# All the Words I Need to Know: A First Dictionary 

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## SYNOPSIS

All the words you need to know
Will help you as you learn and grow.
From ant and ball and yak and zoo,
Here's a word book
JUST FOR YOU!
A first dictionary with fun and lilting rhyme from Jane Godwin, and vibrant, joyful illustrations by Andrew Joyner reminiscent of Richard Scarry at his best!

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Jane Godwin is the highly acclaimed author of many books for children of different ages. Her work is published internationally and includes How Big is Too Small, Bear Make Den, Starting School, Little Cat and the Big Red Bus and many others. Jane is based in Melbourne. Find out more about Jane at janegodwin.com.au.

## ABOUT THE ILLUSTRATOR

Andrew Joyner is the illustrator and author of numerous children's books, including the \#1 New York Times bestseller Dr. Seuss's The Horse Museum, The Pink Hat, Stand Up! Speak Up! and many others. He also wrote and illustrated the Boris chapter book series about an adventure-seeking warthog. His books are now published in more than twenty-five countries. He lives with his wife and children in South Australia. Find out more about Andrew at andrewjoyner.com.au.

## STUDY NOTES

## BEFORE READING

- Before you even open the book, read out the title and ask the children what they think the book is about. Then read the back blurb. Now what is the book about?
- Read out the subtitle, 'A First Dictionary'. What is a dictionary? What is it for? How do you find a word in a dictionary?
- How many different animals can you find on the front and back covers?
- Open the endpapers. What are all these letters together called? How many letters are there in the alphabet?


## ENGLISH

- There are two narrators in this book. Who are they? (Big Owl \& Little Owl) Do they have different ways of speaking?
- Can you write a sentence using words that all start with the same letter? Do you know what this is called? (Answer: Alliteration)
- Think of five more words for your favourite letter. Write the words down and try to include them in one drawing or write a sentence that includes some or all of your words.
- Remembering the order of the alphabet that we use in a dictionary, try finding these words in the book:
- hand
- rainbow
- avocado
- teddy
- moon
- jump
- yak
- ear
- apple.
- Draw a giant capital letter (maybe the first letter of your own name), and then, inside your giant letter, write all the words starting with that letter that you can think of. You could do this with collage-cut out the giant letter out of coloured paper, then write all the words inside. Or if writing them is too complex, children could draw them.


## NATURE/ANIMALS

- How many animals are featured in the book?
- Can you find out five facts about owls?
- Have you ever been to the Zoo or watched a nature program on animals? What was something new you learned?
- There is one animal that is hiding on every page, sometimes twice! What animal is it? See if you can find it. Is it anywhere on the cover?
- Write down all the animals in the book. Which is your favourite? Can you draw it?


## COMPREHENSION

## Page 2 and 3

- These are our two narrators. Do you know what a narrator is? What kind of animal are they? Who is saying the words inside the white balloons?
- What do we call the type of writing on these pages?
- In the tree, there is a book for each letter of the alphabet. Can you find them?

Page 4 and 5 (letters A \& B)

- Say each of the words in bold black letters. Then look at the illustrations. How can they help tell you more about the words? (eg. how big is the ant? How can you tell?)
- Now read the words the owls are saying in their speech balloons. What else have you learned about the words?

Page 6 and 7 (letter C)

- What does the coat have on it? What else on this page has stripes? What other animal has stripes?

Page 8 and 9 (letters D \& E)

- Who in the class has a dog? What are their names? What letter does each name begin with?

Page 10 and 11 (letter F)

- How many fish are in the pond?
- Name 3 different kinds of fish or flowers.

Page 12 and 13 (letters G, H \& I)

- Who is hiding in the hat?

Page 14 and 15 (letter J)

- What are the different things the illustrator has added in each of these drawings to show us how things are moving?

Page 16 and 17 (letters K \& L)

- How many of the animals on this page are found in the wild in Australia?
- Where might you find a lion?
- What do you think the ant on the lion's nose is saying?

Page 18 and 19 (letters M, N \& O)

- O is for octopus, but what else on this page begins with O ?
- How many of the eight bold words on this page contain more than one of this spread's letters ( $\mathrm{M}, \mathrm{N}$ \& O ) ?

Page 20 and 21 (letter P)

- What is another sound that a pig makes? What letter does that sound start with?
- Make up a sentence using all four words on this page-pig, pear, pickle, piano. You can add even more P words if you like! Eg. Percy pig preferred pears to pickles while playing his piano perfectly.
Page 22 and 23 (letters Q \& R)
- What animal is very quick on this page?
- Do a countdown for the rocket from 10 back to 1.

Page 24 and 25 (rainbow spread)

- Can you recite the alphabet up to R for rainbow?
- Can you find something on this page that begins with each letter up to $R$ in the alphabet? Which letters do you think are missing?
- What sound does a duck make?
- What is the pink fish doing?

Page 26 and 27 (letter S)

- There are lots of words that begin with S. How many children in the class have a name that begins with S? And now, how many have a name that contains the letter S?
Page 28 and 29 (letter T)
- Find the word beginning with T that's not in the bold letters.
- Count how many words on this page begin with T-either the bold words, in the speech balloons or elsewhere!

Page 30 and 31 (letters U \& V)

- Look carefully at the words 'upside down'. What does each word mean on its own? Now what do they mean when they're put together?
- What is a virtuoso? Is it only used for someone who plays the violin?

Page 32 and 33 (letters W, X \& Y)

- What is a watermelon pip? Does your watermelon have pips?
- Have you ever played a xylophone? Try making your own using 8 drinking glasses, each holding different amounts of water to make different sounds when hit lightly with a spoon
- Not many words begin with X but what are some other words that contain the letter x?

Page 34 and 35 (letter Z \& alphabet)

- How many zucchinis in the picture?
- Now you know your $A B C$, can you sing the $A B C$ song?

Page 36 \& 37 (Treehouse)

- Can you find all the rhyming words on this page (words that sound the same but have different letters eg. hat and cat)?
Page 38 \& 39 (Zoo)
- Have you ever been to the Zoo? If so, what animals did you see there?

