

Practise Your Phonics With  
**Julia Donaldson's  
Songbirds**

Sue Kangaroo .....	3
The Cinderella Play .....	29
Usman's Books .....	55
The Upside-down Browns .....	81
Leroy .....	107
No Milk Today .....	133

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# Tips for reading Sue Kangaroo together

This book practises these letter patterns:

oo ew ue o (all pronounced *ue* as in *blue*)

Split vowels: a-e i-e o-e u-e

Ask your child to point to these letter patterns and say the sounds (e.g. oo as in *kangaroo*). Look out for these letter patterns in the story.

Your child might find these words tricky:

can't dinner her here out Mrs says some  
teacher the there tomorrow what your

These words are common, but your child may not have learned how to sound them out yet. Say the words for your child if they do not know them.

Before you begin, ask your child to read the title. Remind your child to read words they do not recognise by sounding out and blending. Look at the picture together. What do you think this story is about?

- Ask your child, *Did Sue like school? How do you know?* (Yes, because she says 'Hooray' when she finds out that there is school tomorrow too.)
- On pages 20 and 21 find some words which rhyme (*Sue, glue, too*). Point to the letter pattern that makes the long *ue* sound in the words (*ue, oo*). On page 22 find more words which contain a long *ue* sound (*school, rules, Drew*). Point to the letter pattern that makes the long *ue* sound in each word (*oo, u-consonant-e, ew*).

This is school



and this is Sue



and this is  
Mummy Kangaroo.

The teacher's name is Mrs Drew.



She says hello to Mum and Sue.

