



## Synopsis

### *Your Mother Didn't Do That!*

By Sharon Holt  
 Illus. by Brian Lovelock  
 ISBN: 9781921150173  
 ARRP: \$27.95  
 NZRRP: \$29.99  
 No. of Pages: 32  
 September 2009

### Learning Areas:

Reading  
 Writing  
 Listening  
 Speaking  
 English  
 HSIE/SOSE  
 Maths

### Themes:

Picture Book  
 Animals  
 Counting  
 Family  
 Habitats  
 Environment  
 Bedtime

### Age Range:

Kindergarten  
 Preschool  
 Early Primary

\*New Zealand  
 author & illustrator

Holly's dad decides to tell her a bedtime story about the night she was born, so Holly asks if she hatched out of an egg like a chicken. Dad tells her if she were a new chick, her mum would have fluffed up her feathers and sat on her to keep her warm – but 'Your mother didn't do that'. They go through all the animals they can think of until Holly's dad finally tells her what her mother did do when she was born!

A warm and comforting story that celebrates parental relationships and the animal kingdom.

## Author/Illustrator Focus

**Sharon Holt** grew up in Auckland, New Zealand and always dreamed of being a writer. Sharon has worked as a teacher, a journalist, and now works as a full time children's author.

**Brian Lovelock** is a fine artist who has only recently ventured into the world of book illustration with his first book, *Roadworks*, published by Walker Books in 2008. *Roadworks* won the Best Picture Book Category in the 2009 New Zealand Post Book Awards for Children and Young Adults.

## Activity Ideas

### Counting

- Use *Your Mother Didn't Do That!* to practise counting and engage children with the story. Ask students to count how many animals are on each page.

How many baby animals are there?

How many adult animals are there?

### Animals

- Ask students to identify the different types of animals in this story. What are their young called? Use a similar chart, as below, to help children learn the different names of animals and their young.

Parent	Young
Cat	
Chicken	
Kangaroo	
Owl	
Shark	
Seahorse	

- Ask students to discuss one of the animals in the book. What characteristics do they have? Use the following questions to prompt the discussion:

What colour is the animal?

Where does this animal live?

Does the animal have fur, feathers or scales?

How big is this animal? Is it bigger or smaller than them?

- Use the following comprehension questions to help children engage with the text and the information that is presented:

What does a chick hatch out of?

How does a mother cat clean a kitten?

Where does a mother kangaroo keep her baby?

What does a mother owl feed her young?

What does a mother shark do if she has too many babies?

Who looks after a baby seahorse?

### Family

- Ask children to find similarities and differences between their family and Holly's family. Are all families the same? Have a discussion about different types of families.
- The father is telling Holly a bedtime story. Ask students what their favourite bedtime story is. Make a class list of favourite bedtime stories.
- Ask students to discuss what their parents do for them and how they have been looked after.

What was done for them when they were a baby?

What do they do for themselves now?

# *Your Mother Didn't Do That*

