



From Cricket Media

babybug[®]



Kim and Carrots

by Clara Vulliamy



Kim, Carrots, and Mommy are having
a picnic in the park.

Carrots takes a nap in the sunshine.
Mommy and Kim play with the ball.





Kim throws the ball high in the air!



Then Kim rolls it low on the ground.



The ball bounces right
over Carrots!

Follow me to the Guide for Caregivers!



Now Carrots is wide awake
and ready to play!



Gotcha!

by Lane Dwyer
Art by Julissa Mora

“Here I come,” says Grandpa.
“Whee!” shrieks Sylvie.

“Almost caught you!” says Auntie.

“Again, again,” says Sylvie.



“Watch out for tickle hands!” says Cousin.
“Hee, hee,” giggles Sylvie.



“Gotcha!” says Sylvie.

“What a big kid!” says Grandma.





A FIRST CONCEPT

The Grasshopper

by Cindy Breedlove ✨ Art by John Joven

The grasshopper looks
like a little green bump,
silently sitting till
suddenly—JUMP!



Hiccups

by David McMullin
Art by Marilyn Janovitz

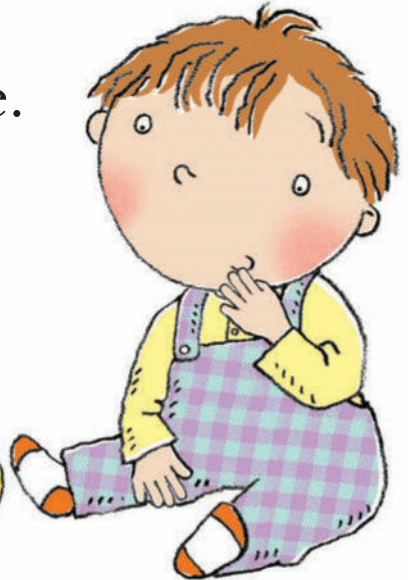
Hic What was that?

Hic Who's poking me?



Hic No one's there.

Hic Now I see.



Hic These little hics

Hic Are all from me!

Little Bumblebee

by Robin Azer ✨ Art by Hector Borlasca



Tumbly, bumbly,
Fuzzy little bee.



Flying around you,
Buzzing by me.



Landing on flowers,
Floating on the breeze,



Taking a rest
On a tall oak tree.





My Swing

by Pamela Love ✨ Art by Natalí Sejuro Aliaga

Outside there is a brand-new chair.
Dad puts me in. I sit in midair.
He gives a push, and now my chair
Swings back and forth from here to there!





LET'S
EXPLORE
Balls

by Larry Taylor

Basketballs are
for shooting
hoops . . .



and playing with a team.



Beach balls are just right on hot days.



It's fun to watch friends play with soccer balls. Tall friends and small furry friends!





Run

by Elizabeth Woratyla
Art by Shari Halpern



Run across the
green grass,
Run down the hill,



Run into your
mommy's arms,
Then lie there still.



BABYBUG is for babies who love to be read to—and for adults who love to read to them. Here are a few tips to help you get the most out of this “super summer” issue of BABYBUG.

1. Kim and Carrots: Whether your child is a baby who has just learned to crawl after a ball or a toddler like Kim who can toss one high in the air, balls are first-rate toys. By throwing a ball back and forth with Mommy, Kim not only exercises some physical skills, but has a ready-made opportunity to discover why sharing and taking turns matters. In a game of catch, after all, that’s what keeps the fun going.

2. My Swing: Playing and singing music to your child are natural and loving ways to encourage word and sound recognition. Do you ever make up a song to accompany a daily activity? Your



song needn’t be opera. The simple phrase “Back and forth . . . back and forth,” sung while pushing your child on the swing, adds to the experience.

3. Run: As you can see in this issue of BABYBUG, you don’t need much to have fun outside with your baby or toddler. A run down a hill, a few moments looking at a tiny creature—all seem like adventures to your young explorer. Here are some more simple summertime activities you might try. Throw an old sheet over a card table to create a toddler-sized retreat. Paint with water on a sidewalk using nature’s paintbrushes: twigs, dandelions, and long-stemmed grasses.

— Sally Nurss, M.Ed.

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guide for caregivers

Look inside for our Guide for Caregivers, offering read-aloud suggestions and play ideas.



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