
CONDENSATION OF Babies Nurse

By Phoebe Fox

Illustrated by Jim Fox

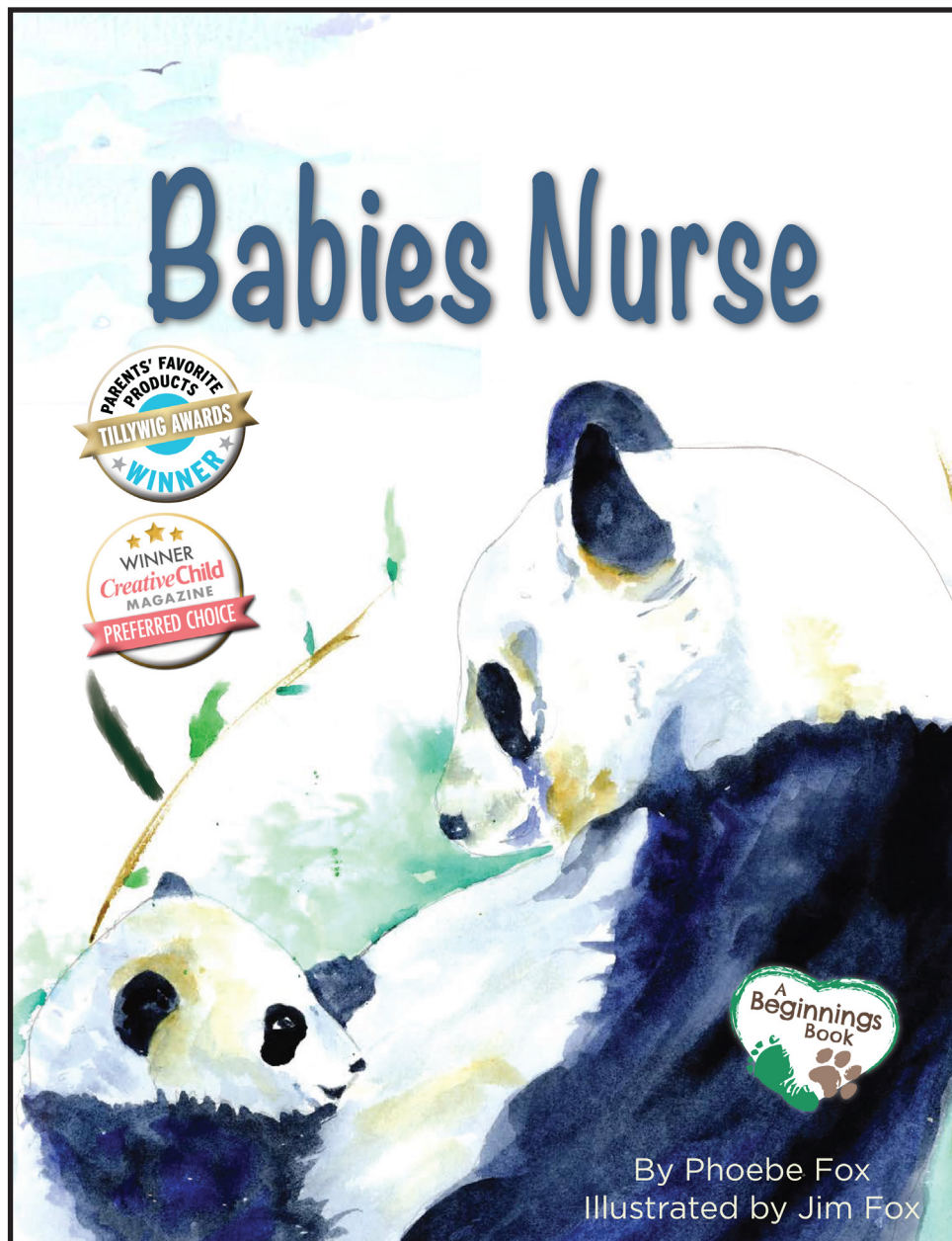
Includes pages 3, 8, 9, 10, 11, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27

Paperback (\$9.95) ISBN 13: 978-1-930775-71-8

Hardback (\$14.95) ISBN 13: 978-1-930775-61-9

Ebook (\$8.99) ISBN 13: 978-1-930775-47-3

October 2018 • 32 Pages



Platypus Media

This title is also available in a Bilingual (English/Spanish) edition.
Free, downloadable Teacher's Guide available at PlatypusMedia.com
Contact Info@PlatypusMedia.com for more information.



Dear Reader,

We're excited to introduce you to this wonderful book about mammals, part of our Beginnings collection.

Scientific curiosity begins in childhood. Exposure to animals and their environments—whether in nature or in a book—is often at the root of a child's interest in science. Young Jane Goodall loved to observe the wildlife near her home, a passion that inspired her groundbreaking chimpanzee research. Charles Turner, pioneering entomologist, spent hours reading about ants and other insects in the pages of his father's books. Marine biologist, author, and conservationist Rachel Carson began writing stories about squirrels when she was eight. Spark curiosity in a child and watch them develop a lifelong enthusiasm for learning.

