

TEN, NINE, EIGHT

Written and Illustrated by Molly Bang

Dear Family Member,

Remember how nice it was when someone read to you when you were young? You can build memories with your child by reading with him or her each day.

An enjoyable time to read aloud is often just before bedtime. A perfect book to read a sleepy (or not so sleepy) child is *TEN, NINE, EIGHT* by Molly Bang. Here are some ideas for sharing this book with your child.

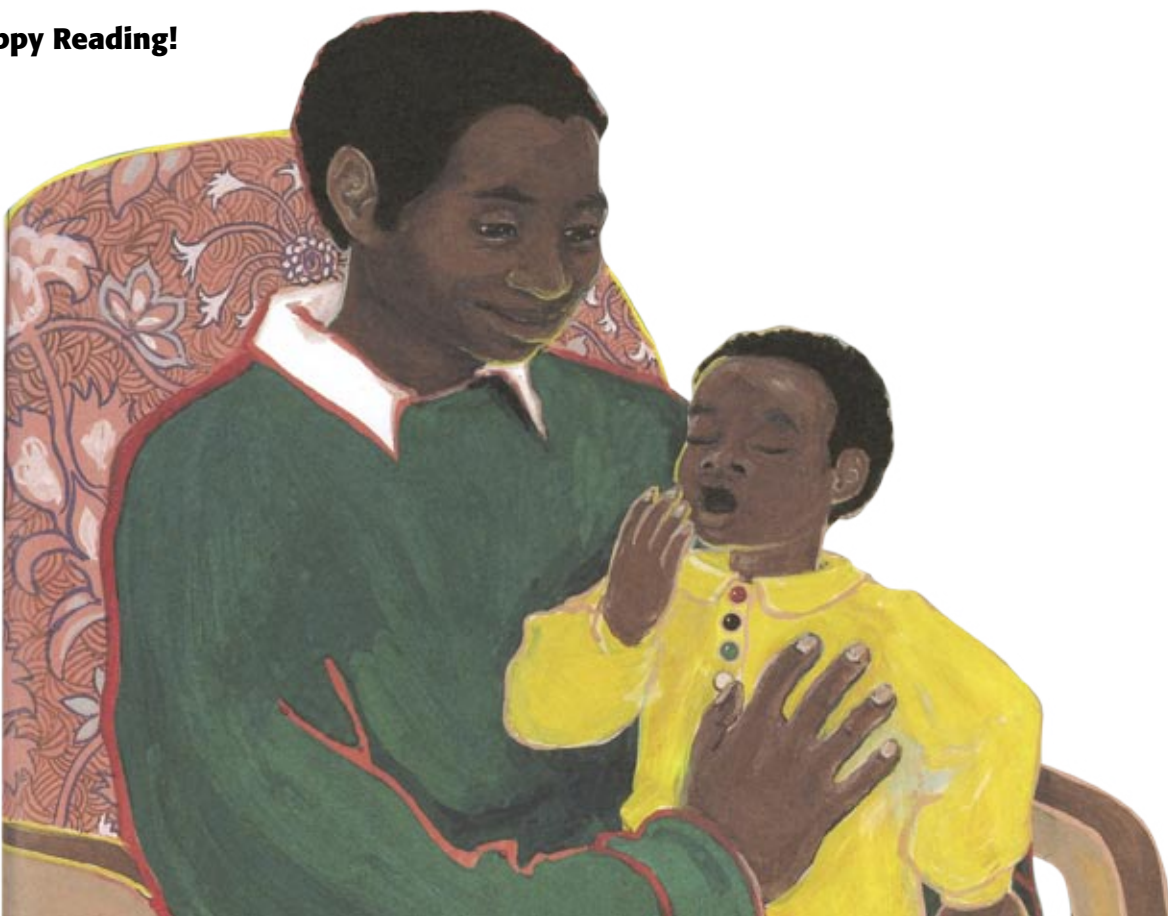
Before you read, write the number 1 to 10 on a paper. As you read the title, point to the corresponding numbers. Then, look at the spaceship. Talk about the countdown for launching a spaceship. On the back cover, read the words "...countdown to bedtime..." Ask your child what these words mean.

As you read, take time to look at the pictures with your child. It's fun to notice the "soft friend" that isn't a toy and to watch for this pet cat on other pages. Encourage your child to count the objects mentioned throughout the book.

After you read, talk about what your family does to get ready for bed. Do a countdown of your own—nine steps into the bathroom, four arms and legs into pajamas, one jump into bed. Or, have your child act out the pages as you say the words—counting "ten warm toes" or giving "three kisses on cheeks and nose."

Above all, have fun sharing the book and don't forget the hug!

Happy Reading!

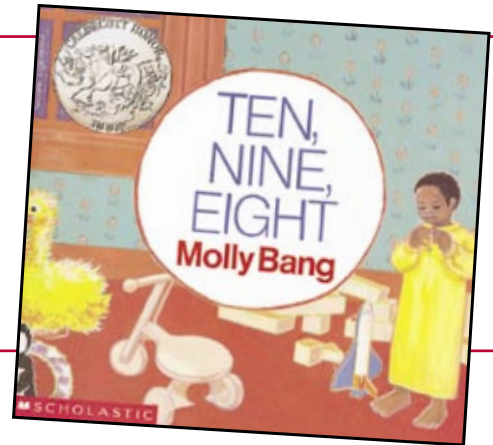


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BOOK SUMMARY

TEN, NINE, EIGHT is a happy game to lure the most persistent sleep evader. A warm and reassuring countdown to the land of dreams.



Talking Together

In the book, you can see snow falling outside the window. Ask your child, “What kind of weather do you see outside our window?” Is it sunny? Is it raining? Is it snowing? Do you think it is cold? Is it hot? Ask your child to draw a picture showing how he or she should dress for the weather outside.

The girl in the book had five round buttons on her nightgown. Ask your child to think of other objects that are round. Then, together look around your home to find round objects.

Doing Things Together

Find a calendar or other object or piece of paper with numbers on it. Have your child count from 1 to 10. Then, have him or her try counting backwards, point to the number 10, 9, 8...

Help you child learn the following nursery rhyme. Have him or her act it out.

One, two...buckle my shoe.

Three, four... shut the door.

Five, six...pick up sticks.

Seven, eight...lay them straight.

Nine Ten...a big fat hen.

Reading More Together

Here are some other books by Molly Bang: *The Paper Crane*; *The Grady Lady and the Strawberry Snatch*; and *Wiley and the Hairy Man: Adapted from an American Folk Tale*