

**Reading For Healthy Families: The Books, Songs and Rhymes I Used
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Introduction: *Four Friends Together* by Sue Heap

Print Motivation

Owl Babies by Martin Waddell

Babies

Baby Goes Beep by Rebecca O'Connell

Peek-a-Boo You by Roberta Intrater

Cardboard books by Margaret Miller and Annie Kubler

Toddlers

Flora's Blanket by Debi Gliori

Come Along, Daisy by Jane Simmons

I Drive a Backhoe by Sarah Bridges (or any other nonfiction book on a subject the child is crazy about)

Pre-Readers

Llama Llama Mad At Mama by Anna Dewdney

In the Rain With Baby Duck by Amy Hest

Snail by Karen Hartley (or any other nonfiction book on a subject the child is crazy about)

Vocabulary

Listen to the Rain by Bill Martin, Jr.

Combine with the "rain" sounds—(1) rub fingers together, (2) snap fingers; (3) slap thighs gently; (4) slap thighs faster and louder; (5) drum feet while still slapping thighs. Now, go backwards, removing one at a time, getting quieter and slower.

Babies

Piggies by Audrey and Don Wood

Baby Talk: A Book of First Words and Phrases by Judy Hindley

Whose Nose? By Jeannette Rowe

Toddlers

Plumply Dumply Pumpkin by Mary Serfozo

Dinosaur Roar by Paul and Henrietta Stickland

Preschoolers

Bad Kitty by Nick Bruel

Thesaurus Rex by Laya Steinberg

How Are You Peeling? By Saxton Freymann

Rhymes

Finger Family up, and Finger Family down.
Finger Family dancing all around the town.
Dance them on your shoulders, dance them on your head.
Dance them on your knees, then tuck them into bed.

We are marching to Australia, Australia, Australia.

We are marching to Australia, Australia today.

We are hopping like the kangaroos....

We are munching like the koala....

We are waddling like the wombat...

We are slithering like a python....

Book: *Sometimes I Like to Curl Up In a Ball* by Vicki Churchill

Diary Of a Wombat by Jackie French

Selecting Books

Babies

Counting Kisses by Karen Katz

Tails (in the resource bag)

Trucks Go by Steve Light

Beware of long stories with tiny print and overly busy or unclear illustrations, disguised as a board book for babies!!

Toddlers

Best Ever Big Sister by Karen Katz (flap books)

Mama Cat Has Three Kittens by Denise Fleming (predictable stories; repetition)

Dog's Colorful Day by Emma Dodd (concepts—counting, colors)

Charlie Chick by Nick Denchfield (simple; humor; predictable)

Preschoolers

Alphabet Under Construction by Denise Fleming

Little Quack by Lauren Thompson (counting books; books about kids that are like them)

Hello Hello by Miriam Schlein (books about the real world)

Underwear Do's and Don't's by Todd Parr (books that make them laugh)

Off to School, Baby Duck by Amy Hest (books about school and making friends)

The Very Lazy Ladybug by Isobel Finn (repetition and participation)

Boo to a Goose by Mem Fox (playful or rhyming language)

Print Awareness

Touchy Feely Books—*Tails* by Matthew Van Fleet
Cloth books

Activities:

Writing a grocery list
Pointing out signs and creating your own silly ones
Photo album

Creating a book based on another, such as:

The Feel Good Book by Todd Parr
May There Always Be Sunshine by Jim Gill
I Went Walking by Sue Williams

Narrative Skills

Hattie and the Fox by Mem Fox
The Grumpy Bird by Jeremy Tankard
The Wide-Mouthed Frog by Keith Faulkner (*in the resource bag*)

Make up stories based on traditional tales!!

Dialogic Reading

Jump, Frog, Jump by Robert Kalan
My Friend Rabbit by Eric Rohmann
Wow! School! By Robert Neubecker
The Lion and the Mouse by Jerry Pinkney

Rhymes for Narrative Skills

The Itsy Bitsy Monkey climbed down the coconut tree.
Down came a coconut and bopped him on the knee. OUCH!
Out came a lion a-shakin' his mighty mane. ROAR!
And the Itsy bitsy Monkey climbed up the tree again.

Five little mice came out to play.
Jumping and dancing along the way.
Out came a pussycat, sleek and black.
EEK! Four little mice went scampering back.
Four little mice came out to play....

Old Macdonald puppets. (*in the resource bag*) Then expand with stuffed animals.
Felt board—The Little Red Hen—*in the resource bag*

Other simple felt boards—*Dog's Colorful Day* by Emma Dodd
It Looked Like Spilt Milk by Charles Shaw (*child could come up with others for parent to cut out*)

Storytelling—Telling a story without a book
Lunch by Denise Fleming
The Surprise by George Shannon
Mr. Rabbit and the Lovely Present by Charlotte Zolotow

Phonological Awareness

Higglety Pigglety POP! The dog has eaten the mop.
The pig's in a hurry, the cat's in a flurry.
Higglety Pigglety POP!

Off We Go by Jane Yolen
Tanka Tanka Skunk by Steve Webb
Mouse's Birthday by Jane Yolen

I had a little mouse who never would eat his peas.
All he ever wanted to do was *bounce* upon my knees.
Bounce upon my knees, bounce upon my knees,
All he ever wanted to do was *bounce* upon my knees.
I had a little elephant who never would say please....
I had a little dog who never would scratch his fleas....
I had a little monkey who never would climb trees....

This Old Man by SteveSongs and Christiane Engel **(in the resource bag)**

Other rhyming/singing stories:

If You're Happy and You Know It by Jane Cabrera
Dancing In My Bones by Sylvia Andrews
The Seals On the Bus by Lenny Hort
Barnyard Banter by Denise Fleming
Silly Sally by Audrey Wood
The Magic Hat by Mem Fox
Orange Pear Apple Bear by Emily Gravett
Pigs Aplenty! Pigs Galore! By David McPhail
Rhyming Dust Bunnies by Jan Thomas
Pots and Pans by Patricia Hubbell

Print out pictures of the following animals. Hold them up, say the first part of each sentence, and see if the children can guess the animal, based on the picture and the rhyme. You can do this as a call and answer, as a song, or in whatever creative way you want.

Howdy do, kangaroo.
You're lookin' fine, porcupine.
Hello, hello, buffalo.
Say hi, pesky fly.
Glad to see ya, spotted cheetah.
Stay awhile, Crocodile.
Say hi, Butterfly.
Time to share, Panda Bear.

Stick around, Basset Hound.
Let's begin, penguin.
Because now it's time for Storytime!

Letter Knowledge

Letter of the day activities

Play with the letter—pudding, sandpaper, foam letters

Snack—Bananas; Blueberries

Treasure Hunt—Look for the letter

Songs—Green Grass Grew All Around

Actions—My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean

My Bonnie lies over the ocean.

My Bonnie lies over the sea.

My Bonnie lies over the ocean.

Oh, bring back my Bonnie to me.

Bring back, bring back, oh, bring back my Bonnie to me, to me.

Bring back, bring back, oh, bring back my Bonnie to me.

Games—Here's My Bag

Here's my bag with something inside. What could it be?

I'll open it up so you can look. Tell me what you see.

Letter Books:

Some Smug Slug by Pamela Duncan Edwards

Chicka Chicka Boom Boom by Bill Martin, Jr.

K Is For Kissing a Cool Kangaroo by Giles Andreae

Zoopa: An Animal Alphabet by Gianna Marino

Creature ABC by Andrew Zuckerman

Silly Sally by Don and Audrey Wood

Beware of alphabet books that are difficult, abstract, wordy, unfamiliar. These are great for older children, but not the younger.