A Mama for Owen by Marion Dane Bauer

Owen the baby hippo and his mama were best friends. They loved to play hide-and-seek on the banks of the Sabaki River in Africa. That was all before the tsunami came and washed Owens world away. But after the rain stops, Owen befriends Mzee, a grayish brown tortoise. He plays with him, snuggles with him, and decides he just might turn out to be his best friend and a brand-new mama. Inspired by the tsunami of 2004, acclaimed storyteller Marion Dane Bauer and celebrated illustrator John Butler depict this heartwarming true tale of healing, adoption, and rebirth -- with splendid illustrations and oodles of love.

Features:
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My Personal Review:
My 5-year-old (named Owen) absolutely loves this book and so do I. The pictures are stunning and the story is really sweet and comforting for this age group. I agree with the previous poster that all of the details are not necessary for children of this age to read. I believe the story captures the high and low parts of the story beautifully. Owen is scared when he loses his mama in the water. He is lonely when he finds himself in a place where he doesn't know anybody and he is happy and grateful to have found Mzee. We have read all of the books on this subject and even without the mention of humans capturing Owen and bringing him to a park where he met Mzee, this is still hands-down our favorite one.

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