Nana's Literary Corner #4

Grab a few good books, snuggle up with your little one and enjoy!

1. **I Howl and I Growl** Written by Marcia Vaughan and skillfully illustrated by Polly Powell, This board book is great fun to read, especially with 2-3 year olds. Each page set has a drawing of two different animals along with corresponding activities that rhyme. The wolf “howls”, the mountain lion “growls”: the turtle “creeps” while the kangaroo rat “leaps”....

2. **When the Wind Stops** Written by Charlotte Zolotow with pictures by Stefano Vitale.” Where does the wind go when it stops? Where does the sun go at the end of the day? Where do the waves go when they break upon the sand?” a little boy asks these questions of his mother; she tells him that nothing ever ends, it simply begins in another place or in another way. “Zolotow’s lyrical prose and Vitale’s rich illustrations make this a beautiful celebration of the cycle of life.”

3. **Baby Talk: A Book of First Words and Phrases** Written by Judy Hindley, illustrated by Brita Granstrom. Ryder loved for me to read this rhyming book beginning when he was 18 months old...at 4 yr. he still visits it from time to time on his own. “Baby in the mirror-look- with a funny hat. Baby with a bubble beard, baby going...SPLASH! After a few readings, your little one can start supplying the final word in the rhyme.

4. **The Elves Big Adventure** Written and Illustrated by Daniela Drescher (Floris Books). This exquisitely illustrated story of two little elves that save Princess Viola’s kingdom by discovering the secret of the night violets is probably best saved for children 3 yr. and older. It reads like a fairy tale.

5. **Mommy, Buy Me a China Doll** Adapted from an Ozark Children’s song by Harve Zemach, illustrated by Margot Zemach. “Mommy, buy me a china doll, Do, Mommy, do! What would we buy it with, Eliza Lou?” Thus begins a delightful build on conversation between Eliza Lou and her
mother. Each page adds one more funny solution to the dilemma set in motion when Eliza suggests they sell her father's featherbed to pay for the doll. These kinds of poems are very good for building up memory capacities in young children. (Similar to the poem about "The House that Jack Built")