



All the Awake Animals Are Almost Asleep

Crescent Dragonwagon , David McPhail (Illustrations)

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My little one, lay down your head.It's time to doze, it's time for bed.You tell me, "I'm not sleepy now." "Just try," I say. You ask me, "How?"

In this lyrical animal ABC book, a mother tries to tuck her child in for the night by telling him about all the awake animals that are getting sleepy. From antlered Antelope to zzz-ing Zebra, this alphabet of animals becomes an exquisite celebration of language and nature, just right for lulling even the most wide-awake little ones into a cozy, soothing slumber.

All the Awake Animals Are Almost Asleep Details

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ISBN : 9780316070454

Author : Crescent Dragonwagon , David McPhail (Illustrations)

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From Reader Review All the Awake Animals Are Almost Asleep for online ebook

Melissa says

Is this the greatest title, or what? And Crescent Dragonwagon always knows her way around a little verse, and David McPhail has a gift for providing lots of true-to-life detail without being overwhelming...love the lion draped bonelessly over the windowsill on the last page.

My one quibble, and it's totally coming from my experience as a mom of a terrible sleeper: the boy asks HOW to fall asleep, and the whole book is like, "You just DO sweetie, like all these sleepy animals!" Yeah. Right.

Lyn says

A sleepy little one is lured to sleep while his mother explains how all the animals have a time to wake and time to sleep.

“Every creature, tame and wild,
Has night and day, has still and leap,
Has wide awake and sound asleep.”

The animals and their sleeping habits are introduced alphabetically. The illustrations by David McPhail are clear and beautiful. His animals are easy to recognize at a time when many children's books are so artistic that the accompanying pictures are hard to understand.

Crescent Dragonwagon has written a lovely alphabet and go to sleep book. The alphabetical animals make a great daytime read while the soothing poetry will ease little ones to sleep at night. This is a book that will be fun to read again and again and has already become one of my favorites.

Jason says

An excellent bed time lullaby about animals, the alphabet, and going to sleep. Fantastic art. But the text was masterful. There was an rhythm to the rhymes that make them fun to read and also challenged and helped expand my boys' vocabulary. It's always a win when a book prompts them to ask questions.

Kathy Davie says

A bedtime picture book story that is introduced by antonyms and slides into rhythm.

My Take

McPhail's watercolor illustrations are warmly detailed and fill each page, as Mom lulls her son to sleep with unique tales of different animals — many of them mother and child — in this lyrical animal ABC book.

It's sweet as Dragonwagon includes a brief mention of each animal's habitat and appearance in a soothing sleepytime rhythm of alliteration, a useful literary device parents can play with as they read with their children.

I don't know how sleepy your kids will be at the end of the story, but zebra and lion sure crashed, lol.

I did empathize with Otter wrapped in his "O", *grin*

Hmmm, here's a test: find an animal that begins with "x".

The Story

My little one, lay down your head. It's time to doze, it's time for bed.

You tell me, "I'm not sleepy now."

"Just try," I say.

The Characters

A mother settling her son for sleep.

The Cover and Title

The cover is so cuddly in its soft blues, browns, and oranges with the child asleep in his bed, his blond head lying on his flannel-covered pillow and a night sky with its fuzzy stars in the background, plants sprouting up behind the headboard. There's a parrot, an elephant, a lioness and her cub, a panda, a goose, a zebra, and a monkey crashed out with him too. The title archs across the top with the initial cap letters in orange and the lowercase in yellow and the last half of the title in white script. The author's and illustrator's names are teeny tiny at the bottom in a golden yellow.

Dragonwagon does describe animals who slumber in the day, so Mom is truthful about how *All the Awake Animals are Almost Asleep*.

Karen says

I love this book! Not only is it designed to help wind a child down, it is also an alphabet book full of fun alliterations, and informative science matching the animals to their homes/habitats. Teachers will appreciate the educational aspect, parents can appreciate the gentle soothing tone and message of the book, and kids will enjoy the pictures of the animals, as well as the sound of the alliterations / "tongue twisters"

Joanna says

You guys. I had some serious misgivings when I started reading this book to Cameron at bedtime tonight. To

start, he wasn't sure he wanted to be in bed (and in fact was quite sure, really, that he did not) but was at that too-tired state that just does not often end well. I liked the title, but stumbled a bit. "All the Awake Animals are Almost Asleep" Sweet, but kooky, right? And then the opener! No, no. "My little one, lay down your head. It's time to doze, it's time for bed." Blech! Sing-song, smarmy, boring AB rhyme scheme, ugh. And THEN. I FORGOT. It's an ABC book. I love ABC books! Seriously, love. And this one, omg, it revels in ridiculous alliteration. Ridiculous! You have to just OWN the sing-song, determine that you are all in with the soothing nonsense, and all of a sudden it rocks the house. Seriously. At first F was my favorite, with floppy feet: "Fox, fading fast, finds rest in the forest, while Frog just floats, letting her feet flop until they find firm footing near the ferns." I love the "feet flop" bit, it's just lovely; but NOTHING can top S: "Swan, eyes shut, slumbers, standing single-legged on the shore as Snake sighs, and starts to slither toward a sweet, slumberous snooze...and Sloth just sleeps." Ha! Only one letter-cheat- X. X is hard, I get it. Still: "Expecting an exceptionally excellent night's rest, Yak yawns, and Zebra just Zzzzzzzzzzs." Everything about this book just screams (whispers?) go to sleeep go to sleeep no need to focus, go to sleeep. The illustrations are lovely soft focus animal pictures, the text just lilts off the tongue, sing-singy as all get out, and really. 25 animals, falling asleep, in the silliest ways you can imagine.

