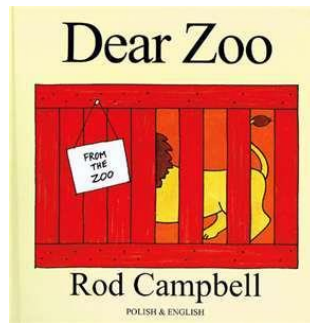


# Dear Zoo by Rod Campbell



## Watch a video of the story

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=102&v=rudDGRQ9QGA&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=102&v=rudDGRQ9QGA&feature=emb_logo)

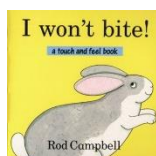
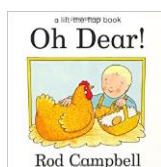
## Ten Top Ideas and Activities

1. **Storyplay** Gather together different kinds of boxes and containers, with animal toys, some the same as the animals in the book. Children can retell the story using their own toys or make up their own story.
2. **Make a flap book.** Children can make their own flap book with pages for more animals arriving from the zoo and needing to be returned until they have the perfect pet. A hedgehog might be too prickly, a parrot too noisy, a worm too wriggly.
3. **Make a den** for one of the animals - use sheets, towels, pegs, chairs, and boxes - whatever is available. Could it be a big den for an elephant or a small one for a mouse?
4. **Make a play dough animal**- which one will you choose? Does yours have tail? Is it long or short? How will you make the eyes?
5. **Make a mask**- Choose your favourite animal from the story and make a mask. You can use old cereal boxes for the cardboard. Don't forget two eyes, a nose and the mouth! Where are the ears? Has the animal got whiskers? You could make masks for the whole zoo!
6. **Making animal noises.** Can you make the animal noises? Can you make it loudly, and then can you make them quietly? Can anyone guess what animal you are by the noise you make?
7. **Can you move like the animals?** How might the lion move? Would he creep quietly? What about the camel? Would he have his head up and stomp around in his grumpy mood?

8. **Which animal is it?** Collect some toy animals- they can be from the farm or the zoo, they can be small play animals or soft toys. Use something as a screen- maybe a book stood up on its edge - and choose an animal. Hide it behind the screen and then gradually reveal - can they guess what animal it is? How did they know? Can they make that animal noise? Can they tell you something about that animal?
9. **What do you know?** Choose an animal. Can you say 2 things about that animal? Maybe its colour, what it likes to eat, how many legs it has. If you get to then you can have 2 points (or 2 counters in a jar, 2 claps, 2 jumps) Take turns and see who can get the most points, counters or claps! Make it harder next time and think of three or four things to say about the animal.
10. **Escape!** Choose one of the animals to escape from the zoo. Make up a story about how what happened? How did it get out? Where did it go? How it feel? Did they make any friends? What happened in the end?

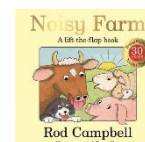
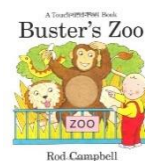
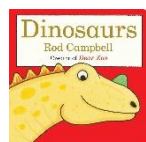
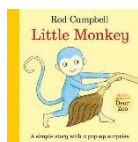
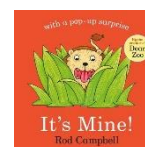
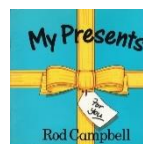
### Find out more

Read more books by author/illustrator Rod Campbell



Titles include:

*Oh Dear!*  
*It's Mine!*  
*My Presents*  
*I Won't Bite!*  
*Noisy Farm*  
*Dinosaurs*  
*Buster's Zoo*  
*Little Monkey*



### Find out more about zoos

London Zoo - <https://www.zsl.org/zsl-london-zoo/exhibits>

Melbourne Zoo - <https://www.zoo.org.au/animal-house>

Edinburgh Zoo - <https://www.edinburghzoo.org.uk/webcams/panda-cam/>

Washington National Zoo - <https://nationalzoo.si.edu/webcams>

### Song and rhymes about animals in the book

An Elephant Goes like This and That - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qg7I50NjKco>

Alice the Camel - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A8hjmsBKM5w>

5 Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sfFwo7iQsDw>

5 Little Speckled Frogs - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VQTVrxj4l6o>

The Giraffe Song - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KEvX2\\_KlSHs](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KEvX2_KlSHs)

Roar, Roar Lion - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XaAWXL8rzq4>

Snake song for children - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xOYEa33sjb4>