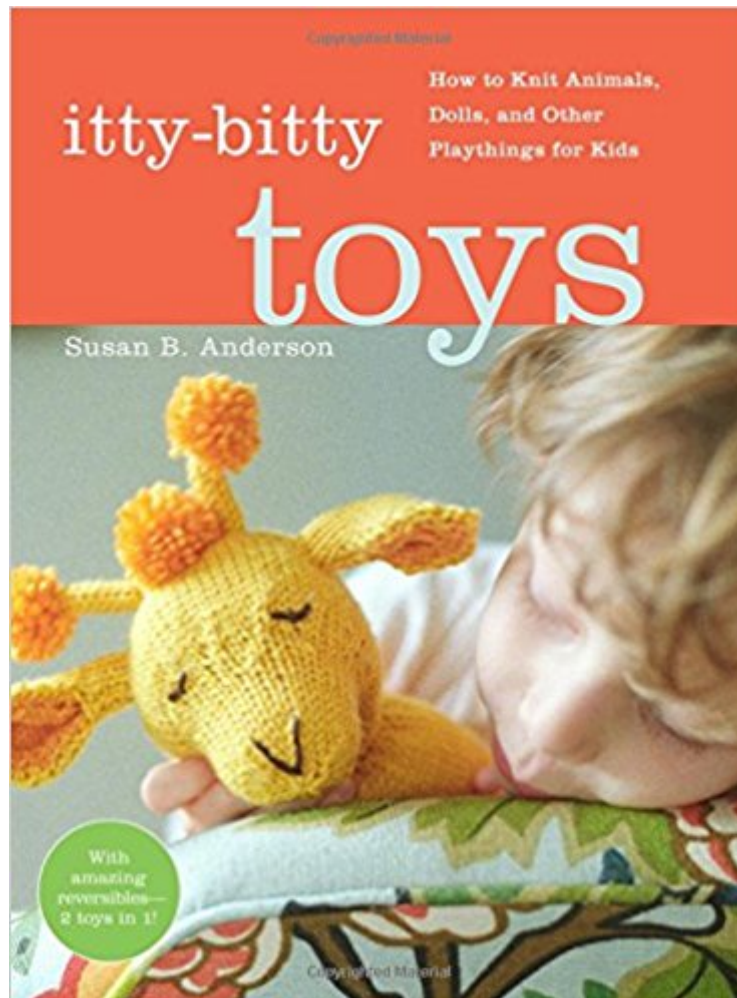




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# Itty-Bitty Toys: How To Knit Animals, Dolls, And Other Playthings For Kids



## Synopsis

Adorable hand-knit playthings, featuring clever twists on classics and enchanting reversibles and interactive toys. Kids love toys, and toys you make yourself are extra-special. If you could buy these imaginative playthings in stores, they would fly off the shelves! This book features stuffed animals, including a luscious lamb and a gigantic giraffe, and finger-puppet fruits that will delight babies and toddlers. With step-by-step directions, clear diagrams and drawings, and gorgeous photographs, knitters of all levels will find it easy to make the Pull-Toy Mama Duck and Ducklings, the set of Russian nesting dolls, and the Princess and the Pea Set. Even older kids will enjoy these, as well as the Felted Bouncy Ball, a felted version of a Super Ball that's perfect for indoor play. A series of five reversible toys—a frog that turns into a turtle, a mouse that changes into a cat, an egg in a nest that transforms into a blue bird, and so on—showcases the creativity that makes Susan B. Anderson a rising star in the knitting world.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Susan B. Anderson is the author of Itty-Bitty Hats, Itty-Bitty Nursery, Itty-Bitty Toys, Spud & Chloë at the Farm, Topsy-Turvy Inside-Out Knit Toys, and the forthcoming Kids' Knitting Workshop. She writes her popular knitting blog at [susanbanderson.blogspot.com](http://susanbanderson.blogspot.com) and teaches award-winning courses on [Craftsy.com](http://Craftsy.com) and at workshops throughout the country. Susan also has a YouTube channel with dozens of instructional knitting videos that can be found under SusanBAnderson. She lives in Madison, Wisconsin, with her husband and four children.

