



Young MacDonald Goes to the Show - Anna Crosbie

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The Old MacDonald song is given a Kiwi twist. In this version, Young MacDonald visits the local A&P show with his wife and his farm dog. He hopes to win a trophy to add to his collection.

The young farmer is a cheerful 'give it a go' fellow. He takes part in the show events with good-natured enthusiasm. He shears sheep, chops wood, and he's in the tug-of-war team.

The bouncy rhyme matches the action:

With a chop-chop here! And a chop-chop there! Working fast, don't be last, Busy going chop-chop. Between events, Young MacDonald and his wife watch the pipe band, marching girls, and displays of farm machinery. Plus there's all the fun of the fair to explore.

Scott Tulloch's lively illustrations capture the showground scenes. He portrays the excitement and characters with wry humour. There's a lot to discover in the background activity. The antics of Young MacDonald's dog will keep readers turning the pages to see what he'll do next.

Kiwi families will enjoy this adaptation of the well-known rhyme. It could also make a fun classroom play.

Reviewed by children's book author, Jean Bennett.

