

National Geographic Kids Reader: Play, Kitty!

Notes for parents: reading this book with your child

- Before you share this book with your child, look at the front cover and talk about what you can see in the picture. Discuss any prior knowledge your child has about kittens, talking about your own kitten, or one that a child has played with/seen in a film or television programme.
- This book has lots of movement verbs (*run, swing, stretch, climb, hide*). Notice them with your child and talk about other ways that kittens move.
- Here are some ways you can help your child as they learn to read:
 - Read the book together, enjoying the cute pictures.
 - Help with unfamiliar words and emphasise the movement words.
 - Encourage them to sound out words. Even if they can't sound out the whole word, they may be able to sound out part of it, and this may help them read the word.
 - Encourage them to also use the pictures and meaning and think about what word would make sense, e.g. *peek-a-boo*.
 - If your child gets stuck, read the book together, so that they don't lose their confidence.
 - Give them lots of praise and encouragement when tackling new words.
- Discuss what kittens like to do and try to think of some other ideas too.