



My Mom's Having a Baby!: A Kid's Month-by-Month Guide to Pregnancy (Concept Book)

By Dori Hillestad Butler

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My Mom's Having a Baby!: A Kid's Month-by-Month Guide to Pregnancy (Concept Book) By Dori Hillestad Butler

Elizabeth's mom is having a baby, and the whole family is involved. Elizabeth learns all about the baby's development, and she traces his growth, month by month. She learns how the baby got inside Mom, too.

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Kindergarten-Grade 4—In a conversational tone, Elizabeth describes the month-by-month development of the baby as well as the changes in Mom's body. With a child as narrator, the text naturally includes topics of interest to readers, from the growing size of the fetus to the different ways Elizabeth interacts with him, from Doppler to ultrasound to simply feeling his hard bump of a head through her mother's tummy. Through very direct language and clear illustrations, children will learn about a man's testicles where sperm are made and the fallopian tube where an egg is fertilized. Rather than ending at this clinical description, Mom answers Elizabeth's big question, "how do Dad's sperm and your egg get together?" As part of her measured response, she explains, "The man puts his penis between the woman's legs and inside her vagina. After a while, a white liquid shoots out of the man's penis and into the woman's vagina. The liquid is full of millions of sperm." So, too, details are not spared when the birth is described. The playful and colorful illustrations add exuberance to the text, combining full-page paintings, cartoon panels, word balloons, and free-floating images, many of which are of the developing baby. The joy and love felt by all of the family members is palpable. This volume is an excellent choice for those readers who are ready to ask and be told some of life's basic facts.—*Martha Topol, Traverse Area District Library, Traverse City, MI*

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From [Booklist](#)

Starred Review Gr. 2-4. Numerous books are available to prepare soon-to-be siblings for the changes that come with the arrival of a new baby in the house. Butler's goes one better by candidly and thoughtfully responding to the question many such books ignore, "How did that baby get there?" Joyous, splashy watercolors establish the warmth of a close-knit family and introduce narrator Elizabeth, about five, a bundle of energy. Her delight and curiosity spill across the pages as she explains that her mother "has a baby growing inside her" and describes what she learns about the pregnancy and her developing sib. In between, Mom talks to her about how "our baby got inside," allowing Elizabeth to relay what she learns about everything from fertilization (correct terms are *usually* used) to "the liquid that shoots out of a man's penis." The art is somewhat more demure than the text (lovemaking is hidden under blankets), but labeled cutaways show adults' sexual organs and the developing fetus, Mom huffing and puffing during labor, and newborn Michael smiling at the world in all his naked glory. The disconnection between the picture-book format and the informational content may be problematic for some, and certainly an adult must be around to answer the inevitable questions this book will provoke, such as, "Is breaking water like having to pee?" In the end, though, the affectionate family dynamics and Elizabeth's ingenuous, enthusiastic narration beautifully sustain the child-centric view. For slightly older children, suggest Robie Harris' *It's So Amazing* (1999). *Stephanie Zvirin*

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Review

"This volume is an excellent choice for those readers who are ready to ask and be told some of life's basic facts."

School Library Journal

"Joyous, splashy watercolors establish the warmth of a close-knit family and introduce narrator Elizabeth, about five, a bundle of energy."

Booklist

Users Review

From reader reviews:

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Arturo McDaniel:

Your reading sixth sense will not betray an individual, why because this My Mom's Having a Baby!: A Kid's Month-by-Month Guide to Pregnancy (Concept Book) book written by well-known writer who knows well how to make book that could be understand by anyone who have read the book. Written within good manner

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