BIG RED BARN

By Margaret Wise Brown

Big Red Barn is a classic children’s book that explores a day in the life of various barn-yard animals. Its colorful images, rhyming patterns, and memorable characters can help your child with their focus, memory retention, and ability to express themselves through play.

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I63F7WF1RaY>

 **LET’S BEGIN:** Begin by reading the story to your child. Take time to stop on each animal and ask him/her what noises the animal makes. This will help with engagement in the story and memory recall. While reading the story, notice if your child is remaining focused and gently remind him/her about how to actively listen if they become unfocused. When you complete the story, ask your child simple questions, as well as answer them yourself.

* How did you like this story?
* What was your favorite part?
* What emotions did you feel while I was reading?
* What was your favorite animal?

These questions will increase your communication with your child and their communication with you, help them process their thoughts/feelings, and continue to engage their minds to build concentration.

**Concentration Activity:** Through the use of concentration and memory activities, it will begin to give you an understanding of how well your child is able to focus, comprehend, and remember information. Practicing techniques for focus and memory will help them in the classroom and prepare them for their schoolwork.

Ask your child to list at least 5 animals that the book mentioned.

* If they begin to struggle with remembering, remind them about the sounds they made to help with memory recall.

Ask your child to recall the color of the barn
Ask your child how many eggs were in the barn.

**Family Time:** Spend time as a family utilizing this book to increase your child’s expression in play and add to family time. You can add additional animal movements to this role-play and create your own movements with your family.
**Role play animal movements:**
Pounce like a cat
Stomp like a cow
Strut like a rooster
Peck like a chicken
Gallop like a horse
Roll like a pig
Kick the air like a donkey
Wag like a dog
Flap like a rooster
Jump like a goat

**Final Activity:** Ask child to name all the animals below and if they want to sound.