These beautifully illustrated, information-packed titles introduce youngsters to the fascinating world of animals, and, by extension, to themselves. They encourage children to make real-world connections that sharpen their analytical skills and give them a head start in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math). Reading these titles together inspires children to think about how each species matures, what they need to survive, and what their communities look like—whether pride, flock, or family.

More than a simple scientific introduction, these animal stories illustrate and explore caring love across the mammal class. Showing children this type of attachment in the natural world fosters empathy, kindness, and compassion in both their interpersonal and interspecies interactions.

An easy choice for the home, library, or classroom, our Beginnings collection has something to spark or sustain budding curiosity in any child.

Enjoy!

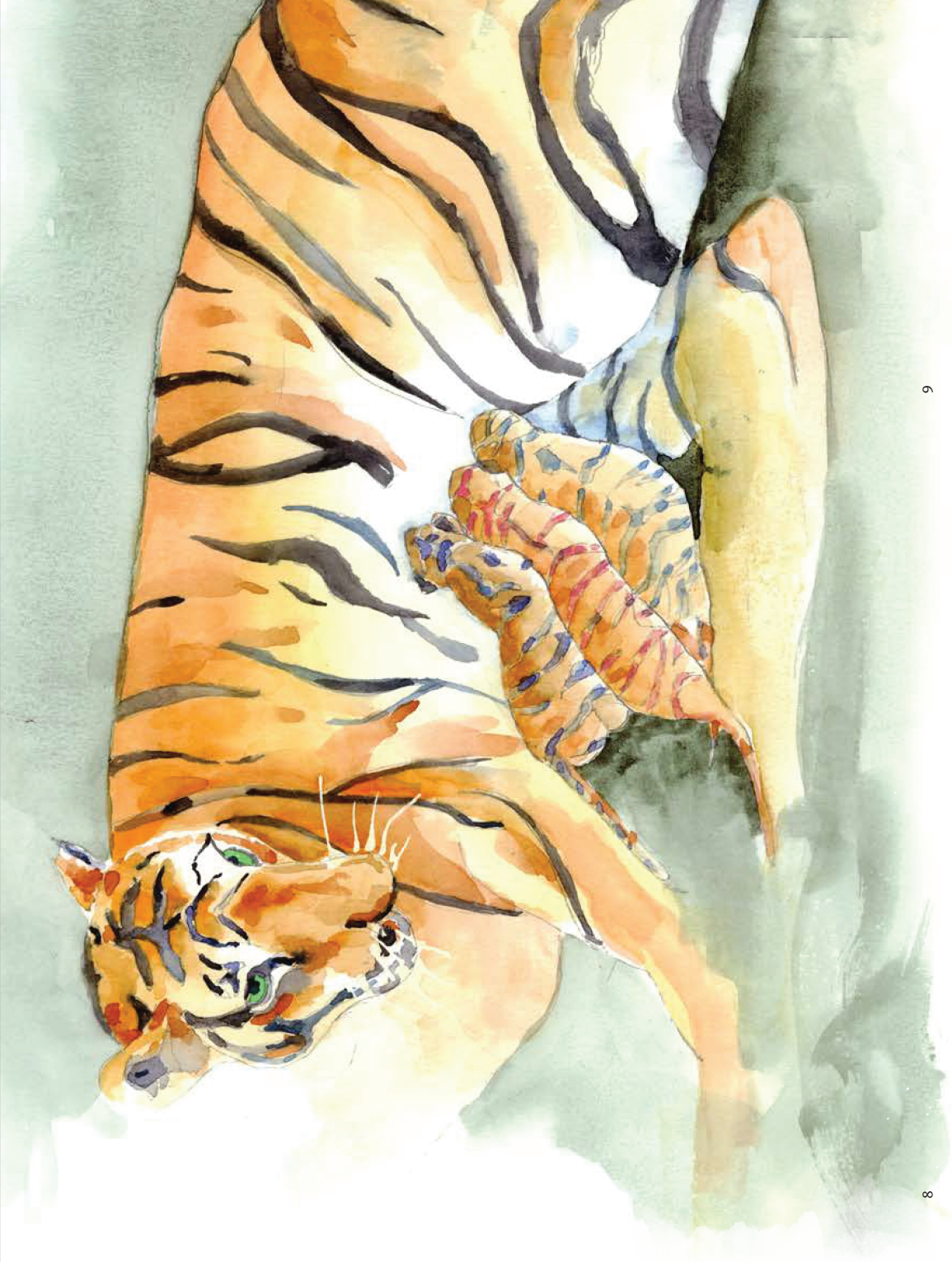


Dia L. Michels
Publisher, Platypus Media



P.S. Our supplemental learning materials enable adults to support young readers in their quest for knowledge. Check them out, free of charge, at PlatypusMedia.com.

Tigers nurse
for all they need,
nosing mama
while they feed.





Monkey nurses on a limb,
mother's arms protecting him.

Seal pup nurses on the beach,
mama stays within her reach.



Kittens nurse and gently purr;
nestled in their mama's fur.



18



Deer fawn nurses, unafraid,
mother's watchful in the glade.

