



—
Kaori Takahashi

The [Peek-a-Book](#) series thoughtfully introduces toddlers to concepts like expressions, movement, cause and effect, and the relationship between a whole and its parts through visual and tactile modes of learning.

The friendly illustrations are deceptively simple and draw from familiar events – guiding children to observe details while providing pictorial cues for them to fill in the gaps with their imagination. The books are the perfect size for small hands to hold, which means children can flip and fold the panels as they go along, controlling the pace and sequencing for themselves.

Children also get to experiment with non-linearity, unfurling and refolding panels to create their own version of the stories. At the end, folding the book back into its original form becomes a puzzle-solving activity, and gently teaches them the importance of putting things back in their place.

Here is a set of helpful prompts for each book in the series. An educator can use these hints to guide children through the books.

Boo! recreates the element of surprise behind the universal popularity of peek-a-boo. Watch as familiar and funny objects participate in the game. Parents can read along to help children understand how to pair events together and also point to particular expressions. Are they able to recognize these?

- Who is hiding behind the hands? Does she look happy?
- Who do you think is inside the egg?
- What is he holding up? Is that a book? Who do you think that is?
- Who is crouching down here? Boo! Is that you?

Birthday Surprise! takes you down a winding path from home to a friend's birthday party. The book is at once a story and a map, helping children learn how to orient themselves within a space and navigate through it. Parents can draw children's attention to the events pop up as the path unfurls. Watch as gifts are chosen and count them as you go along.

- Where do you think he got the balloon? How many balloons are there? Can you name the colours?
- What is she holding? Why does the goat look so interested in it? What is the baker holding?
- Why does she look sad?

- What are the dog and the cow doing?
- What did they just spot?
- Whose birthday is it? What gifts did she get? Which one is your favourite?

Climb up through the branches of **The Tree**. What are all the activities taking place in and around it? Parents can read along to help children figure out how to get the boy to his apple, the baby birds fed and find out why the squirrel is so excited. Unfold the book to look at all of the tree's inhabitants and visitors together.

- What is the boy reaching for? Who is sleeping here?
- What is happening to the egg? How many birds are there now?
- Who is coming out of the tree trunk? Why is he excited?
- What are the birds going to eat? What is the squirrel going to eat? Who is bringing them the food?

In **Who's Hungry?**, a long-necked giraffe makes her way through the foliage, munching along as she goes. Parents can encourage children to go up or down, backwards or forwards to see how she bends and stretches to get the leaves.

- Who is this? What's happening?
- How many leaves can you count?



WHAT IS **EXPLORE THE BOOK?**

Our free resources and activity sheets help parents and educators looking to extend the scope of our books. They contain pointers and questions for discussion, as well as suggestions for activities based on the ideas, art and narrative in the book.

To find out more, write to hello@tarabooks.com

MORE TITLES WITH **EXPLORE THE BOOK**

[8 Ways to Draw an Elephant](#)

[8 Ways to Draw Fish](#)

[8 Ways to Draw Deer](#)

[A Village is a Busy Place!](#)

[Alphabets are Amazing Animals](#)

[An Indian Beach](#)

[Captain Coconut and the
Case of the Missing Bananas](#)

[Catch that Crocodile!](#)

[Creation](#)

[Do!](#)

[Drawing from the City](#)

[Following my Paint Brush](#)

[Gobble You Up!](#)

[Hic!](#)

[Hope is a Girl Selling Fruit](#)

[Knock! Knock!](#)

[Mother Steals a Bicycle](#)

[One, Two, Tree!](#)

[Painting Everything in the World](#)

[Sita's Ramayana](#)

[Speaking to an Elephant](#)

[Sultana's Dream](#)

[Sun and Moon](#)

[The Barber's Dilemma](#)

[The Boy Who Speaks in Numbers](#)

[The Enduring Ark](#)

[The Great Race](#)

[The Mahabharata: A Child's View](#)

[The Patua Pinocchio](#)

[This Truck has Got to be Special](#)

[To Market! To Market!](#)

[Tree Matters](#)

[TWINS](#)

[Visit the Bhil Carnival](#)

[Walking is a Way of Knowing](#)

[Water](#)

[Where has the Tiger Gone?](#)