



Fiona the Hippo  
By Richard Cowdry

Available on Hoopla (a Bonus Borrow--won't count towards your monthly max!) and Youtube (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t9f19VIAfRI&t=13s>)

For more facts about Fiona, check out the book "Saving Fiona" by Thane Maynard, also available on Hoopla, and also a Bonus Borrow.

#### Extension Activities

1. Many zoos have ways for you to watch their animals from home during this time--find one and take a look! The Cincinnati Zoo has a series of videos about Fiona on their Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/watch/cincinnati/689860164810534/>), the Detroit Zoo has live animal cams (<https://detroitzoo.org/virtual-vitamin-z/>), or search for "zoo live stream" to find many more!
2. Fiona enjoyed learning about bubbles for the first time, and blowing and popping bubbles is a great activity for kids too, not just hippos!

3. Fiona was very small when she was born, but grew pretty big by the end of the story. Look at baby pictures together, both of kids and of parents if you have them, and talk about growth and development. Have your kids compare the size they were when they were born with how big they are now. Maybe find a household item about the same weight as their birth weight, for example. Using scales and measuring tapes is a great math activity.
4. Fiona's motto was "I've got this!" Discuss the impact of attitude on learning new things or doing hard things. What are some ways you can practice a can-do attitude? How might you be able to encourage someone else to do something hard?

Have a family pool party! Get creative if you don't have a pool--run a sprinkler, put soapy water on a tarp to make a slip-n-slide, or use the bathtub! Get out beach towels, toys, snacks, music, or anything else that would add to the fun and make an event out of it. Don't forget the sunscreen