Little Loon and Papa
By Toni Buzzeo

Little Loon is nervous about diving lessons, but with his father’s help he’s ready to try.

New words and sounds your child might learn:
Papa, loon, dive, hoo, gruffle, growl, peep, snuffle, timid, wobble, hrooooo.

Before:
- Be enthusiastic! “Let’s read a book about a duck named Little Loon and how his papa helps him learn to dive.”
- Talk about the word “Papa.” “Some children call their father Papa, like you call your father _______.
- Point to the book cover and ask, “Which one do you think is Little Loon? Which one is Papa?”

During:
- Look at the pictures in the book and talk about them.
- Play with the sounds in the story. For example, have your child repeat the way Papa Loon calls for Little Loon: “Hoo, hoo, hoo.” Do the same with some of the other sounds: splash, drip, hrooooo, gruffle, growl.
- At the end of the book, point out how happy Papa Loon is to see Little Loon. Say how happy you are to see your child again after you’ve been apart.

After:
- During his bath, encourage your child to splash the water. Talk about the sounds you hear.
- At first, Little Loon is afraid of diving into the water. Talk about something new your child is afraid of doing. Reassure him that you will help him like Papa Loon helped Little Loon.

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.