

# Cappelen Damm Agency *Spring 2019*



In this non-fiction book for young readers, Anna Fiske deals with a question all children are curious about: How do you make a baby?

Using playful, brightly coloured illustrations, Anna Fiske answers the question in the book's title with perfect precision, providing parents and children with a brilliant starting-point for further discussion.

How do you make a baby? is instructive, funny and warm, and is suitable for children aged 4 and up.

How do you make a  
baby?

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foreignrights@cappelendamm.no  
www.cappelendammagency.no

CAPPELEN DAMM AGENCY

**How do you make a baby?**  
Anna Fiske

**Anna Fiske**  
*b. 1964*



is an author, illustrator, and cartoonist. Fiske's playful and distinctive style, both literary and pictorial, has earned her numerous awards and honours for her works. Several of her books have been published with great success in many countries.

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**How do you make a baby?**  
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## [Overskrift for Synopsis]

### Full English translation by Rosie Hedger

You were a baby once upon a time.  
Everyone was a baby once upon a time.  
But how do you make a baby?

With toxic chemicals?  
With help from a bird?  
With butter, flour, sugar and eggs?  
With clay?  
With a hammer and nails?  
With sperm and an egg?

Making a baby begins with love.  
There are lots of different kinds of love.

I love ice cream!  
I love this jumper!  
I love speed!  
I love the great outdoors!  
We love each other!  
I love spending time with my friend! Me too!  
I love my teddy!  
I love my dog!  
We're a couple! We love each other!

Couples in love want to spend all their time together.

To experience things together.  
To eat together.  
To talk and get to know each other.  
To sit as close as close can be to each other.

Grown-ups in love want to be as close to each other as possible.

They cuddle and kiss and touch each other.

When they want to get even closer, they cuddle with no clothes on.

If they're a mummy and a daddy, the daddy inserts his penis into the mummy's vagina.

That brings them as close as it's possible to be.

Hello!

Come on in!

Cuddling with no clothes on, whether it happens between men and women or women and women or men and men, is called sexual intercourse. Sexual intercourse is something grown-ups do because they're a couple and they like the way it feels.

Sexual intercourse is also called making love or having sex.  
Which of these couples is having sexual intercourse?

Ohh!

Hmm!

La, la, la!

Mmm!

Mwah!

Ooh, lovely!

Ohhh!

Ha, ha!

To make a baby, you need:

Sperm and an egg.

Sperm is made inside a man's scrotum.

Egg cells are found inside a woman's ovaries.

When a mummy and a daddy have sexual intercourse and a penis is inside a vagina, sperm are released from the man's penis, and millions of them swim towards the egg released by the woman's ovary.

Together these can make a baby.

Sperm

Magnified

Egg

The egg is as little as the teeniest, tiniest dot, and the sperm cells are so tiny that it's impossible for us to see them.

Egg

Millions of sperm cells

When a sperm cell and an egg fuse together, the egg is fertilised and can grow into an embryo, a baby.

Some parents can't make babies by having sexual intercourse.

I don't have enough sperm  
Neither of us has any sperm  
My eggs can't be fertilised

When this happens, the egg and sperm can be made to fuse together. This happens in a test tube or with the help of a syringe.

An injection using a syringe can send the sperm towards the uterus, where they can meet the egg.  
Hooray! Hooray! Hooray!

When this is done with the help of a test tube, the egg is removed and fertilised by the sperm in a dish before being placed back inside the uterus.

Hello! Hi!

I want to spend every second with you, do you want to have a baby with me?  
Yes, imagine, we could be a family!

The most common method for making a baby is through having sexual intercourse.

Let's give it a go!  
I hope we're pregnant before too long!

The sperm are on their way towards the egg - swim for your life!

I'm the fastest swimmer!  
Let it be me!  
I'm in the lead!  
Hello, egg!  
You're lovely!  
I'm in the lead!  
Get out of my way!  
I'm in the lead!  
You're lovely!  
I'm in the lead!  
Here I come!  
I'm the fastest swimmer!  
Hello!  
I'm in the lead!  
Let me at it!  
I'm in the lead!  
Let it be me!  
I'm in the lead!

Welcome!

Only one can emerge victorious. Who do you think it's going to be?

There is no guarantee that it's going to happen – do you think the sperm will reach the egg?

Only a small number of sperm are able to complete the long swim up towards the egg.

Come on!

We don't have the strength to carry on!

Some people manage to make a baby straight away, but it rarely happens after the first attempt. Some grown-ups try for a very long time before they have a baby of their own.

This time, maybe?

I'm sure of it!

Let's try again!

Good idea!

It's bound to work this time!

I think this is the one!

Hooray! Hooray!

It worked! The egg has been fertilised.

It is a miracle that it happens at all. You are a miracle!

Once the sperm has made it inside the egg, the egg seals itself so no more sperm can come inside.

Hello, egg!

Hello, sperm! Time to close the door!

Even now, the sperm knows whether it will become a boy or a girl.

The sperm loses its tail, and together the egg and sperm form a cell, which divides...

Go!

I'm called an embryo!

And again!

and divides...

And again!

And again!

The embryo grows and grows.  
Just think, this will become a baby!

As the fertilised egg divides, it moves from the furthest end of the fallopian tube and down towards the uterus, where it attaches itself.

Fallopian tube  
Uterus  
Ovary  
Right about here feels nice and safe!

