



# 5 Little Ducks

*Denise Fleming*

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## 5 Little Ducks Denise Fleming

Make way for another perfect preschool picture book by Caldecott Honor recipient Denise Fleming!

Featuring a flock of oh-so-adorable fuzzy ducklings, this delightfully fresh take on the classic Five Little Ducks nursery rhyme emphasizes numbers and the days of the week—and these lucky ducklings are doted on by a loving Papa Duck as well as the traditional Mama. Young readers won't be able to resist counting—and quacking—along!

## 5 Little Ducks Details

Date : Published November 8th 2016 by Beach Lane Books

ISBN : 9781481424226

Author : Denise Fleming

Format : Hardcover 40 pages

Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Animals, Storytime, Number, Counting

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# From Reader Review 5 Little Ducks for online ebook

## Roben says

Poor Papa Duck! Day by day, one of his five little ducklings disappears. Fortunately, the arrival of Saturday sets things right. There are several new twists to the tradition counting rhyme in this lovely version by Denise Fleming. Days of the week are included. And Mama Duck waddles in at the end to offer a wise suggestion. We used this for our Toddler Time Letter Q storytime. This one is not as easy to sing as the original (we did not attempt it) but it was a pleasant change and everyone seemed to enjoy it.

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## Taylor Hartman says

Copyright: 2016

Number of pages: 32

Book format: print

Reading level: Pre-K, 1-2; GR level K

Genre: fiction

Lit requirement: counting book 1

5 Little Ducks is a story written by Denise Fleming that follows the days of five little ducklings. Each day, they leave home, and when they return, there is always one missing. Where do they go? Do they come back? What do the parents think? You'll have to read to find out.

I gave this story three stars because there was not much of a detailed story. However, it was cute, and it also featured different characters who are described on a double-spread at the end of the story.

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## Jesse says

I've always enjoyed singing this song to Berry. I liked that this version added in the days of the week and both duck parents. Also, the illustrations were wonderful!

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## Mama Bibliosoph says

I've had great success with "The Wheels on the Bus," "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star," "Old MacDonald Had a Farm," and other nursery songs generalizing to books, so when I came across a recent publication of "5 Little Ducks" that was slightly rewritten to include the days of the week, I was intrigued.

The artist uses a pulp painting technique, and the result is quite pretty and unusual, but a little messy to the eye. I feel pretty confident that if my son Luke wasn't so reinforced by his love for the song, that he wouldn't look at the book. It's clear to me by how he scans, that he has a tough time finding the ducklings. And when Papa Duck calls Quack, quack, quack! (It's Papa Duck, not Mama, in Fleming's version), those pages show the total number of ducks that went out that day, but with one duckling facing the other direction. "That duck

is leaving!" I tell him, but for Luke this is confusing because the text gives a number that doesn't match the number of ducklings in the image.

Despite this unfortunate illustration decision, I highly recommend this book for any kid who enjoys the song. Fleming did a good job altering the lyrics to include the days of the week, and books where you can sing with your children often make the most effective read alouds when attention is an issue.

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### **Kenneth says**

Want to learn the days of the week? Countdown from 5? Or just enjoy the illustrations, this is the book. A book that will help your little ones understand the days of the week.

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### **The Library Lady says**

Please be aware that Denise Fleming is right up there with Lois Ehlert in my pantheon of Authors/Illustrators So Good That the Hipster Asshats on the Caldecott Committee Will Never Recognize Them. I love her stuff.

So I hate to say that this doesn't work as well as it should. Another reviewer says that "this is better than the original rhyme," and I certainly like the use of the days of the week, the inclusion of Papa and Mama Duck, and, of course, the incredible artwork.

But that reviewer probably didn't try to sing this book. Even spoken, its meter isn't as smooth as it should be, and singing it will be harder. And this is a kid's song. A great, classic kids song.

So while I like it, and am glad to have it, I probably WON'T use it at story hour. Luckily there are a lot of other Denise Fleming books I can use, such as *In the Tall, Tall Grass*, *In the Small, Small Pond*, *Barnyard Banter*, and *Lunch*

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### **Miss Pippi the Librarian says**

A new take on the classic song! The ducklings so wandering and Papa duck tries to call them back. They come back in the end and when they want to go explore, Mama duck says that today is a day of rest. It was fun to quack all together during storytime for Papa duck.

Reviewed from a library copy.

2017 storytime theme: Days of the Week

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### **Elaine says**

This is an improvement to the original rhyme/song!

At story time, children enjoyed identifying the other animals throughout the story and presenting their sounds.

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### **Cara Byrne says**

Sweet illustrations and a nice take on a classic rhyme.

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### **Emily says**

I hate, hate, hate to give a Denise Fleming book a so-so/bad review, but that is what this book is getting. Maybe it's me, but the rhythm of the book is awkward and odd, and I just can't imagine using it in a storytime.

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### **Elizabeth Moreau Nicolai says**

Super cute days of the week take on the classic rhyme. The words were slightly different than I knew, so I modified a couple of them to sing it "one little duck came running back" versus "only one little duck came back", but the other changes we kept and had fun singing a new version. Great hit at storytime for both toddlers and babies.

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### **Agn? says**

[I am a little bit disturbed by the fact that some of t

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### **KC says**

Countdown, rhymes, and ducks

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### **Cindy Mitchell \*Kiss the Book\* says**

Fleming, Denise. Five Little Ducks, PICTURE BOOK. Beach Lane Books, 2016. \$17.99.

This is the familiar story of the curious ducks who go out on their own to explore the world. When Papa duck calls them all back, but they all want to go back out again on Sunday, Mama duck “knows best” and keeps them all home to rest.

While I was enjoying the use of a papa duck in this version, it just flips it around at the end and makes into one more “dad is a moron” book by stating that mom knows best and keeps the ducks home. I’m not taking

this too seriously, I was just disappointed. The pictures are made with a pulp painting technique which made me feel concerned that they would not be very engaging, but the illustrator does a good job of creating variety in the places the ducklings visit.

PRE-K, EL (K-3)- OPTIONAL. Reviewed by Shay, School Librarian

<http://kissthebook.blogspot.com/2017/...>

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## **Mary says**

Since I'm not a children's librarian, my take on the book was that the illustrations were lovely, but story didn't capture my imagination. However, since I have had my opinions about some books change dramatically after someone smarter than me led the way, I found a review by DS of the Center for Children's Books that made the book so much more meaningful that I thought I should share it. It raised my level of appreciation tremendously.

"In what might be called a decumulative story, a set of sibling ducklings goes out each day and returns with one fewer duck every time. That's a slightly ominous tale for the perky rhyming text, but the art reveals the playful reason behind it: each day one duckling falls in with another species of animal, so one tries out being a flying squirrel, another a wild turkey, and so on, with the last little duckling ending up in a wading pool with a little girl; the next day all the babies come back home. The book cleverly incorporates several concepts along the way—numbers from 1-5, days of the week, and animal ID—without pulling focus from the lively duck story. Fleming's inimitable fiber art retains its usual luxuriant tones in the full spreads; while the high saturation means that sometimes there isn't much contrast between ducklings and their surroundings, the resulting seek-and-find element is in keeping with the book's approach, since kids will be puzzling out what each duckling is up to anyway. Compositions are skillfully varied, and colorways range from the rosy pink and chocolate brown of the pig wallow to the lemony sunshine of a bright morning. Animal lovers will especially warm to this multipurpose storytime treat. DS (Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books January 2017)"

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