

Max's First Word

By Rosemary Wells

Max's sister Ruby tries to teach him to say his first word: cup, broom, fish, egg, chair, apple. Max finally says, "Delicious!"

New words and sounds your baby might learn:

bang, cup, broom, fish, chair, apple, yum-yum, delicious.

Before:

- Pick up the book say, "Here is a book. Let's read."
- Sit with your baby in your lap so he can see the book.
- Let your baby explore the book any way he wants to. He will even learn about it by putting it in his mouth.
- When he is older, ask your baby to take the book off of the shelf. Describe what he is doing. "You are getting a book for us to read."

During:

- Relate the pictures in the book to real objects. Show him some of the same objects that Ruby shared with Max. Name them for your baby. "Here is Dad's cup. It's like Max's cup."
- Point to Max and name him. Help your baby find and point to Max on each page. "That's Max. Turn the page. Where's Max now? There he is!" You can do the same with Ruby. This helps him connect pictures with words.

After:

- Remember to give your child the names of things that are important in his life. "Here is your spoon." "Let's get the soap for your bath."
- Always make learning words fun. He wants to learn. You don't have to insist that he talk.
- Make a book for him and title it, "_____'s Book of Words!" Take photos of people and things your baby is learning the names of. Use those photos or cut pictures out of magazines.

Try some of the ideas above. Continue to use your own imagination during book play, too. Have fun with the book and enjoy your time together.

Family **A**nd Child **E**ducation

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Man's First Word is a children's book illustrated by Carl Chaiet and written by Lynn Kearcher which was published in 2007. The reader follows Telford, a renowned lexicographer, and Earnest, his talking bird-butler, as they travel through the Atlas Mountains of Morocco in search of the origin of language. The story begins with Telford receiving a phone call from Billiam Pinch-Penny, an anthropologist at the local museum, regarding the discovery of a tablet of stone with Hieroglyphic carvings. It is "Lisa's First Word" is the tenth episode of Season 4. While trying to get Maggie to say her first words, Marge recalls what happened a few years back when Lisa was born, when they first moved into their present home, and what Lisa's first word was. When Homer, Marge, Bart and Lisa unsuccessfully try to get Maggie to speak, Marge tells the family the story of when Lisa said her first word.