The embryo continues to grow inside the uterus.

After a few weeks, the cells have become a teeny, tiny body.  
This is how teeny weeny I am!  
Just think, we were all this tiny once upon a time! And we all looked just like this.  
After a few weeks, the cells have become a foetus.

Hooray!  
A placenta has also formed, as well has an umbilical cord - the foetus gets all the nourishment it needs through the umbilical cord.  
Tiny embryo  
Almost fully-formed foetus

Food enters the mummy's bloodstream, then the nutrients make their way to the foetus through the placenta and umbilical cord.

I'm eating for two!  
I'm here to help you!

I eat what you eat!  
Hamburgers  
Yummy!  
Sticky buns  
Mmm!  
Peas  
Parrp!  
Apple juice  
Gurgle, gurgle!  
Popcorn  
More, more, more!  
Carrots  
Crunch, crunch!

The embryo and the foetus are surrounded by a liquid called amniotic fluid.

Blub, blub!

We're both all wet! Me in my bath and you in your amniotic fluid!

The foetus doesn't need to breathe like we do - it gets all the oxygen it needs from its mummy's blood through the umbilical cord, just like we get the oxygen we need from the air around us.

It's so nice to grow in here in peace and quiet!

The foetus swallows amniotic fluid and wees it out again  
The amniotic fluid is refreshed over and over again.

At the beginning of the pregnancy, the mummy might feel very tired and sick.

Yawn!

Her body is preparing itself to look after the foetus.

I'm doing just fine, Mummy!

The mummy might not be able to eat very much if she's feeling sick, but the foetus still gets everything it needs.

For every minute and day and month that goes by, the foetus grows bigger and bigger inside the uterus, which is inside the mummy's tummy.

Month one

You can't tell that I am pregnant.

Month two

I'm a bit tired!

Month three

You still can't tell that I am pregnant.

Month four

I can see my tummy starting to grow.

Month five

I'm so proud of my round tummy!

My heart is starting to beat

I am starting to grow ears, what a good thing to have!

I have eyes, a nose, a mouth, arms, and legs - cool!

I am practising breathing by swallowing amniotic fluid!

I'm having a nap!

The mummy's tummy grows bigger and bigger to make room for the foetus.

Month six

Hee-hee, the baby is kicking inside me!



Month seven

I wonder what the baby looks like!

Month eight

We can't wait to meet you, baby!

Month nine

Ugh, you're getting heavy now!

I like to wriggle around!

It's cosy in here!

If you put your ear next to mummy's tummy, you might be able to hear my heart beating!

I'm ready!

Pregnant mummies all look very different.

My tummy is big, but not all that big.

Not pregnant

Pregnant

I'm so proud of my pregnant tummy.

I feel proud of my entire body.

I'm not pregnant, just fat and happy!

My tummy is so big that I can balance my glass on it.

The parents fix things up and sort them out, ready for the new baby to arrive.

One hundred dummies should do the trick!

Yes, that sounds about right!

Just think, this is where the baby will sleep!

They wait and wait and wait!

They imagine what life will be like and what their baby will look like.

By the end of the pregnancy, the mummy's tummy is a very big.

Thanks for helping me up the hill!

I'm going to need more soap!

Sorry that I'm taking up half of your seat! That's okay!

An extra table – that's handy!

Where have my legs gone?

Time passes very slowly when you are waiting for the baby to arrive.

After approximately nine months, the baby is ready to come out.

It's not always easy to know when it's the right time to go to the hospital. The parents call the hospital to ask for advice.

How will the parents get to the hospital?

By air?

On horseback?

On skis?

On the bus?

By bicycle?

By car?

At the hospital, they know everything there is to know about how babies are born.

The mummy feels lots of contractions as the uterus opens up to let the baby out through her vagina.

The baby comes out through the vagina.

Giving birth is hard work. Mummies are made of tough stuff - they have a lot of strength!

You're doing a great job, darling!

You're amazing!

Every delivery is different - some babies are in a hurry to come out whilst others take a very long time.

Grrr!

Pause

Eee!

Yes!

Grrr!

Not long until you're here with us!

It won't be long before they meet their baby.

The baby is coming!

You're doing brilliantly! Just one more push!

Sometimes the baby can't or won't come out through the vagina. When this happens, the baby is born by caesarean section.

The baby is removed from the uterus through an opening in the tummy.

The umbilical cord, which has provided the baby with all of its nourishment and which is attached to the placenta inside the mummy's tummy, is cut.

The mummy also gives birth to the placenta.

The placenta looks a little bit like a tree, with the umbilical cord as its trunk. Some people call the placenta the tree of life.

Wow!

Look at this, 20cm wide and weighing 500 grams, fantastic!

The parents and everyone at the hospital are the first to see the baby. The parents are filled with love and affection for their little bundle of joy, who they can't wait to look after and watch grow up.

Congratulations!

You lovely little thing!

There you are!

Now they are a family.

Or an even bigger family.

Children who are adopted are born to another mummy and daddy who can't look after them.

Parents who adopt have waited and waited for a very, very long time to meet their precious child.

Our baby!

Lots and lots of babies are born all over the world every day.

A new baby in the world is one of the most fantastic, beautiful things there is.

Every child is different. There is only one child like you.

It's a miracle that we're made and born and live to do the things we do, and a fantastic miracle that you are who you are.