

Dear Parents:

Today we used some of these books, fingerplays, and other materials in our toddler and preschool storytimes. Please continue helping your child develop a love for books and reading by sharing these rhymes, books, and other activities with your child.



Books To Share

Berlioz the Bear

by Jan Brett

Jazz Baby

by Lisa Wheeler

Olivia Forms a Band

by Ian Falconer

The Animal Boogie

by Debbie Harter

Mary Had a Little Lamb

by Mary Ann Hoberman

Pete the Cat and His Four Groovy Buttons

by Eric Litwin

Froggy Plays in the Band

by Jonathan London

The Bremen Town Musicians

retold by Brian Wildsmith

The Bear Went Over the Mountain

by Iza Trapani

Comin' Down to Storytime

by Bob Reid

Punk Farm

by Jarrett Krosoczka

The Itsy Bitsy Spider

by Iza Trapani



Fun With Fingerplays and Songs

Sing Sing Sing

(Tune: "Row Your Boat")

Sing, sing, sing with me,

Sing out loud and clear

To tell the people everywhere

That music time is here.

Shimmy Shimmy Cocoa Puff

Down, down baby, down by the roller coaster

(Roll your arms like a moving roller coaster tram.)

Sweet, sweet baby, I'll never let you go

(Hug yourself as you sway from side to side.)

Shimmy, shimmy cocoa puff, (Make it up!)

Shimmy, shimmy pow! (Freeze on "pow.")

Shimmy, shimmy cocoa puff,

Shimmy, shimmy pow!

Ding Dong! Clap, Clap! Stomp, Stomp!

Gramma, Gramma sick in bed

(Put your hands to your forehead as if you have a headache.)

Call the doctor, and the doctor said

(Pretend to make a phone call.)

Let's get the motion of the head—ding dong!

(Tilt your head from side to side.)

Let's get the motion of the hands—clap, clap!

Let's get the motion of the feet—stomp, stomp!

Put it all together and what do you get?

Ding dong! Clap, clap! Stomp, stomp!

Say it all again and what do you get?

Ding dong!

Clap, clap!

Stomp, stomp!

Say it all backward and what do you get?

Stomp, stomp!

Clap, clap!

Ding dong!

Skip to My Lou

Note: "Skip to My Lou" was the name of a popular game at parties on the American Frontier during the nineteenth century. With everyone in a circle, one boy would skip around the circle, choose a girl, link arms with her, and skip in a circle. The girl's former partner would skip after them and try to catch up to the couple before the girl made it back to her starting place. That's why the lyric says, "Lost my partner, what'll I do?" Maybe you're wondering who "Lou" is? Lou was another word for "sweetheart." So Lou could be anybody you liked especially well.

Chorus:

Skip, skip, skip to my Lou,
Skip, skip, skip to my Lou,
Skip, skip, skip to my Lou,
Skip to my Lou, my darlin'.

Lost my partner, what'll I do?
Lost my partner, what'll I do?
Lost my partner, what'll I do?
Skip to my Lou, my darlin'.

Chorus

I'll get another one, prettier than you,
I'll get another one, nicer than you.
I'll get another one, nicer than you,
Skip to my Lou, my darlin'.

Chorus

Fly's in the buttermilk, shoo, fly, shoo,
Fly's in the buttermilk, shoo, fly, shoo,
Fly's in the buttermilk, shoo, fly, shoo,
Skip to my Lou, my darlin'.

Chorus

Little red wagon painted blue,
Little red wagon painted blue,
Little red wagon painted blue,
Skip to my Lou, my darlin'.

Chorus

My Instruments

by Angela Wolfe

I have some rhythm sticks

(Hold up pointer finger.)

And a sturdy little drum.

(Hold up left fist.)

I play them everyday,

It's a lot of fun. *(Nod head.)*

The drum goes "Boom."

(Pound left fist with right fist.)

The sticks go "Tap." *(Tap pointer fingers.)*

And when I cannot play them,

I rest them in my lap. *(Fold hands in lap.)*



Other Fun Things

Sing Your Name

Even a name can be a song! It's a simple song to create. Sing it in *monotone* (all the same sound without any highs or lows). Now sing your name again, but this time, make the notes go up and down. Try it using your middle name or nickname, too. Sing your name over and over, soft and loud. Sing it slow and fast. Sing it jazzy and sing it straight. Soon, out of all the many ways there are to sing your name, you'll discover a way that feels right.

Draw the Music

Play your children some upbeat intense music and then challenge them to draw the music.

Dance to a Poem

Try this easy action dance. Someone reads (or sings) a poem while you act it out. You can make up a melody to match the words as you read if you want. You may find it's fun to dance to the rhythm of the words. That's right, poems are written in a rhythm called *meter*, and you can dance to their natural beat.

Singing Kazoo

What You Need:

Paper Towel Tubes

Wax Paper

Rubber Bands

Paint/Crayons/Markers

Various Other Art Supplies of Your Choice

What You Do:

Put wax paper at one end of a paper towel tube and secure with a rubber band. Decorate the tube. Sing into open end of tube and it will have a kazoo type effect on your voice.

Every Child Ready to Read @ Your Library®

Learning to read begins before your child starts school.

Help your children develop early literacy skills now; this makes it easier for children to learn to read once they begin school.

Five of the best ways to help your child get ready to read are:

- Talking
- Singing
- Reading
- Writing
- Playing

If you would like more information, please ask the staff in the children's area.

Every Child Ready to Read® is a project of the Association for Library Service to Children and the Public Library Association, divisions of the American Library Association.

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201 Peterson

2733 Council Tree Avenue

4616 South Shields

A joint-use facility of
Front Range Community College
and Poudre River Public Library District

www.PoudreLibraries.org

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Reasonable accommodations will be made for access to programs for people with disabilities. Please call 221.6740 for assistance.