19

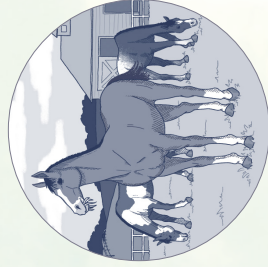
Dolphin nurses
in the sea,
guarded by
her family.



Baby nurses
heart-to-heart,
mother's gift,
a natural art.

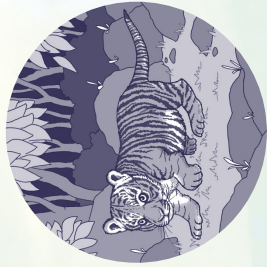


Did You Know?



HORSE BABIES: FOALS

- Horses are *follow mammals*, meaning the young walk soon after birth and follow mom wherever she goes, feeding when they can.
- Foals nurse for three to four months before switching to solid food. Adult horses eat about 16 pounds of hay each day.
- Horses use their mouths only for eating. They breathe through their nostrils, not their mouth. Horses can't vomit or burp.
- Horses gallop at about 27 miles per hour (44 kph). When galloping, all four legs come off the ground at the same time.



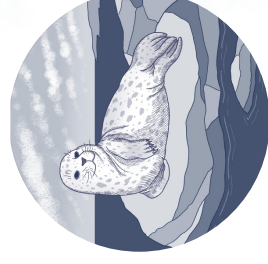
TIGER BABIES: CUBS

- Tiger moms usually have three to four cubs in a litter. Cubs drink only mother's milk for their first six to eight weeks and then begin to eat solid food. After six months they learn how to hunt by following mom.
- Tigers are the largest members of the cat family. Unlike their smaller cousins, tigers cannot purr. Instead, big cats roar. No cat can do both.
- All tigers have a unique stripe pattern that helps others identify them. These stripes aren't just on their fur—their skin is striped, too.
- Tigers are excellent climbers, but their long, curved claws can't support their weight on their way down, forcing them to crawl backwards or jump.



MONKEY BABIES: INFANTS

- There are over 250 species of monkeys. They live on every continent except Australia and Antarctica. Different species vary in size, diet, and habits.
- The smallest monkey is the pygmy marmoset, which is only 5 inches (12 cm), about the size of a can of soda. The largest is the mandrill, which can grow to over 3 feet (1 meter).
- Monkeys are very social. They hold hands and groom one another, which helps build relationships and reinforce social structures in their community, or "troop."
- "New World" monkeys, who live mostly in trees, have *prehensile* tails which they can use to hold and grasp objects like a third hand.



SEAL BABIES: PUPS

- Seals are semi-aquatic marine mammals, meaning they spend most of their life in water, coming ashore to mate, give birth, breastfeed, molt, and escape predators.
- Pups wean abruptly when their mother returns to the water, leaving them on land to fend for themselves.
- Seals can hold their breath longer than any other mammal. They can even sleep underwater. They do this by resting half their brain at a time.
- The Caspian seal is the smallest species, about the size of an adult human—110 to 190 pounds (86 kg). The Elephant seal, the world's largest, can weigh up to 8,800 pounds (3,991 kg).



ZEBRA BABIES: FOALS

- Zebras live in herds for companionship and protection, but a mare will separate from the herd so she can be alone to give birth to her foal.
- Zebras are born with their unique stripe pattern, but at birth their stripes are brown instead of black.
- Within the first hour of life, zebra foals are able to stand up, walk, and even run.
- Foals recognize their mother by her distinctive scent, call, and the striped pattern on her rump and tail.



DOG BABIES: WHELPS/PUPPIES

- Dogs generally begin labor before dawn, but can take up to 20 hours to birth the entire litter. As labor continues, the firstborns begin to nurse.
- An average litter consists of five to six whelps, though this number varies widely by breed. Weaning occurs naturally around seven weeks of age.
- Humans rely primarily on their vision, but dogs rely on their sense of smell—and wet noses are better at smelling than dry ones.
- Humans keep dogs for companionship, but many dogs also work. Dogs herd farm animals, assist police, help the blind, and more.

Celebrate the most natural thing in the natural world



Babies—whether pandas, puppies, or people—nurse. This bond is precious; this process, a natural art. Luminous illustrations and lyrical text will inspire conversations about caretaking in the natural world.

"Babies Nurse provides a robust springboard into conversations about parenting, biology, habitats, survival, and the world at large. This very special book delights and enthralls young readers who respond with intense curiosity, fascination, and empathy."

—Dan Levy, Program Director, Tillywig Toy & Media Awards

"This beautiful book is a perfect gift for every new baby."

—Alejandrina Vostrejs, certified Birthing from Within mentor and doula



Platypus
media

Resources for Families, Teachers
and Parenting Professionals

A portion of all sales of this book will be
donated to La Leche League International

PlatypusMedia.com
1-877-752-8977



Ages 4-7 • \$9.95
Teacher's Guide available
ISBN 13: 978-1-930775-71-8
ISBN 10: 1-930775-71-7

ISBN 978-1-930775-71-8 50995

