

# Boats Afloat

## Presenter Tip Sheet

### About This Storytime

Twos and threes love all different types of transportation—from cars to trucks, buses to trains, large construction vehicles to boats. Several of the storytimes in this manual highlight various modes of transportation. This storytime introduces children to several types of boats and gives clues to how these boats are powered, which is great for vocabulary building.

### Books

For books to share in this storytime, pick three from the list below, or choose other books in your collection that reflect the theme and are developmentally appropriate for twos and threes. Always share your longest book first. For the second book, choose a participatory book that engages the children, and ask the caregivers to join in. 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.

#### Book Suggestions:

- *Boat Works*, by Tom Slaughter (Blue Apple, 2012)
- *Boats*, by Anne Rockwell (Puffin, 1993)
- *Boats*, by Byron Barton (HarperFestival, 1986)
- *Busy Boats*, by Tony Mitton (Kingfisher, 2002)
- *Little Tug*, by Stephen Savage (Roaring Brook Press, 2012)
- *Row, Row, Row Your Boat*, by David Ellwand (Silver Dolphin, 2011)
- *Row Row Row Your Boat*, by Iza Trapani (Whispering Coyote Press, 2002)
- *Sheep on a Ship*, by Nancy Shaw (HMH, 2010)
- *Tugga-Tugga Tugboat*, by Kevin Lewis (Hyperion, 2006)
- *Who Sank the Boat?* by Pamela Allen (Puffin, 1996)

### Songs

This storytime includes five songs. The same opening song should be used each week if you are holding a series of storytime programs. Always provide some type of movement or motions to accompany each song, but keep the movements simple. If you use a song that normally has many verses, consider limiting it to two or three verses. Using recorded music during the storytime is fine, but try to sing as many songs as you can with a live voice so that young children can hear the words and the sounds making up each word. Recorded music is usually sung too fast for this purpose. The Very Ready Reading Program includes CDs with all the songs in the storytimes, recorded at an appropriate tempo for this age group. Track numbers for each recording are provided in the song list below and on the storytime program card.

#### Songs for This Storytime:

- Opening Song: “It’s Time for Storytime” (sung to the tune of “The Farmer in the Dell”) 🎧 2.03 🎵 2.04
- “I’m a Little Tugboat” (sung to the tune of “Up on the Housetop”) 🎧 2.01
- “Row, Row, Row Your Boat” 🎧 2.14
- “My Big Green Boat” (sung to the tune of “The Wheels on the Bus”) 🎧 2.10
- “Sailboat” (sung to the tune of “Mary Had a Little Lamb”) 🎧 2.16

### Rhymes

This storytime includes three rhymes. The same closing rhyme should be used each week if you are holding a series of storytime programs. The rhymes used in these storytimes have motions that are appropriate for twos and threes, who still have limited fine motor skills. Younger children may need caregivers’ help with the motions in these rhymes.

#### Rhymes for This Storytime:

- “Sailboat”
- “Motorboat, Motorboat”
- Closing Rhyme: “Wave Goodbye”

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## Activities

This storytime includes an optional theme-related activity, to be completed after the closing rhyme. Below are three activities to choose from. 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 attention spans and fine motor abilities of twos and threes in mind. Always remember and remind caregivers: **Any activity that involves materials such as paint, sand, string, or small pieces requires close adult supervision.** Although each activity has a learning aspect, the emphasis should be on having fun!

### Activity Suggestions:

**What Sinks, What Floats?** Fill a large, clear plastic storage tub with water, and provide objects for the children to test what sinks and what floats. Ask children ahead of time what they think will happen before testing each object. Objects could include plastic blocks, small balls, large corks, sponges, plastic lids, small boats, paper plates, egg cartons, and pennies in a cup.

**Egg Carton Boats.** Give each child the top of a foam egg carton for a boat. Sails can be a triangular piece of bright-colored construction paper attached to a straw or stir stick for a mast.

**Boat Pictures.** Give each child a piece of white paper. Download and print several boat templates from [www.upstartpromotions.com/upstart/pages/reproducibles](http://www.upstartpromotions.com/upstart/pages/reproducibles) on tag paper. Cut out the boats. Children can choose a boat template to place under sheets of white paper that are taped to a table. Then, with adult help, they can rub a brown crayon over their papers to reveal a boat. Children can use blue crayons to add the ocean.



## Early Literacy Tips

Throughout each storytime program, you'll find yellow boxes that feature early literacy tips. As you present your program, share these tips with parents and caregivers to help promote the **7 Days • 7 Ways** principles. The tips are designed to easily be infused into the storytime without interrupting the natural flow of the program for children. The Caregiver Tip Sheets you will hand out at the end of each program reiterate the literacy tips you shared during the storytime.