

# HUSH! A Thai Lullaby

## A RIF GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS

**Themes:** Poetry, Thailand, Bedtime Stories, Family Relationships

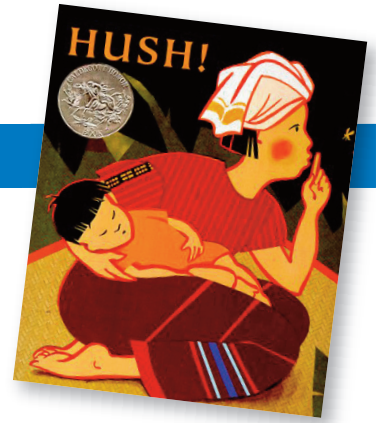
**Grade Level:** K to 2nd grade

**Book Brief:** A mother tries to help her baby sleep on a noisy night in Thailand.

**Author:**  
Minfong Ho

**Illustrator:**  
Holly Meade

**Content Connections:**  
Social Studies, Art



## TIME TO READ!

### BEFORE WE READ, LET'S LOOK AT...

**The Cover:** The title is “Hush!” What is the mother doing on the cover? Why is she doing it? What does it mean? At whom is she looking?

**The Pictures:** The illustrations in this text give the reader an insight into the cultural landscape of Thailand. What do you notice about the environment? What are the clothes like? The buildings? Identify the animals that live near the family.



**Prior Knowledge:** Build schema by locating Thailand on a map or globe. Tell students that Thailand is in a tropical area that can get a lot of rain. How do you think this affects the house they see in the pictures? Was it built for tropical weather?

**Vocabulary:** weeping, rice barn, sty, glossy, loose-limbed, shrieking, dozes

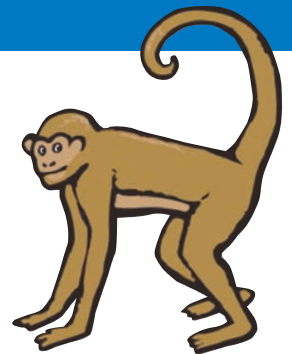
**Purpose for Reading:** Focus on summarizing and sequencing. “As we read today, think about the animals in the story. How is each one making noise? In what order does the mother ‘hush’ them?”

## WHILE WE READ

### MONITORING COMPREHENSION

- ◆ Why does the mother want the animals to be quiet?
- ◆ What do you think is waking up the baby?
- ◆ Which words on this page rhyme/sound alike?
- ◆ What is the baby doing?

- ◆ What animal do you think will make noise next?
- ◆ Why is the mother so tired?
- ◆ Why do you think these animals are making so much noise?



## LET'S THINK ABOUT

**Our Purpose:** Revisit the purpose: “What was each animal in the story doing? Which one showed up first? Which one showed up last?”

**Extending Our Thinking:** Ask these open-ended questions: “Why did the mother want the animals to be quiet?” “Would you be able to sleep with those animals around?” “Why do you think the baby woke up?” “Do you think it’s hard to take care of a little baby?”

### NOTE TO EDUCATORS

- ◆ Extension Activities for Educators also available.
- ◆ Vocabulary Scaffolding Sheet also available.



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