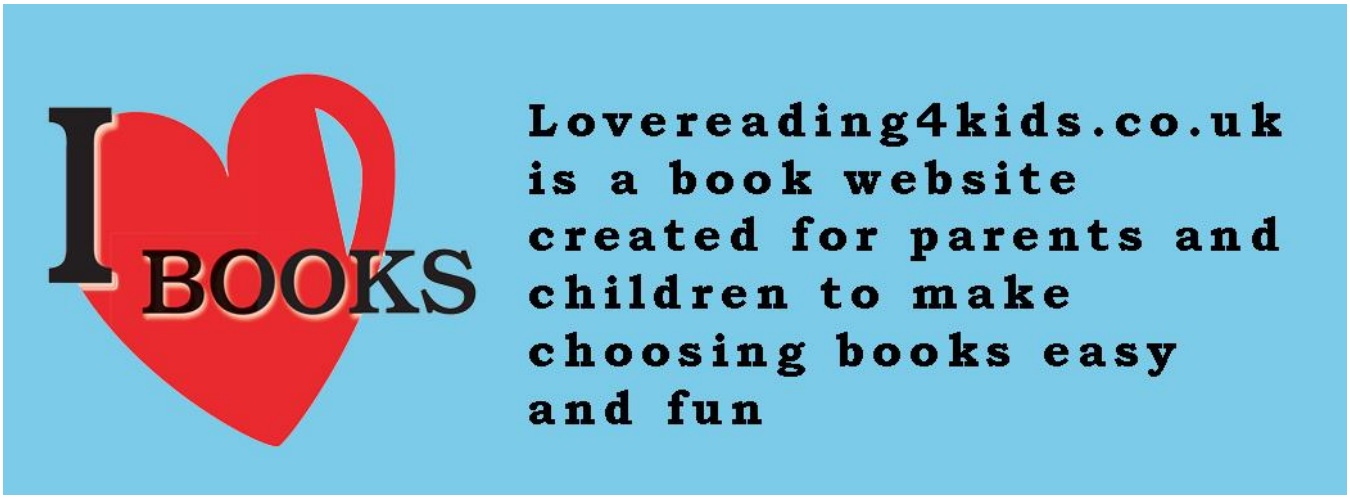


Opening extract from

A First Book of Animals

Written by

Nicola Davies

Illustrated by

Petr Horacek

Published by

Walker Books Ltd

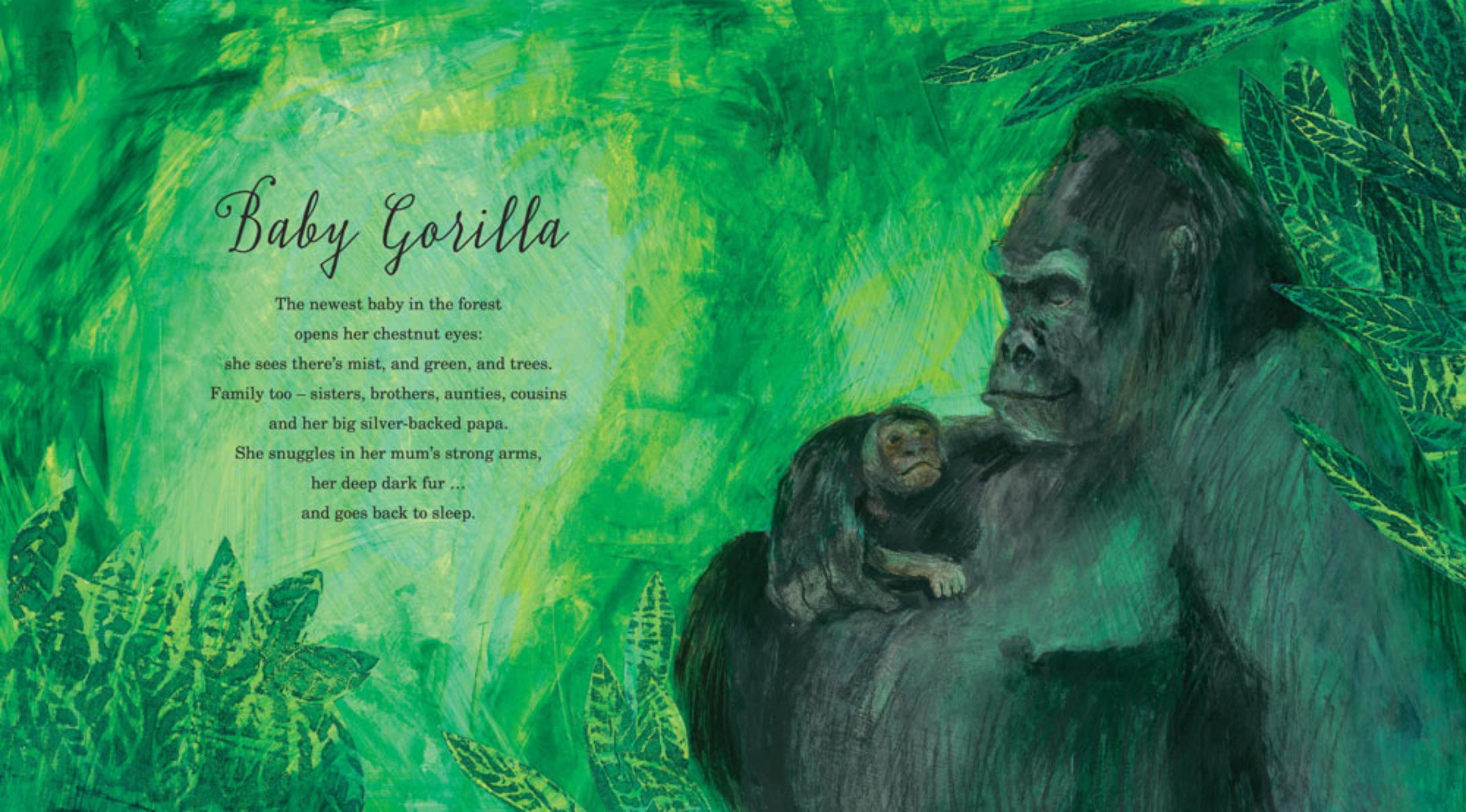
All Text is Copyright © of the Author and/or Illustrator

Please print off and read at your leisure.



Baby Gorilla

The newest baby in the forest
opens her chestnut eyes:
she sees there's mist, and green, and trees.
Family too – sisters, brothers, aunties, cousins
and her big silver-backed papa.
She snuggles in her mum's strong arms,
her deep dark fur …
and goes back to sleep.





Arctic Tern

White wings, as delicate as paper,
and a body lighter than a cupcake,
but this small bird flies from pole to pole
and back again each year.

If you add up all the journeys
the Arctic tern makes in its life,
they'd reach up to the moon
and back again, three times.