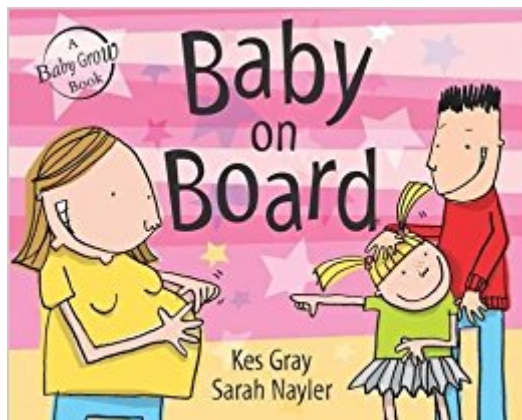


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# Baby On Board



## Synopsis

Funny, colourful and clever story tracing the 9 months during which a family await the birth of a new baby. Written from the eyes of a small child, we are given hilariously funny descriptions of the development of the baby in Mum's tummy and accounts of family life as the baby's birth draws near. In the style of the Simpsons, it is a uniquely fresh and entertaining title.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Hodder & Stoughton (October 2003)

Language: English

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Product Dimensions: 9.2 x 11.6 x 0.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces

Average Customer Review: 2.9 out of 5 stars 4 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #15,401,726 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #86 in [Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Social & Family Issues > Family > New Baby](#)

## Customer Reviews

PreSchool-Grade 2—Using the same irreverent tone that made *Eat Your Peas* (DK, 2000; o.p.) so much fun, Gray brings to life another familiar topic: the impending arrival of a new baby. The cheeky, freckle-faced narrator eagerly shares the progress of her mother's pregnancy with talk of bras, panties, and "boob cream." Much of the humor is directed toward adults: "Dad says Mom should practice her breathing. Mom says Dad should practice sleeping on the sofa." Increasingly wider, conveniently numbered pages act as tabs for spreads that cover each of the nine months. At three months, "he" is making Mom sick and Dad suggests they name him John. The next month he starts wriggling and Dad wants to call him Elvis. At five months, "He's about the size of an action figure but nowhere near as muscular." At nine months, he's still upside down, but he "looks like a real person, and he's ready for launch." Fortunately, Dad has packed the hospital bag with necessities such as his "sports magazine, and his Game Boy." The family is pleasantly surprised when the infant turns out to be a girl. The wacky, digitally colored cartoon characters match the mood of the text. Although this unusual title will not appeal to everyone, the attractive format and quirky humor make it an appropriate choice for larger collections.

—Piper L. Nyman,  
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PreS-Gr. 2. Zany comparisons, wordplay, and kooky illustrations make this a delightful choice for kids about to experience a home invasion by an infant. A girl of about eight narrates, giving "news flashes" about what's happening to her mother--from her parents' big announcement to her first sighting of the newborn baby. The course of the pregnancy is underscored by cleverly trimmed pages, which gradually enlarge as the story progresses. The girl's reports are full of humor--from Mom's cravings, increasing crankiness, and "buying bigger bras," to comments on the size of the baby ("teeny weeny blob" at one month; "half a piece of chewing gum," the next). Nayler's digitally colored artwork is a hoot: as in young children's art, her pictures depict humans with cheerfully skewed facial features and stick arms and legs. Fact- and fun-filled. Connie FletcherCopyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I wasn't impressed with this book at all. Illustrations were poor and so was the story line. It didn't really give my son a feel for what was going to happen. The only plus was it did show the mommy's tummy growing and growing and eventually there was a baby. But it didn't really touch on how the other child felt or how anyone felt really.

So sure some of the language in the book might be questionable, but really it tries to go about it from a kids perspective. Kids will notice mommy buying bigger bras, and panties and shirts and pants while pregnant. They will also notice that you go and pee every five minutes when you are at the mall, so i do not blame the book for commenting on it. I really enjoyed reading this to my daughter and I changed some words around if I did not want to say them, but my daughter thought the pictures were hilarious and she also liked to be able to have something to reference "her baby's" size to ( a piece of gum, an action figure, biff's dinner" We've have read it probably 100 times already and unlike the "accurate accounts" of what pregnancy is she has really been able to relate to this...

This book, while I'm sure it is considered charming by some, is not necessarily right for every family. It certainly wasn't right for mine.If you are trying to teach your children to use the correct names for parts of the body rather than slang terms--this is probably not the book for you. If you don't think that

it is appropriate for children to notice or comment on (let alone joke about) the size of their mother's undergarments--this is definitely not the book for you. I don't usually consider myself stodgy, but I thought the way Baby on Board handled the issues it discussed was totally over-the-top and inappropriate.

I wasn't sure what to think of this book, it's a little tongue-in-cheek, but my 3 year old ADORES it! She laughs at the pictures and the silly commentary. She has asked me to read it over and over. I think it is helping her come to grips with the arrival of her new baby sister, and to understand what is happening to me, her mommy. Cute pictures, fast read - we checked it out from the library and then had to go buy it!

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