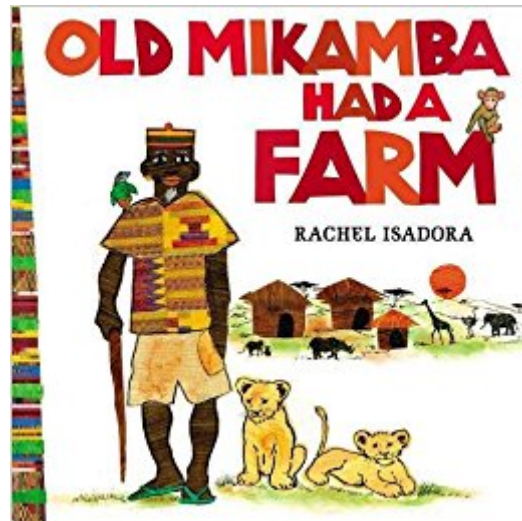




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# Old Mikamba Had A Farm



## Synopsis

This fabulous version of the classic nursery song “Old MacDonald” introduces children to a menagerie of African animals and their sounds. It is beautifully illustrated by Caldecott Honor winner Rachel Isadora, with her signature collage-style artwork. Old Mikamba had a farm, E-I-E-I-O. And on this farm he had . . . a giraffe, a baboon, and an elephant! Meet Old Mikamba, who watches over a wide variety of animals on his game farm in the plains of Africa. Children will discover a whole new set of fun animal sounds as they are invited to sing along and roar with the lions, bellow with the rhino, whinny with the zebras, honk with the wildebeests, and more! A wonderful introduction to African wildlife that is great fun to read aloud, this truly irresistible rendition of a beloved song includes a list of animal fun facts and gives children a huge variety of animal sounds to imitate as they pore over the detailed animals, landscapes and patterns in the stunning illustrations.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Nancy Paulsen Books (October 31, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0399257403

ISBN-13: 978-0399257407

Product Dimensions: 10.2 x 0.4 x 10.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 20 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #246,981 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #126 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Africa #602 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Stories In Verse #613 in Books > Children's Books > Early Learning > Poetry

Age Range: 3 - 5 years

Grade Level: Preschool - Kindergarten

## Customer Reviews

PreS-Gr 2 “Old Mikamba had a farm, E-I-E-I-O. But there are no cows or ducks here, because Old Mikamba lives in Africa on a game farm. Here, readers are introduced to a baboon, cheetah, zebra, and elephant as well as a dassie and a springbok. Meant to be shared aloud, the text provides a variety of fun sounds to re-create with a partner. The

“trill-trill” of the dassie and the “bleat-bleat” of the giraffe are sure to delight. Isadora’s stunning collage brings the colors and textures of the African plain to life.

Newsprint and printed paper provide rich textures and vivid color for both the animals and the fabric of Mikamba’s clothing. The animals are parent/child pairs and this augments the shared feel of the song. Concluding pages provide background on the featured species, including habitat, communication systems, and endangered status. Lovely to look at as well as pure joy to read aloud, this title will demand an encore again and again. Carol Connor, Cincinnati Public Schools, OH (c) Copyright 2013. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

A familiar childhood song gets an African twist in Isadora’s latest picture book. She takes readers on safari to the plains of Africa to meet elephants, cheetahs, and dassies (“E-I-E-I-O”). Old Mikamba’s farm is a game park, so while there is some interaction between the two small children in the book and the animals, most of them are presented against a backdrop wilder and freer than any space Old MacDonald could offer his domestic stock. Rhinos “BELLOW-BELLOW” through the grass; a springbok “AH-AH-AHs” across a sun-baked terrain; and an elephant “BARAAA-BARAAAs” with a baby following behind. While the animal sounds are fun and lend themselves perfectly to a storytime rendition, the artwork is a particular treat. Isadora incorporates oil, ink, pencil, and printed paper to create collages that give a distinct sense of place, set against plentiful white space that allows the animals to pop on each double-page spread. An extensive concluding note provides interesting facts about all of the animals included, as well as a mention of the role game farms and parks play in protecting Africa’s endangered species.   
Preschool-Grade 1. --Kara Dean

We had ordered 6 books from the library about Africa found in a NY Times Book Review. After reading all six, the 4-yr-old ranked them: buy, take out again from library, return to library. Old Mikamba had a Farm was the only one selected to buy. Wonderful illustrations, sing-along, and even passed the "unlikely animals to have on a farm" test delivered by this observant boy. Fun for the kid, fun for the adult.

This is a nice take on the old rhyme. Getting the animal sounds correct is pretty hard though!

Great read! If you have read old McDonald it is right there with it. A fun read if you have visited Africa and can sing along to your kids.

My 2 year old grandson is an animal lover, and our Old MacDonald has often included lions and elephants...so he was thrilled to have a story and a song that included them. As soon as we were done, he asked to go back through so he could read it to me. Love it.

Excellent book, second purchase. Excellent variation of the classic Old McDonald. Jungle animals as opposed to farm animals. Children will learn about other cultures and other types of animals.

My granddaughter loves this book. And, although is just almost 2, she picks it up and "tries to read it". She walks around singing eieio! its so cute!

My husband is from Africa, and we met there... so I love that these books put an African spin on traditional fairy tales. We have quite a collection for our son, and were excited to add this one to it!

I am liking this author more and more with each book I buy and read and share.

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