

All in the Family

Presenter Tip Sheet

About This Storytime

Families, like people, come in all shapes and sizes. No matter what kind of family, belonging to one and being a special person in it are essential for the development of babies and young toddlers. This storytime celebrates the joys and bonds of families, in their endless variety.

Books

For books to share in this storytime, pick three from the list below, or choose other board books or picture books in your collection that reflect the theme and are developmentally appropriate for babies and young toddlers. Always share your longest book first. For your second, choose a participatory book that engages the child or both the caregiver and child. For the third and last story, share a book told through the use of a flannel board or magnetic board, or use a prop or other visual. The examples provided in the storytime program fit these guidelines. If most children are restless and you feel the program is too long for that day, skip the last story and concentrate on the rhymes and songs.

Book Suggestions:

- *Baby, I Love You*, by Karma Wilson (Little Simon, 2009)
- *Best-Ever Big Brother*, by Karen Katz (Grosset & Dunlap, 2006)
- *Best-Ever Big Sister*, by Karen Katz (Grosset & Dunlap, 2006)
- *Daddy Hugs*, by Karen Katz (Little Simon, 2007)
- *Does a Kangaroo Have a Mother Too?* by Eric Carle (Harper Collins, 2005)
- *Families (Babies Everywhere)*, by Rena Grossman (Star Bright Books, 2009)
- *Grandma and Me*, by Karen Katz (Little Simon, 2002)
- *Grandma Calls Me Gigglespie*, by J.D. Lester (Robin Corey Books, 2011)
- *Grandpa and Me*, by Karen Katz (Little Simon, 2004)
- *Just Like Daddy*, by Cecilia Johansson (Little Simon, 2006)
- *Just Like Mommy*, by Cecilia Johansson (Little Simon, 2006)

- *Mommy, Carry Me Please!* by Jane Cabrera (Holiday House, 2006)
- *Mommy Hugs*, by Karen Katz (McElderry Books, 2006)
- *My New Baby*, by Rachel Fuller (Child's Play International, 2009)
- *The Daddy Book*, by Todd Parr (Little, Brown, 2010)
- *The Family Book*, by Todd Parr (Little, Brown, 2010)
- *The Mommy Book*, by Todd Parr (Little, Brown, 2010)
- *Where Is Baby's Mommy?* by Karen Katz (Little Simon, 2001)
- *You and Me! (New Baby)*, by Rachel Fuller (Child's Play International, 2010)

Songs

This storytime includes five songs. The same opening and closing songs should be used each week if you are holding a series of storytime programs. Always provide movements or motions to accompany each song, but keep these simple, such as the caregiver rocking the baby back and forth, bouncing the baby in time to the music, or clapping the baby's hands. Using recorded music during the storytime is fine, although it's best to sing the songs with a live voice, or sing along with simple recordings, so that very young children can hear the words and the sounds making up each word. Recorded music is often sung too fast for this purpose. For your reference or to play during storytime, The Very Ready Reading Program includes a CD of songs recorded at an appropriate tempo. Track numbers for each recording are provided in the songlist below and on the storytime program card.

Songs for This Storytime:

- Opening Song: "If You're Happy to Be Here" (sung to the tune of "If You're Happy and You Know It") 🎧 22 🎵 23
- "One Is a Father" (sung to the tune of "Up on the Housetop") 🎧 35
- "You Are My Sunshine" 🎧 57
- "Five in the Bed" (sung to the tune of "Ten in the Bed") 🎧 12
- Closing Song: "The More We Get Together" 🎧 28 🎵 29

Presenter Tip Sheet for All in the Family

Rhymes

This storytime includes three rhymes, with movements to accompany them. Caregivers perform the movements with the child, depending on the child's ability. For babies, the caregiver can move the child's hands, fingers, and body, or otherwise help the baby execute the movements. Young toddlers may be able to do the movements themselves or may need a little help. Keep in mind that children up to 24 months of age have not developed fine motor skills to the same degree as older toddlers and preschoolers; open and close motions are better than, say, putting one finger down at a time. The Very Ready Reading Program storytimes include different types of movement rhymes for variety, such as bounce/lift, finger/hand, and toe/foot rhymes.

Rhymes for This Storytime:

- "Mother and Father and Uncle John" (bounce/lift)
- "Jack and Jill" (bounce/lift)
- "Pony Boy and Pony Girl" (bounce/lift)

Activities

This storytime includes an optional theme-related activity, to be completed after the closing song. Here are three to choose from, including at least one that is suitable for the youngest babies. The activity you choose might depend on the size or predominant age of your audience, the amount of time you have to prepare, your space or environment, and the materials needed. The activities are designed with safety and the very limited attention spans of babies and young toddlers in mind. However, always keep in mind and remind caregivers: **Any time an activity involves materials such as paint, sand, string, or small pieces, close adult supervision is required.** Although each activity has a learning aspect, the emphasis should be on fun!

Activity Suggestions:

Family Album. Have families make their own family books using family photos, markers, and resealable baggies. Place five or six quart-size resealable plastic bags in a stack. Staple across the bottoms of the bags, and cover with masking or plastic tape to create a spine. Families can unzip and change out pictures anytime.

Animal Family Match. Prepare separate images of baby animals and their parents for each family. Secure them to cardstock. Baby animals can then be matched to their parents.

See Baby Grow! Trace the baby's hands and feet onto a large sheet of paper. Date the paper. Let children color with large chunky crayons. The family can wait a few months and repeat the tracing to see how much the child has grown.

Early Literacy Tips

Promote the **7 Days • 7 Ways** principles with parents and caregivers by emphasizing the three early literacy tips found in the yellow boxes in the storytime program.