

January's Child the Birthday Month Book

by Andrea Alban Gosline

Page-by-page, month-by-month, every child's birthday is honored and treasured. Magically and beautifully illustrated and accompanied by warm and emotional descriptions of each unique personality, this will become a favorite.



Read

Before:

Introduce the book and tell the children a little bit about it. Follow that with a comment or question that is related to the story such as, *In which month were you born?* Encourage a discussion so the children can comment, ask questions, and express their feelings. Set the stage for listening by asking an "I wonder" statement based on the cover illustration.

- I wonder what month the lion is for?

During:

Encourage the children to comment on the illustrations, ask questions, and predict what will happen next in the story. Children gain confidence and a sense of achievement through being able to correctly predict how a story will end. Point out "rare words" (e.g., those words that are not commonly used in every day conversation) and help the children relate the meaning in a way that makes sense to them.

Rare Words in *January's Child the Birthday Month Book*

- vibrant: full of liveliness or energy
- whispering: breathe words softly
- eager: enthusiastic and excited about something
- inspire: provoke particular feeling
- shimmering: shine with a wavering light
- dewdrops: drop of water
- gem: a precious stone
- tide: rise and fall of the ocean
- harmony: a pleasing effect produced by an arrangement of things
- linger: put off leaving
- curious: eager to know something
- unique: only one of a kind
- imaginative: good at thinking of new ideas
- amusing: causing someone to smile or laugh
- meadow: grassy field
- sow: plant seed
- tender: showing care, gentleness and feeling
- boundless: seeming to have no end
- swift: happening fast
- steady: fixed, stable or not easily moved
- ascend: move upward
- vast: very great in size or amount

Rare Words in *January's Child the Birthday Month Book*

- bouquets: bunch of flowers
- courteous: polite and considerate
- frolic: play lightheartedly
- quest: a search for something
- applauding: clap hands
- noble: having excellent moral character
- weave: to introduce parts into something larger
- reveal: make something known
- endure: bear hardship

After:

Discuss the story. Ask questions...

- What animals were on each month?
- What were some of the things that described each month?
- What was your favorite month?
- What month represented your birthday?

Do

Months of the Year Song

To help children learn their birthdays and the months of the year, make a birthday chart and sing "The Months of the Year" Song. Point to each month as you sing. Children will begin to associate their name to their birthday month. Below are a couple of song variations.

Months of the Year (to the tune of "Ten Little Indians")

January, February, March, and April,
May, June, July, August, and September,
October, November, and December,
These are the months of the year.

The Months of the Year (to the tune of "Three Blind Mice")

January, February, March,
April, May, June.
July, August, September,
October, November, December.
These are the twelve months of the year.
Now sing them together so we can all hear.
How many months are there in a year?
Twelve months in a year.