Great Beginner Book

Posted March 26, 2007, 1:23 PM EST: My own children loved this book, so I shared it with a child I tutor. It's the first 'real' book she's read and she loves it. The illustrations are fun and the text requires thinking for a beginner. My student is very proud of herself, and enjoys re-reading the story.

Where did the Sun Go?, May 4, 2005

By Zachary Hackett (Reno, Nevada) - See all my reviews

Wake up! These are words my almost three-year-old son Devon uses every morning. Lord, I can't believe I could hardly wait for him to start talking. Well now is and he won't shutup. Since we don't have a TV at our house, because we think Sponge Bob Square Pants and the like can't possibly be good for children, we read. Many of the children's books we read to him are beyond his understanding, but this one is perfect for a child who has just learned all his letters, upper and lower case.

A flea bites a dog, he barks and the other barnyard animals believe the dog is heralding a new dawn. But where is the sun? The animals go on a quest for it and your toddler will have fun as you and he/she follow them along. This is a book for the earliest of beginning readers. Big print, two lines per pages, simple words, but yet they tell a nice story. My son loves this book and he is starting to figure out the words. Oh, Happy Day!

Kids love animal sounds!, August 28, 2008

By Breeni Books "www.breenibooks.com" (Rockwell, NC) - See all my reviews

Wake Up, Sun! is another early reader book we explored recently to hone my six-year-old son's reading skills. Like My Loose Tooth, our copy is an older version that's labeled "Step 1," while newer editions have the label "Step 2." Of course, it's also
published by Random House. I'm curious as to why they changed their level system.

The story follows the adventures of four barnyard animals as they search for the sun early one morning. Dog, Pig, Cow, and Chicken cannot figure out why the sun hasn't awakened, and try to make as much noise as possible to wake up the sun. It is common knowledge that children are fascinated by animal sounds, and the narrative in this book includes each character's unique call. This guarantees young readers will find this little story exceptionally appealing. When you are deciphering words like "oink" and "moo," it's pretty difficult to keep a straight face.

The watercolor illustrations make for adorable characterizations. The text is large and clear, and the story is perfectly appropriate for preschoolers. Depending on your child's maturity level, it may be a bit juvenile for first graders, however. The strange thing is that Amazon lists it's intended age group as baby to preschool, but it's a Stage 2 book. I doubt many babies are reading at a Stage 2 level. Maybe this would be a good book for an older sibling to read aloud to a younger brother or sister.