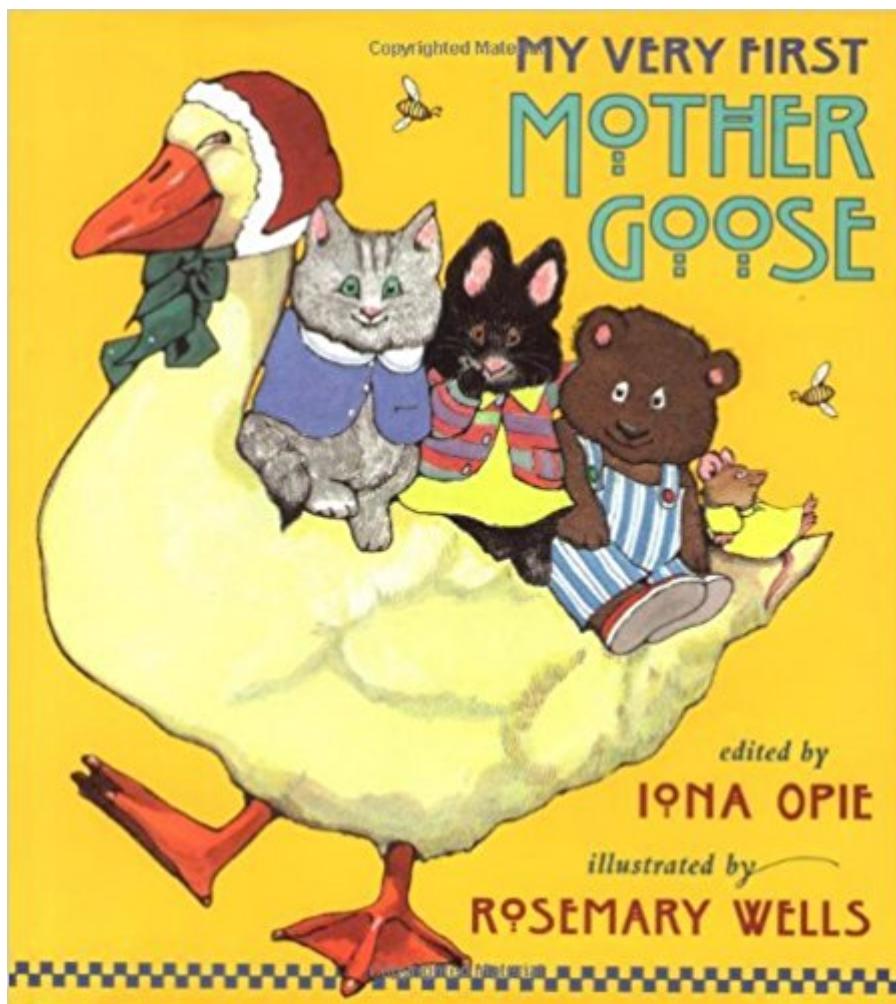


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# My Very First Mother Goose



## **Synopsis**

To a small child, words are magical. And the most magical of all are the beloved, venerable words of Mother Goose. Now folklorist Iona Opie has gathered more than sixty treasured rhymes in their most perfect, honest form. From "Hey Diddle, Diddle" and "Pat-a-Cake" to "Little Jack Horner" and "Pussycat, Pussycat," these are familiar verses that have been passed from parent to child for generations; these are the rhymes that are every child's birthright. With watercolors by Rosemary Wells that may prove equally enduring, *MY VERY FIRST MOTHER GOOSE* captures the simple joy and the sly humor that are the essence of Mother Goose. Parents and children will find themselves exploring this volume together, savoring delightful details and funny surprises on every page. This is a book that promises hours of quiet smiles and merry grins for readers of all ages.

## **Book Information**

Age Range: 4 and up

Series: My Very First Mother Goose

Hardcover: 108 pages

Publisher: Candlewick; 1st U.S. ed edition (September 2, 1996)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 10.8 x 0.7 x 11.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 153 customer reviews

