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Hairy Maclary and Friends: Cuddle and Play **by Dame Lynley Dodd**

Publisher: Puffin / Penguin Random House NZ

RRP \$26.00

This crinkly cloth book comes packaged in an attractive box to make a perfect gift for a new baby. The cover shows the lovable Hairy Maclary with a large bone clamped between his teeth. Double spread pages introduce more characters from Lynley Dodd's well-known picture books. Of course, there's Hairy Maclary with his canine friends on their way to Donaldson's Dairy, the mischievous Slinky Malinky, and skittery-scatterry Zachary Quack.

The characters are accompanied by brief text in Lynley Dodd's descriptive rhymes.

*Slinky Malinky
was cheeky and cheerful,
friendly and fun,
he'd chase after leaves
and he'd roll in the sun.*

The high-quality, colourful illustrations are sure to capture baby's attention, plus the lightly-padded fabric pages are ideal for small hands to grasp and enjoy the soft feel and crackly sounds.

A delightful introduction to Dame Lynley Dodd's much-loved picture books.

Hairy Maclary's website:
www.hairymaclary.com

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

