

את זה / כתבה: נירה הרצל, אייר: יוסי אבולעפיה

תרגום לאנגלית של ההצעות לפעילות בחיק המשפחה



That One!

By Nira Harel

Illustrated by Yossi Abulafia

Dear Parents,

Babies and toddlers aren't the only ones who struggle to express themselves. We've all experienced that feeling of frustration when we can't get anyone to comprehend what we mean. Is there anyone who won't identify with Dad in this story, as he tries to understand Noam? The story gives the whole family a chance to experience empathy, laughter, and mutual understanding.

“TEACH A CHILD IN ACCORDANCE WITH HIS WAY” (PROVERBS 22:6)

How do we create a shared language with our child? The verse from Proverbs advises parents to teach each child in the way that works best for them, and thus help each one find their own unique place in the world. Noam's father makes a great many deeply touching efforts to understand his son, but the end of the story leads us to the bedrock of parent-child communication: a hug, love, and mutual attachment.

Activities to Do at Home

- **Recite it aloud:** Read this rhyming story out loud on multiple occasions. Over time, your children will remember the words, begin completing the sentences themselves, and become active partners in reading the story.
- **Find the animals:** Yossi Abulafia has put some entertaining details in the illustrations that aren't mentioned in the story. Try to find the dog and the cat on each page. Did you find them? What are they doing? What sort of expression do they have on their faces? You could try imitating the facial expressions and movements of both the dog and the cat. What else did you find in the illustrations? Do your children know the names of the different objects?
- **Dad and Noam, you and your children:** Nira Harel tells us which games Noam likes: playing ball, hugging his teddy bear, and playing 'pretend' games. You and your children can play 'pretend' together. Each one takes a turn pretending to be Noam—saying “That one!” while pointing to something in the room. The family member pretending to be Noam's Dad then tries to guess which object is meant. At the end of the game everybody hugs and laughs, just like in the story.

There is nothing like a sense of humor to defuse tension in moments of frustration. Next time you are struggling to understand what your children are saying, try remembering “That One!” Recall the father's sense of humor and the funny illustrations. Then maybe when your children ask for “that one,” a loving hug will help you, too?

Have fun reading this book together!