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## **Customer Reviews**

There should be a law that requires every child to sit on Grandpa's knee as he chants "Trot, trot, to Boston; trot, trot, to Lynn." Grownups who still giggle at the thought of Little Jack Horner pulling a plum out of his Christmas pie, or who make a wish on a star, murmuring "Star light, star bright, first star I see tonight" know the secret. They're the ones who will be handing down those same nursery rhymes to their own children, preserving an age-old tradition. But no child should be left behind. In world folklore authority Iona Opie's collection, these invaluable and ancient nuggets of childhood verse are bursting with new life. Quirky and sly, sweet, gentle, rollicking, silly... the range of rhymes

is breathtaking. Winner of over a dozen prestigious awards, including a Parents' Choice Award and an ALA Notable Children's Book award, this wonderful book is charmingly illustrated by Rosemary Wells, best known for her Max books (Max's Bath, Max's Bedtime, Max's Ride). A solid repertoire of nursery rhymes should be de rigueur for any aunt, uncle, grandparent, or parent worth his or her salt. This book is a must, as is its companion volume, *Here Comes Mother Goose*. (Click to see a sample spread from *My Very First Mother Goose*. Illustrations & copy; 1996 by Rosemary Wells. Permission from Candlewick Press.) (Baby to preschool) --Emilie Coulter

In this exuberant anthology, Opie and Wells choose the best of Mother Goose's ageless work and polish it to a brilliant shine: more than 60 rhymes appear here in four chapters of large, toddler-friendly type. And for those who thought there were no new feathers to be plucked from this goose, Wells's rich watercolor interpretations, simultaneously classic and contemporary, are a revelation. Readers will probably agree with Opie's prefatory remark: "I firmly believe that Rosemary Wells is Mother Goose's second cousin and has inherited the family point of view." Her cast of bushy bunnies (think Max and Ruby), classy cats and the occasional human interact with a combination of wit, charm and ingenuity: Humpty Dumpty, for example, is a soft-boiled egg, knocked accidentally-on-purpose to the floor by a boy bunny at the breakfast table. Also striking?and appropriate for the intended audience?are the numerous scenes of adults and children working and playing together. The cozy, well-appointed settings and loving gestures project a reassuring intimacy. Wells also makes full use of an extended trim size. She encircles rhymes with spots of art, as in the Hungarian-style cat violinists that surround the text of "Hey diddle, diddle," or embellishes spreads with panels, identifying pig breeds in her depiction of "Whose little pigs are these?" and naming a few constellations alongside "Star light, star bright." Each rhyme begins with a sprightly decorated initial: a golden pear hangs from the "I" in "I had a little nut tree." Motifs recur subtly and purposefully, encouraging close inspection of the pages. A collaboration that both freshens and preserves the past, this volume deserves a prominent place not just in the nursery room but on the shelves of all who treasure illustrated books. Ages 2-up. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc.

I had this book for 6 months now. My kid then 9 months old did not enjoy it as much. However he was still interested in listening to the book. However as he grew around 11 months he started loving this book and at 12 he would bring this book to me to read it to him and as he is growing further he is loving more and more poems and remembering them now. Moral of the story is kids love this book

and grow with this book. It should be a staple in any kids library. Only cons are that pages are plain paper, so if you are not careful kids will tear them. Also, it does not include some of the popular poems like itsy bitsy etc...But still the collection of rhymes is great and my kid enjoys the poems there are..

What a little veld little book for my precious granddaughter ! She enjoys being read by o and follows along very smartly. She will grow up with a great love of reading just starting with books like this!

My go-to baby gift. Every child should have a great Mother Goose collection--from birth.

What a lovely book this is. Rosemary Wells's illustrations are fantastic...the facial expressions on the little characters are delightful. Every rhyme I remember is included in the book along with so many that are new to me. My only other comment is that the book is big and heavy, so I should have paid attention to that when I ordered. But the little guy who will get this book won't be deterred, he loves to "read" by himself or with his mom or dad.

Great book for first child

At 10 months, this was my son's favorite book. After reading it so much, I had all of the rhymes memorized. :) The pictures and text are big, and there aren't too many words per page. I prefer the selections in this book because it does not include some of the more bizarre/strange Mother Goose rhymes! After owning this books, I purchased the red Here Comes Mother Goose book. We have preferred the yellow book.

enjoyed

Publisher's Weekly called this book "exuberant" and that's exactly the right word for it. Bright primary colors make up this book, and Rosemary Wells' adorable characters populate the rhymes. Unlike some Mother Goose books, this one is meaty -- it boasts 108 pages, with a rhyme on almost every page. That's a lot of nights of Mother Goose at bedtime. Nursery rhymes help build phonological awareness, an important pre-reading skill. Research has actually shown that children who memorize nursery rhymes go on to become better readers than those who do not. This book makes a great baby gift, and a terrific birthday or holiday gift for a toddler or preschooler. It's the one

I grab first when I recommend nursery rhymes to library visitors.

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