June 25, 2010 Update: It's been several months since I first reviewed this book, and I wanted update my review to show that I'm still incredibly enthusiastic about this book! I've now made several toys from the book, and there are more on my summer knitting list. The patterns have all been well-written and so much fun to finish. I just really like Susan B. Anderson's aesthetic and instructions. The instructions are clear but concise, and they encourage confidence. This is the longest I've kept any knitting book on my "always handy" shelf or in my knitting bag, and I've made more patterns from it than from any other book. It's also fun because the finished toys always get rave reviews and amazed reactions when others see them. This is definitely money well-spent!

Original review (October 2009): I love this book! I load up on knitting books because I start projects in rapid succession and also because I like to dream about what I'll make someday, and this book is easily one of my favorite knitting books ever. The toys are fun, and I think they'd be appreciated by kids of any age (and even by the young-at-heart). The toys also seem original and fresh to me. The patterns are well-written and easy to follow. And the first toy that I started (New Sock Monkey) has been knitting up quickly this week, so I may actually finish one of the toys I've started for my 9-month-old! Overall, this is an excellent book and a really amazing price for the collection of toys you get. Oh, and there are five "reversible" toys that are really unique, at least among knitting patterns that I've seen.

If you like to knit toys, you need this book in your knitting library, plain and simple. There is a huge variety of yarn weight, toy and pattern types in this book, and the adorability factor is off the charts. The section on knitting toys with sock yarn is one of my favorites, not only because of how cute the toys are, but because sock yarn is such a rich canvas for a knitter. (And for those of us who don't like to knit socks, how wonderful to have a fresh excuse to plunge into the sock yarn section!) The two patterns jockeying for top spot in my queue are the Hippo (in sock yarn!) and the Giraffe pictured on the cover, but there are plenty of others tugging at my needles too. One of the best toy knitting books out there.

This book is fantastic. Anyone can knit these. If you have trouble with a stitch there's always youtube. (You can learn anything on youtube.) The suggested yarns are hard to find and expensive but you can substitute. The patterns are so incredibly cute. I plan to make every one of them.

This book is great! Really fun projects and easy to follow patterns. I have only been knitting for 5 months and easily completed some of the "more advanced" animals in this book. The patterns are

not only simply written, but the author makes things very clear, breaking down patterns into smaller sections. Though she suggests stitching parts together as you go, I only did that with the first animal.... I found it easier to do all the knitting and then stitch together all at once. The ONLY downside to this book is that as someone brand new to making stuffed animals I needed more guidance around putting the pieces together ("use the photo as a guide" wasn't enough in my opinion. I wanted more specific instructions on how and where to whipstitch). Otherwise, this book rocks!

I like Ms. Anderson's techniques. I first found her class on Craftsy and wanted to make the little Giraffe pictured in the book. I found the Craftsy class irritating but I did take away some great techniques for making knitted beasties. I found the book better than the class and I am glad I purchased it. I still have not made the giraffe. My beastie keep changing and becoming something else which has made it even more fun. Maybe I don't follow directions that well (yes a bit of a rebel) but I liked what was being created and would modify it a bit here and there. Wow..out comes a cute little creature. Get this book if you are thinking of creating toys instead of scarves. It is fun and instructional and take those techniques and make your own little beastie!

I love the book. I'm almost through with the giraffe. Instructions were easy to follow. Will make other items out of this book.

Another fantastic book by Susan B. Anderson. I love all Susan's book but this is probably my favorite. All I had to see was the giraffe. Love at first sight. Susan has such a creative mind and an ability to translate her ideas to her needles and then to "paper". Her instruction writing is some of the best I have seen. She makes it easy and clear. Susan's patterns can appeal to all levels of knitters. Novice knitters need not be afraid. (I think knitting up animals or clothing for animals are some of the best ways to learn and practice skills. It's a fun way to learn.) I had the books and, when they came out for Kindle, decided to add them to my Kindle library. I highly recommend Susan's books. The animals are winners. Do take care in showing the book to children. It is like looking through the old Sears catalog ("A Christmas Story"). The kids will find several goodies they want and will not stop asking you when you are going to knit their first favorite (and then the second, third, etc.)

The giraffe on the cover was great fun to make; looking forward to making more. Instructions clear.

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