



A Campaign of the  
Oakland Literacy Coalition

# Read Aloud Guide

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**Title:** *Hush! A Thai Lullaby*, by Minfong Ho, illustrated by Holly Meade

**Best for:** K-2nd grade

**Summary:** This book is a rhyming lullaby from a mother to a child as she tries to help him sleep on a noisy night in Thailand. As she tries to get her baby to sleep, she has to shush the noisy animals outside their house.

**Why we chose this book:** We loved that this book is about a universal experience that many kids have - going to sleep. This book presents bedtime from the mother's perspective. The reader gets to know a variety of animals and animal sounds throughout the book. The reader also gets to know more about rural and farm life in Thailand.

**Central themes:** Thailand, mother-child relationship, Asia, bedtime, animals

**Introducing the book:** You can begin by showing the cover, reading the title and author, and then saying something like this:

*"This book is about a little boy who lives on a farm in Thailand. Let's look at the cover. What is the mother doing on the cover?" (It looks like she is telling someone to be quiet, it looks like the boy is sleeping.)*

*"In this story, the little boy and his mother live on a farm with lots of animals. He is going to sleep at night, and his mother is trying to get all the animals to be quiet. Let's read and find out more about the different animals."*

**After Reading:** Debrief with students

*"Why did the mother want the animals to be quiet?"*

*"Would you be able to sleep with so many animals around?"*

*"What are things you do before you go to sleep?"*