Deb (Readerbuzz) Nance says

After a busy day, children need a quiet book before bedtime. Just say the title of this book and you'll know right away that this is a perfect choice. It's a lovely combination of an alphabet book and an animal book and a book of alliteration and a good night book. The amazing alliterative text by Crescent Dragonwagon will whisper you to sleep while the gentle illustrations by the amazing David McPhail will lull you to dreamland.

Irene says

Summary: In "All the Awake Animals Are Almost Asleep," author Crescent Dragonwagon introduces readers to a mother who puts her son to bed with an animal alphabet. This version of the alphabet is packed with alliteration like "Each evening, elephant eases her elegant ears and edges into sleep," and is drawn in exquisite watercolor due to the work of the talented illustrator David McPhail. The pictures of the beautiful animals creates a comfortable feeling that will soothe any child for bedtime, and the alliteration gives many words for little children to relate to when thinking about any letter of the alphabet.

Audience: This book is wonderful for infants all the way to first graders.

Appeal: The pictures in this book are captivating, and the alliteration makes this book stand out from most alphabet books. This is because readers are introduced to actual phrases that consist of many words beginning with the chosen letter. This is unlike most alphabet books that I have seen, because I usually find alphabet books that show one letter on a page with only one word beginning with the letter.

Implementation: Since I am studying to obtain an early childhood endorsement along with an elementary education major, I believe this book is good for all young children from infancy all the way to first grade. This is because the book can be read to all these children before a nap time if they are infants, toddlers, or preschoolers. This book can also be used as a review of the alphabet for children who are in preschool, kindergarten or first grade.

Bibliography: Dragonwagon, C., & McPhail, D. (2012). All the Awake Animals Are Almost Asleep. New York: Little, Brown.

Candice says

This is such a great book on many levels. A terrific bedtime story. A wonderful alphabet book. The title holds the promise of more skillful alliteration by Crescent Dragonwagon and it delivers. "Fox, fading fast, finds rest in the forest while frog just floats, letting her feet flop until they find firm footing near the ferns." "As the light laps the leaves, Lion lies down, lounging with Lioness and the little ones." Add this to my list of beloved books that will stretch a young child's vocabulary and love of words. The pictures by David McPhail are softly colored, dreamy, and inviting. I couldn't ask for a better book for my young granddaughter.

Margaret Chind says

This is an amazing bedtime book and one that I would eagerly recommend on anyone's gift list for new babies, older toddler, preschoolers and beyond working on animals and their alphabet. I love the title, and getting my preschooler to pick out all the letter A's is a ton of fun and that is only the beginning. The text through out is lyrical and keeps a good rhythm and rhyme that is pleasant to read and would not be bothersome to read again night after night. The images are full of variety and calm soothing colors that would entertain a child to look at them alone or in a lap for story time bedtime or anytime read alouds. Then there is the alphabet. Every pages is filled with that letter and appropriate words, from the animal to descriptions to other items and more the letter is used in multiple ways and it is a fabulous learning tool. The other thing about the words chosen is that they are not your average ABCs, they are unique or words not as often used and all around a great introduction to so many new things that the "other" ABC book definitely did not cover. With the exception of the page X not having a single word to begin with X and only have the words: "expecting and exceptionally excellent night's rest,..." that is the only place where I was disappointed and still I think it's a full star book.

Thanks to LB Kids for providing a copy for review.

scheduled: <http://creativemadnessmama.com/blog/2...>

Donna Mork says

A-Z animals falling asleep in nests and burrows and such, snuggling with moms. Why doesn't the human fall asleep too? Nice illustrations.

Melanie says

A mother encourages her child to sleep as each of the animals do.

Joella www.cinjoella.com says

In this calming book a mother tucks her child in and tells about animals from A to Z and how they go to sleep in hopes of calming the child into slumber. The illustrations are beautiful. The text is calming. The alliteration is a nice touch. For example, "Hedgehog is hibernating, hiding in her hole." I wouldn't be surprised if this book did indeed calm a child down before going to sleep. Nicely done.

Kathleen says

A clever use of alliteration takes the reader through the bedtime of numerous animals. Brilliant sentences such as "Otter, overcome, is out in the ocean rocking on and on oh-so-gently". There is a good chance this will soon be in my permanent collection.

Samantha Brosnan says

Concept Book; 2012.

I absolutely love the illustrations in this story - they are gorgeous! This is a great concept book because it also has a semblance of a story. I love the alliteration, I love that there are a lot of atypical animals used as examples, and some really diverse verbs. This isn't just an ABCs book, in my opinion. It can be so much more than that and could be used for older students as well, because it's really fun to read, especially for a read-aloud!
