The Wild Little Horse
By Rita Gray

This rhyming book tells the story of an adventurous wild little horse that explores the world beyond his cozy barn.

**New words and sounds your child might learn:**
whistling, wind, pile, grain, pail, sip, roam, race, nostrils, giant, small, little, seal, chase, familiar.

**Before:**
- Say the title of the book. Explain that it is about a little horse that likes to explore. “Just like you, he likes to go new places and look around.”
- If your child has seen a horse before, remind her of that. Make the sound of a horse together.

**During:**
- Sometimes have fun with the rhythm and rhyme.
- Sometimes just talk about the pictures as you look at them together. “Look, the horse is running!” “Oh, you see him splashing in the water.”
- Act out some of the actions. Use your fingers to show the “skitter skit” of the mice at play. Blow on your child for the “whoosh” of the whistling wind. Give her a ride on your knees to show the “gallipity-lip, gallipity-lop.”
- As you look at pictures, name some of the animals and make their sounds. Later, ask your child to point to a duck, rooster, sheep, horse, etc. Later still, play a game of finding and naming all the pictures of sheep (or ducks, or chickens, etc.) throughout the book.

**After:**
- When you go out with your child, encourage her to be curious and explore. When it’s time to go, you can say, “Let’s run like the wind. Let’s run like the wild little horse and his family.”
- If you have animals nearby, take your child to see them. Talk about the ones you saw in the book.

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 And Child Education