

I Baryk – A cheerful natural history for friends of animals

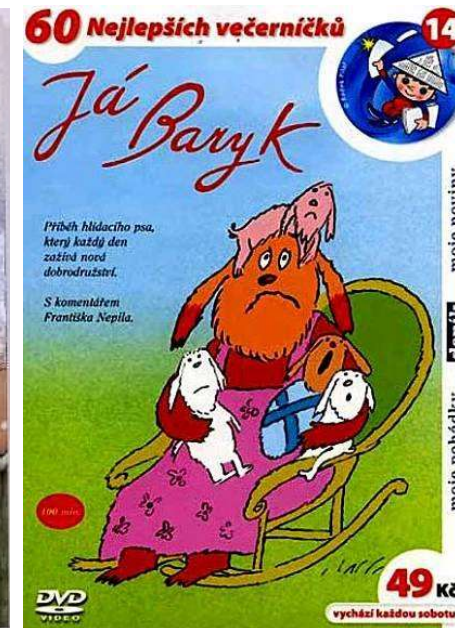
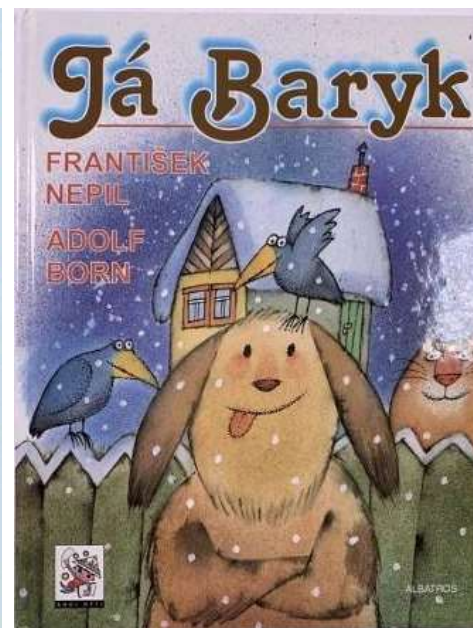
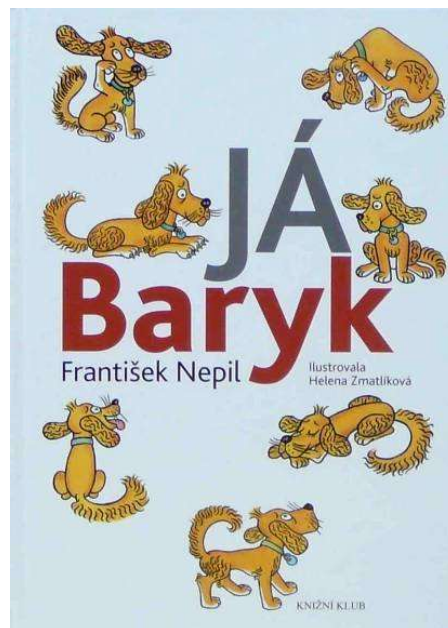
I Baryk is a book full of adventures that the dog Baryk experiences with his animal friends. Each of the twelve chapters is dedicated to one animal and one month of the year in which the animal is conspicuous by its behavior. In the book, you will learn about the lives of these animals – a stork, a snail, a swallow, a deer, a blindworm, a frog, a tit, a hare, a pheasant, a crow, a hedgehog and a mole. Told by Baryk himself, the stories are both entertaining and informative.

One of Baryk's friends is a swallow. The swallows build a mud nest under the roof in Baryk's backyard. Twice a year, they hatch their young. Baryk tells of how last year "his swallow" even hatched three times. But the chick hatched late. It flew just a short distance and had to rest immediately. The kind-hearted Baryk recognized that the little swallow would not fly to warm lands and would not survive the winter. He decided to save it. He went to the cowshed to arrange with his cow "friends" to take the youngster in. He ordered them to moo whenever a fly sat on them so that the swallow would have something to eat. All winter he heard the cows mooing all the way to his shed and was therefore satisfied. For he knew that his little swallow was well cared for. The next year the swallow flew away to warm lands.

Another of his friends is a blindworm. If Baryk sees a blindworm, he knows that rain is coming soon. A lot of people confuse the blindworm with a snake, and in Bohemia most confuse it with a viper. Baryk explains to the children that a blindworm is not a snake but belongs to the lizard family. If it flees to safety from its enemy, it will sacrifice its tail, which will grow back.

The book by Czech writer František Nepil was humorously illustrated by Helena Zmatlíková and later by Adolf Born. The animated series Já Baryk was created with Adolf Born's illustrations. (<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?app=desktop&list=PLIhCv3wSpU7MDk4AbFCIHRfzWBHj8q0vP&cbrd=1>)

Various editions of the book / *Baryk* + DVD cover



Children's illustrations to the book / *Baryk*

