**10 Minutes till Bedtime**

Author/Illustrator: Peggy Rathmann

This book works for children of any age.

The story in this book is told primarily through the pictures so you should look through the whole book and familiarize yourself with the story before you begin reading. It also has a lot of detail so this would be a great book to read every day for a week so you have time to explore more details once the children are familiar with the overall story line. This book is a really good option for pointing out PRINT – point out the big speech bubbles that belong to the dad (use a deep voice when you read these) and the little print that belongs to the hamsters (use a squeaky voice when you say these words).

**Cover:** Read the title while running your fingers under the words. Explain that the boy in the book is going to get ready for bed but at the same time, there are a whole bunch of hamsters doing a BEDTIME TOUR in his house. Explain that a tour is when you follow a leader around a new place and he explains things to you as you look around.

First time through the book: Read each page and give a short explanation of what is happening. This provides the children with some understanding of how the story unfolds.

Once the children have heard the book from start to finish a couple of times, on each page, read the print and then ask an open-ended question like:

* “What is the boy doing? What is the hamster leader doing?”
* “What is going on in this picture?”
* “Are the hamsters helping the boy get ready for bed?”
* Point out specific scenarios on a page and ask the kids to describe that scene.
* Ask the children to find a specific hamster (like the leader with the megaphone).
* Highlight the numbers and see if the children can help you find numbers on the page.

At the end, ask “I wonder if the hamsters come every night at bedtime?” “What do you do before you go to bed?” This is a good chance to write out the bedtime routine from the book with the children. They can then draw pictures of their own routine. Ask them what their favourite part of the book is.

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