It’s baby Mackenzie’s first birthday, and she’s spending it with her joyful family. Would you like to be a guest at the party? Come and celebrate too and learn concepts such as numbers, family member identification, and colors along the way!

Meet the Writer

Melanie Lasoff Levs
Author Melanie Lasoff Levs enjoyed writing each of the Hot Dots Tots books, but the farm and safari stories are her favorites—she playfully named the characters after the children in her own family, which includes two sons and a daughter. Though Melanie has not been on a safari, she and her husband love taking their children to the zoo in their hometown of Atlanta.

Meet the Illustrator

Gabriele Tafuni
As a child in his native Italy, Gabriele Tafuni dreaded going to the doctor and was scared of getting shots. He tried to help other kids with the same fear by depicting a happy boy wiggling his fingers and toes on the doctor’s table, and it turned out to be his favorite illustration in the book!

Answer & learn with Elliott—The Musical Teaching Bear™

Written by Melanie Lasoff Levs
Illustrated by Gabriele Tafuni

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Today is Mackenzie’s first birthday! She wears a special birthday hat.

Mackenzie has one big brother and one big sister.

What shape is the hat?

- square
- triangle

Which is the brother?

- brother
- sister
Mackenzie’s daddy brings balloons.

Which balloons are the same?

She has a black dog.

Which is black?

- white
- black

- same
- different
Mackenzie is happy to see her grandma and grandpa.

Mackenzie is angry. She wants to eat her cake now!

Which shows two people?

Which face shows angry?

sad

angry

1

2
Mackenzie can’t wait to play with her family!

Which is the daddy?

baby

daddy

Mackenzie’s dog hides under the table.

Which shows under?

under

next to
Mackenzie’s mommy gives the dog a round cookie treat.

What shape is the cookie?

- circle
- square

Happy birthday and good night!

Which face shows sleepy?

- wide awake
- sleepy