

Five Little Piggies

David Martin

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The well-known fingerplay about the five little piggies going to market is given new life in David Martin's picture book. The first little piggie goes to market with a list of things to buy. After some fun with mixed-up words, he gets back home with just the right items. We found out why the second little piggie stayed home and exactly what sort of roast beef the third piggie prefers. The storyline continues with the fourth and fifth piggie's adventures ending with the last little piggie getting to the bathroom just in time after crying "wee, wee, wee" all the way home.

The line drawing and Meddaugh's soft-wash illustrations are comical and full of details to entertain and interest young children. The text is presented in a variety of formats, which sometimes gives it a cartoon quality that works well with the story without being too distracting for preschool children.

This book could be enjoyed as an at-home read for little ones already familiar with fingerplay. Public libraries could include it in story hours for small groups of children where all could see the humorous illustrations.

DAWN FARLEY (July / August 1998)

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