

The Bird Party at Home

A 5–10 minute read-together ritual for parents & grandparents

You don't need anything but the book, a window, and a lap to share. This little ritual works at bedtime, after school, or on a quiet Sunday morning — and it works just as well over a video call with a grandchild far away.

1. Pick one bird (1 minute)

Let your child open *Welcome to the Bird Party!* to any bird they like. There's no wrong order — Kip designed it that way.

2. Read it together (3–4 minutes)

Read the chapter aloud. When you reach the **Nature Notes** box, lower your voice like it's a secret — because it is one. Most grown-ups don't know these things either, and it's okay to say so. “I never knew that!” is the best thing a child can hear from you.

3. Do Kip's Challenge (2 minutes)

Every bird has one. Hop like a robin, hover like a hummingbird, freeze like a heron. Yes, you too — especially you. A grandparent flapping their arms is a memory that outlasts the book.

4. The Window Watch (1 minute)

Go to the nearest window together and watch quietly for one minute. Any bird counts. No bird at all counts too — ask, “Where do you think they went?”

5. One little question (1 minute)

Pick one, and answer it yourself first:

- “If you were a bird for one day, which one would you be?”
- “What's a bird you remember from when *you* were little?” (a grandparent special — tell the story)
- “What should we look for tomorrow?”

That last question is the whole trick. It turns one bird party into a standing date.

Never stop wondering. Never stop learning. · From *Welcome to the Bird Party!* by Janet M. Fry