

# Summer Sun Risin'

## A RIF GUIDE FOR FAMILIES

**Themes:** Animals, Family, Farm Life, Responsibility

**Book Brief:** Set on a Texas farm in the 1950s, this loving tribute to childhood, farm life, and family togetherness will resonate with readers of all backgrounds today.

**Author:**  
William Nikola

**Illustrator:**  
Don Tate



## TIME TO READ!



**Before:** Read the title of the story and look at the cover. Ask your child what they think will happen in the story.

**During:** As you read, ask, “What is the boy doing on this page?”

**After, ask questions:**

- What did the boy do during the summer?
- Where does the boy live? How do you know?
- What do you think the boy will do tomorrow?

## INTENTIONAL TALK

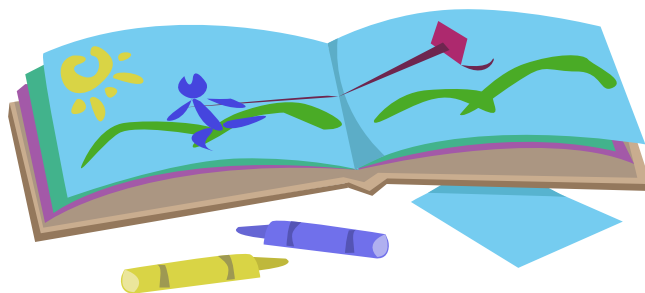
**Language Awareness** means “talking like a book.” When children hear stories read aloud many times they often remember patterned language, both the words that are said and the tone and rhythm with which they are read. Children will often repeat favorite phrases or pages from memory. This is

much more than memorization, it is a way for children to internalize the way stories should sound when they are read. This book contains rhyming words. As you reread the book, encourage your child to point out or repeat some of the rhyming words in the story.

## RELATED ACTIVITIES

### Summer Sun Poem

*Summer Sun Risin'* is written in poetic verse to celebrate the simplicity of a day on the farm, with illustrations that bring farm life to life and follow the sun's path. With your child, talk about the activities that you do on a summer day together. Create your own book or poem about your summer day. Try to make it rhyme! Listen to the ending sounds of words and think of others that share the same sound.



## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



### OTHER BOOKS ABOUT FARMING

- **Construction Site: Farming Strong, All Year Long (2022)**
- **Right This Very Minute (2019)**
- **Before We Eat (2014)**