

Too Busy Sleeping

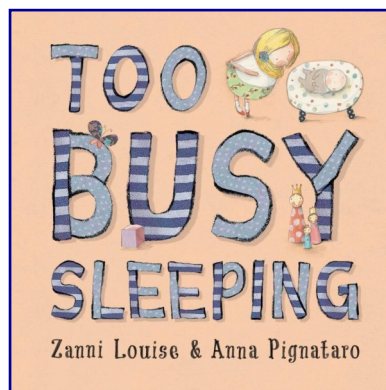
By Zanni Louise & Anna Pignataro

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Eleanor longs to play with her baby brother, but newborn Reuben is always asleep. Will Eleanor wear out with waiting? Instantly loveable, this is an adorable tale with universal themes that will resonate with all families with siblings.



Themes:

- New Babies
- Adjusting
- Sleeping

Discussion Points:

- By reading the title, who do you think the story will be about?
- How did Eleanor feel when baby Reuben came home?
- Did she think that he would be able to play with her?
- What fun things did she realise that she could do with him?
- Have you ever had a new baby brother, sister or maybe even a new cousin in your family? How did you feel when they were born? Did you think that they would be able to play with you?
- What are some of the emotions that big brothers, sisters and cousins might feel when a new baby enters the world?
- 'Eleanor ran to the bathroom, climbed into the tub and pulled the curtain shut'. Describe how you think Eleanor was feeling at this time? Do you think this reaction was normal?
- Is it hard to adjust to having someone new around?
- Make a list of all the things that you associate with babies.
- Why do babies sleep so much?
- Why do you think that Eleanor fell asleep where and when she did?

Activity:

- At the start of the story Eleanor and Granny picked flowers and put them in a jar on the table. Make your own vase and paper flowers to give to someone special.
- Eleanor was lucky enough to have her Granny and Grandad around when the new baby came. One activity they did together was to have a picnic. Have your own class morning tea picnic.