, they’ll quack, moo, neigh, baa, meow and giggle!



These tips sheets were developed by *Mind in the Making*, in collaboration with First Book. *Mind in the Making* and *Vroom* are programs of the Bezos Family Foundation. Find more books and materials on the First Book Marketplace, a resource available exclusively to educators and programs serving children in need. Visit: www.fbmarketplace.org.

