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The Newsletter on the Under-Fives  
Issue 162: November 2018  
<http://www.under-fives.org/>



Thanks very much for subscribing to the Under-Fives newsletter. I hope you find it useful

You can [download this newsletter as a pdf file](#).

	<p>Best teacher-pupil ratio in Derbyshire? <b>Apply now to Henry Prince School &amp; Nursery</b> <a href="https://www.henryprince.org/admissions/">https://www.henryprince.org/admissions/</a></p>	
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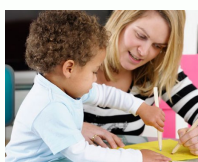
## What's New at the Under-Fives Web Site?



### Choosing a Pre-School

How to choose a pre-school - what should you look for and what questions should you ask?

<http://www.under-fives.org/preschool.html>



### Find a Childminder

Find childminders and babysitters in Derbyshire or Staffordshire.

<http://www.under-fives.org/childminder.html>

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## Best Books for the Under-Fives

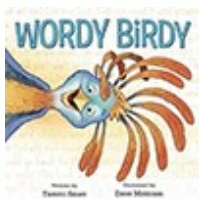
After years of research - here are some of our favourite books for the under-fives. What else gives you repeat enjoyment of a present for such a small outlay?



### 1. *Slinky Malinki*

by Lynley Dodd

Slinky Malinki was blacker than black. A stalking and lurking adventurous cat. Children go back again and again to this book.



### 2. *Wordy Birdy*

by Tammi Sauer

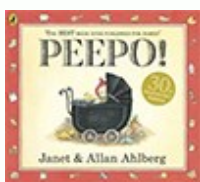
Wordy Birdy is a very chatty bird who talks WAY more than she listens! A new book which is very funny



### 3. *Where the Wild Things Are*

by Maurice Sendak

Let the wild rumpus start - beautifully written prose-poem.



4. **Peepo!**

by Janet and Allan Ahlberg

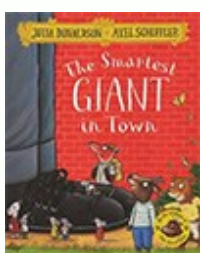
Great one for the youngest children. Look through the holes to spot details from the wonderful illustrations.



5. **Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig**

by Eugene Trivizas

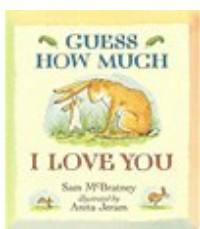
One for the four-year-olds - children love the topsy-turvy version of the well known fairy-tale.



6. **The Smartest Giant in Town**

by Julia Donaldson

Funny, warm-hearted, who could fail to love George, the smartest giant in town?



7. **Guess How Much I Love You**

by Sam McBratney

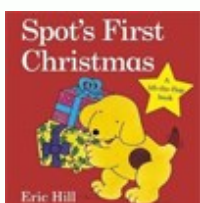
As Little Nutbrown Hare and Big Nutbrown Hare discover, love is not always an easy thing to measure. This lovely board book is one that children ask for time and again.



8. **Five Minutes' Peace**

by Jill Murphy

We can all sympathise with Mrs Large in her quest for five minutes peace.



9. **Spot's First Christmas**

by Eric Hill

Spot finds out about Christmas trees, carol-singers and presents from Father Christmas in this festive board-book edition of a classic lift-the-flap tale.



10. **Stellaluna**

by Janell Cannon

A charming, uplifting story about a bat who struggles to fit in with a family of birds.

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## Events for the Under-Fives

E-mail your event to [jill@under-fives.org](mailto:jill@under-fives.org) and I'll be pleased to publish it here.

### Santa's Winter Wonderland at SnowDome, Tamworth

With all the real snow, real animals and all new Winter Wonderland show. Open from 16 November until 31 December. Under twos are free.

<https://www.snowdome.co.uk/>

### Christmas Lapland Experience at Blithbury

Meet and feed the herd of reindeer, visit Father Christmas in his

traditional Scandinavian style Grotto, explore soft play area and be entertained by the singing reindeer. Tickets must be booked in advance.  
<https://blithburyreindeerlodge.co.uk/>



### **North Pole Adventure**

A magical festive journey to the North Pole to meet Father Christmas and his friends. Travel through the magic portal to Father Christmas' home town. Explore the Victorian high Street and sweet shop, help the elves sort the parcels and meet our interactive talking polar bear under the Northern Lights at the National Forest Adventure Farm.

<https://www.adventurefarm.co.uk/>

### **An Audience with Father Christmas at Bolsover Castle**

Meet Father Christmas as he tells tales of Christmas past amidst the yuletide decorations. Weekends in December

<https://emmabridgewaterfactory.co.uk/>

### **Santa and Steam**

The Santa Express winds its way through the Staffordshire Moorlands, with gifts for every boy and girl, and mince pies and sherry for the grown-ups.

<https://santaandsteam.co.uk/>

### **Children's Victorian Santa Trails**

Follow the trail through the castle as the Victorian household gets ready for the festive season, and help Cook to make Christmas pudding, decorate the tree with the Mistress of the House, and join the Stablehand in finding carrots for Rudolph and Co, before meeting Santa in his grotto. Weekends in December.

<http://www.tamworthcastle.co.uk/>

### **Living Nativity at Emma Bridgewater**

Meet the animals from the Christmas story when The Farm on Wheels visits the Factory on Sunday 9th December 11 am to 3.30 pm.

<https://emmabridgewaterfactory.co.uk/>

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## **Pregnancy and Under-Fives News**

Round up of some of the more interesting news about mothers-to-be, childcare, babies, toddlers and young children.

### **How to stop your toddler having a temper tantrum in seconds**

The trick - to distract the toddler with a toy rather than hug them, researchers have found.

<https://www.thesun.co.uk/>

### **Baby up at night? Inactivity may be a culprit**

New research suggests babies who are less active get less sleep, which may be helpful for those looking for possible solutions for the long, sleepless nights.

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/>

### **Pregnancy gap should be at least a year**

Mothers should wait at least a year between giving birth and getting pregnant again to reduce health risks to mother and baby, a new study says.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/>

### **Study explores infant body position and learning**

Learning to sit is linked with better object perception. Learning to walk is linked with improved language ability.

<https://news.ucr.edu/>

### **2019 baby names: What will be popular?**

See the most popular in 2018 and the trends for 2019.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/>

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