

I Was Born a Baby



Written by Meg Fleming, Illustrated by Brandon James Scott
HarperCollins, 2022

Readers enjoy exploring the names of young animals through the eyes of a human baby. Rhyming, cute animals, lesser known animal names, and colorful illustrations make this a great read for all ages.

About the Author

Since her debut in 2017, Meg has written ten books for children. Her background as a music educator and voice teacher highly influence the fun lyrical aspects of her engaging picture books. She also draws from her childhood feelings of wonder and journaling in her writing. The author lives just outside of San Francisco. Find her online at megfleming.net or connect on Twitter/X [@Megosphere](https://twitter.com/Megosphere).

About the Illustrator

Brandon James Scott is an award-winning Canadian artist and animator, currently living in Toronto. An extensive list of some of his picture books and most recent animations can be found on his website. Visit the illustrator online at brandonjamescott.com or connect on Instagram [@brandonjamescott](https://www.instagram.com/brandonjamescott).

Accompanying Activities

1. Science: Organisms and Environments

After reading *I Was Born a Baby*, the librarian will use this [Pear Deck](#) in order to help students practice naming baby animals. The students will match animals with their offspring. It is important to point out the similarities and differences between parent and offspring with each example.

- **Organisms and environments.** The student knows that organisms resemble their parents and have structures and undergo processes that help them interact and survive within their environments. The student is expected to:
 - First Grade TEKS: *SCI 112.3 (b) 13 C*: Compare ways that young animals resemble their parents
- **Organisms and environments.** The student knows that organisms have structures and undergo processes that help them interact and survive within their environments. The student is expected to:
 - Second Grade TEKS: *SCI 112.4 (b) 13 D*: Investigate and describe some of the unique life cycles of animals where young animals do not resemble their parents, including butterflies and frogs.

2. Language Arts: Response to Vocabulary

After reading [*I Was Born a Baby*](#), students will create a [Venn Diagram or Box and T Chart](#) to compare a few animals. This might include comparing two different types of chicks, like a baby chicken and a baby ostrich. Comparing a baby goat (kid) to a small child (kid) would be a great way to notice similarities and differences. Students could choose any two animals from the images on the end pages to compare, such as any two calves or any two cubs.

- **Response Skills:** – The student responds to an increasingly challenging variety of sources that are read, heard, or viewed. The student is expected to:
 - Kindergarten TEKS: *ELAR 110.2 (b)* 6 F respond using newly acquired vocabulary as appropriate.
 - First Grade TEKS: *ELAR 110.3 (b)* 7 F respond using newly acquired vocabulary as appropriate.
 - Second Grade TEKS: *ELAR 110.4 (b)* 7 F respond using newly acquired vocabulary as appropriate.

Companion Books

Other Books by Meg Fleming (partial list)

Here Comes Ocean. Beach Lane Books, 2020.

I Live in a Tree Trunk. HarperKids, 2023.

Ready, Seat, Build! Little Bee Books, 2017.

Sometimes Rain. Beach Lane Books, 2018.

Sounds Like School Spirit. Dial Books for Young Readers, 2021.

Other Books illustrated by Brandon James Scott (partial list)

Bernstrom, Daniel. *A Bear, a Bee, and a Honey Tree.* Hippo Park, 2022.

Call, Kristi. *Cow Says Meow.* Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2021.

Scott, Brandon James. *Justin Time (Series).* Immedium, 2013.

Other Books About Animals

Eszterhas, Suzi. [*Baby Animals With Their Families.*](#) Owlkids Books, 2019.

Kalman, Bobbie. *Baby Animal Names=Nombres de animales bebe.* Crabtree Publishing, 2011.

Thimmesh, C. *A Baby Like You.* HarperCollins, 2019.

Thornhill, Jan. *I am Josephine: (and I am a Living Thing).* Owlkids Books Inc., 2016.