

# BOOKRAPT™

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## **One Funky Monkey by Stacey McCleary illustrated Sue deGennaro**

**Publisher: Walker Books**

**RRP \$16.99**

This energetic counting book features a cast of animals swinging and swaying in a toy shop. The bouncy rhyme is full of fun and movement.

Just before midnight, one funky monkey with an accordion starts moving and grooving. He's soon joined by:

Two happening hippos bouncing and bopping,  
jumping and jiggling, they started hip-hopping.

The action builds with each new group of performers taking the spotlight with vim and vigour. There are jungle jiving giraffes, moon walking meerkats, bopping buffalo, and many more dance divas. The grand finale involves all the toy animals:

Then singing and cheering and moving in time,  
they danced off the shelves in a long conga line.

The illustrations show the dancers spotlighted by the monkey holding a torch. There's pleasure in each turn of the page as another set of cheerful animals take their turn on the floor. The shadowy background and muted colours maintain the night-time magic of toys coming to life when humans are asleep.

The lively picture book was a notable book in the 2011 Children's Council of Australia's Book of the Year Awards. This latest edition is published in a sturdy boardbook format certain to give enjoyment to young children who love to dance.

**Reviewed by children's author Jean Bennett**

