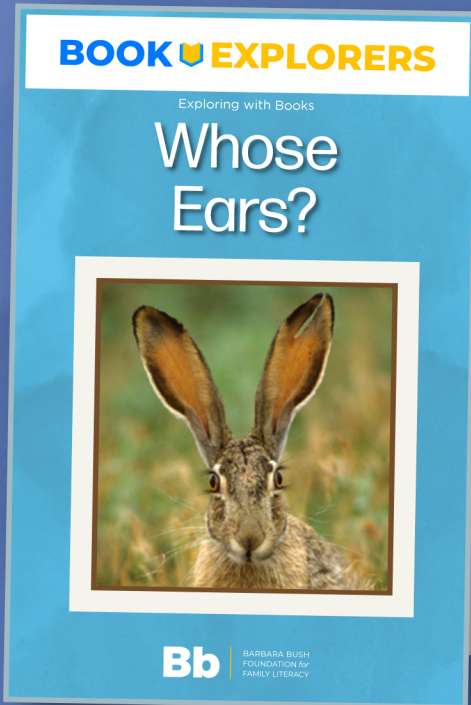





BOOK EXPLORERS

Exploring with Books

Whose Ears?



BARBARA BUSH'S FAMILY READING TIPS

-  Establish a daily routine for reading with your child
-  Get cozy and snuggle during reading to make it special
-  Make sure your child sees you reading

Parent Guide

Bb

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Parent Guide

1 ASK:

- Why do you think the rabbit on the cover of the book has such large ears?
 - What are some ways that animals use their ears?
 - What might happen if an animal loses its hearing?
-

2 GO:

Search online for **the song “Do Your Ears Hang Low?”** Work with your child to make up motions to go along with the song.

3 LEARN:

Plan a visit to a horse farm. Ask the owner to share more information about a horse’s cupped ears and how they help them hear. If there isn’t a horse farm near you, search online for **videos about horse farms.**

Parent Guide

4 READ:

- *Do Your Ears Hang Low* by Jenny Cooper
 - *I Like My Ears and All The Things They Hear: Kids Book About Ears and Sounds* by A.D. Largie
 - *Polar Bear, Polar Bear, What Do You Hear?* by Bill Martin Jr. and Eric Carle
-

5 MAKE:

Make an animal ear headband.

- Gather paper, glue, and an old headband.
- Cut animal ears out of the paper.
- Glue the ears onto the headband.

Parent Guide

6 MOVE:

Play musical laps and use your ears to play the game.

- Place one less chair than people playing in a row.
 - Play a song while the players circle the chairs.
 - Pause the song.
 - Players quickly sit in an available chair. If there is not a chair available, the person must sit on someone's lap.
 - Remove a chair and play again.
 - Continue removing a chair until there is one person on a chair and a whole pile of people sitting on laps.
-

7 PLAY:

Play an animal guessing game with your child.

- One person makes an animal noise.
- The other person listens carefully and tries to guess the animal.
- Switch places so each person gets a chance to guess.

Parent Guide

8 WORD TALK:

Ask your child to say the word **ear**. Write the word on a piece of paper. Ask your child to say the word *thread*. Write the word on a sheet of paper. Ask your child to think about what is similar and different about the words. They should notice that both words have the letters *ea* but the sounds are different. Point out that the *ea* in the word **ear** makes the long e sound, but the *ea* in *thread* makes the short e sound. Share the chart on the next page with your child and practice saying the words.

Parent Guide

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Long e as in <i>ear</i>	Short e as in <i>thread</i>
fear	read (rhymes with red)
read (rhymes with reed)	head
rear	bread
bean	spread

Point out the words *read/reed* and *read/red*. Tell your child that these are homophones. Homophones are words that sound the same but have different meanings.

9

DISCUSS/DO:

Talk with your child about the importance of keeping your ears healthy. Some examples include wearing protective coverings when around loud sounds and keeping music and television sound at a safe level.

Free Resources to Support Family and Adult Literacy:

Keep reading together!

Visit the Barbara Bush Foundation's digital collection of free books and activities for adults, children, and families.

Scan the QR Code or visit the link below.



www.barbarabush.org/family-resources-access

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