Madison Public Library’s

Storytime Starters

Unusual Pets (Spring 2018)

Books for Toddlers:

_Hondo and Fabian_ by Peter McCarty, 2002.
_Me Want Pet!_ by Tammi Sauer, 2012
_How to Lose a Lemur_ by Fran Preston-Gannon, 2014

Books for Preschoolers:

_If I had a Raptor_ by George O’Connor, 2014  (being processed, may join late)
_Have You Seen My Dragon_ by Steve Light, 2014
_Children Make Terrible Pets_ by Peter Brown, 2010
_A Pet for Petunia_ by Paul Schmid, 2011
_One Word From Sophia_ by Jim Averbeck & Yasmeen Ismail, 2015
_Jacob O’Reilly Wants a Pet_ by Lynne Richards, 2010
_Melissa’s Octopus and other Unsuitable Pets_ by Charlotte Voake, 2015
_I Won a What?_ by Audrey Vernick, 2016  (being processed, may join late)
_The Best Pet Ever_ by Victoria Roberts, 2010
_Woops!_ By Suzi Moore 2015

School Age Extensions

_Sparky!_ By Jenny Offill & Chris Appelhans, 2014
_Worst in Show_ by William Bee, 2015
**Fingerplays & Songs**

**I Had a Little Bunny**
(From: Tracy Moore, MPL Librarian)

I had a little bunny who went hop, hop, hop. *Hop up and down*
I told that little bunny to stop, stop, stop! *Hold hand out in “stopping motion”*
He looked at me, I looked at him, *Point to self, then point forward*
Then he wiggled his nose and wiggled his chin! *Wiggle nose and chin!*

**My Cow Bess**
(from [www.poetry4kids.com](http://www.poetry4kids.com) Ken Nesbit)

I’d like to introduce you to my cow.  
Her name is Bess.  
She has a special talent which I know you’d never guess.

She’s fond of eating chocolate which I feed her every day.  
The chocolate makes her happy so she starts to swing and sway.

She jiggles and she joggles.  
She wiggles and she whirls.  
She boogies and she bounces.  
She taps and twists and twirls.

She shivers and she shudders.  
She quivers and she quakes.

I feed her chocolate candy and she gives me chocolate shakes!

**The Elephant**

The elephant has a trunk for a nose,  
And up and down is the way it goes,  
**Clasp hands together, extend arms and raise and lower them**
He wears such a saggy, baggy hide! *Relax body*
Do you think two elephants would fit inside? *Hold up two fingers*
(From: [www.preschoolrainbow.org](http://www.preschoolrainbow.org))

**I had a little Turtle**  (includes flannel board)
From [www.jbrary.com](http://www.jbrary.com)

I had a little turtle  
His name was Tiny Tim  
I put him in the bathtub  
To see if he could swim

He drank up all the water  
He ate up all the soap  
And now he’s sick in bed  
With Bubbles in his throat

**Bubble bubble bubble, Bubble bubble POP!**

**Bubble bubble bubble, Bubble bubble POP!**
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Big Book:
*Miss Mary Mack* by Mary Ann Hoberman

Flannel Boards:
Dear Zoo (SEQ)
Five Elephants/Bath (LAK)
Tiny Tim Turtle (SEQ)
Oh me, Oh My, Oh! (HPB)

Movies:
Children Make Terrible Pets
Bark, George*

App:
*Rhino Hero* by Fox & Sheep
*Miximal* (or *Drawnimal*) by Yatatoy
*The Hippo, the Rhino, The Elephant and Me* by Ink Robin

Stamps:
Dragon, whale, skunk, octopus x 2

Craft: Create your own pet (using feathers, construction paper, google eyes etc)

Play Literacy: Encourage the kids to name their pet (that they create for the craft project.) Talk about different ideas or possibilities. What is a funny or silly pet name? What are the names of some of the pets you know?

Literacy Tip: Reading books about animals is a great way to build vocabulary around texture, shape, and color. Not to mention practicing animal sounds and sound effects is a great way to build phonics and language skills for distinctive letter noises.