

I Can Help

Author: David Hyde Costello

Illustrator: David Hyde Costello

Book Guide

For Children Birth to Age 3

Questions

- Who are the helpers in this book? What do they do to help?
- Who helps you? What do they do to help you? What can you do to help?

Activities

Talk to the Animals!

Point to the animals; try to make the “noise” or movement they make. Point to the repetitive text while reading, moving your finger left to right and emphasizing “Thank you!” Soon, even the younger children will be trying to say “thank you” with you. Also, ask the children what the animals are doing in the picture. The author/illustrator *shows* us how they are helping, but does not tell us. For example, how does the gorilla help the giraffe? He swings on the tree to bring the branch down, so the giraffe can nibble on a leaf.

The Helper Song

Sing this fun song with your child to celebrate “helpers” at clean up time and throughout the day!

I’m a Helper, I’m a Helper.
Yes, I am. Yes, I am.
See me help clean up, See me help clean up.
We’re all friends, We’re all friends. (sing to the tune of *Frere Jacques*)

You can also try:

If you’re helping and you know it clap your hands!
If you’re helping and you know it clap your hands!
If you’re a helper and you know it then you really want to show it.
If you’re a helper and you know it clap your hands!

More Books to Explore!

- *I Can Do It Too!* by Karen Baicker
- *What I Like About Me!* by Allia Zobel Nolan
- *I Like Myself!* by Karen Beaumont
- *Homemade Love* by bell hooks

