

Color My World

Sample Mixed-Ages Storytime

Opening Song (FROM THE “AGES BIRTH–24 MONTHS” MANUAL)

If You're Happy to Be Here

(sung to the tune of “If You're Happy and You Know It”)

If you're happy to be here, clap your hands, (*Clap hands*)

If you're happy to be here, clap your hands, (*Clap hands*)

If you're happy to be here, then place a smile there, (*Point to mouth*)

If you're happy to be here, clap your hands. (*Clap hands*)

If you're ready to have some fun, clap your hands, (*Clap hands*)

If you're ready to have some fun, clap your hands, (*Clap hands*)

If you're ready to have some fun, then join in everyone, (*Motion hands to join in*)

If you're ready to have some fun, clap your hands. (*Clap hands*)

Early Literacy Tip: Reading picture books is one of the best things you can do to help your child learn new vocabulary. Picture books have three times more rare or unique words than spoken language.

Opening Book

***Butterfly, Butterfly*, by Petr Horáček OR *Duckie's Rainbow*, by Frances Barry**

Rhyme (FROM THE “AGES 2–3” MANUAL)

My Crayon Box

In my crayon box I see, (*Child holds up two hands with fingers extended*)

Ten pretty crayons, count with me.

One, two, three, four, five, (*Parent helps by pointing to each finger while counting*)

Six, seven, eight, nine, ten,

Ten pretty crayons, ten colors I see,

Can you say their names with me?

Red, pink, black, purple, and blue, (*Point to colors of crayons on a felt or magnetic board*)

White, orange, brown, gray, and yellow, too.

Song (FROM THE “AGES BIRTH–24 MONTHS” MANUAL)

Bumpin’ Up and Down in My Little Red Wagon

Bumping up and down in my little red wagon, (*Bounce child up and down in lap*)
Bumping up and down in my little red wagon,
Bumping up and down in my little red wagon,
Won’t you be my darling?

Additional Verses

One wheel’s off and the axle’s draggin’... (*Bounce child, and lean side to side*)
Let’s get a hammer and a nail and fix it ... (*Pretend to hammer a nail*)
Bumping up and down in my little red wagon ... (*Bounce child up and down in lap*)

Early Literacy Tip: Share books that you enjoy and can share enthusiastically. Add voices and sound effects to make the book come alive. For older children, read books on subjects they are curious about, including some easy nonfiction books.

Participation Book

Choose a book where children need to guess the color such as *Flaptastic Colors*, by DK Publishing OR *Mouse Paint*, by Ellen Stoll Walsh OR *White Rabbit’s Color Book*, by Alan Baker.

Movement Rhyme (FROM THE “AGES 2–3” MANUAL)

Wearing Colors

(*Children follow movements as given; adult holds baby’s hand and makes motions, etc. Hold up a sheet of the corresponding color of construction paper before each verse.*)

If you are wearing red, red, red,

Touch your head.

If you are wearing brown, brown, brown,

Touch the ground.

If you are wearing green, green, green,

Wave to be seen.

If you are wearing blue, blue, blue,

Touch your shoe.

If you are wearing black, black black,

Touch your back.

If you are wearing yellow, yellow, yellow,

Shake like JELL-O®.

If you are wearing pink, pink, pink,
 Make your eyes blink.
 If you are wearing white, white, white,
 Then you're all right!

Song (FROM THE “AGES 2–3” MANUAL)

Twinkle, Twinkle, Traffic Light

(sung to the tune of “Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star”)

(Give each child three circles cut from red, green, and yellow construction paper. Ask children to hold up the corresponding color when you sing about it.)

Twinkle, twinkle, traffic light,
 All the colors shining bright.
 Red means stop, green means go,
 Yellow means you must go slow.
 Twinkle, twinkle, traffic light,
 All the colors shining bright.
 (Repeat)

Early Literacy Tip: The next book is a great one for all ages of children. Point to the pictures and name the colors for babies. Have twos and threes name the colors, and older children can join in on the refrain.

Visual Props Book

Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? by Bill Martin, Jr.

Share the above story either with a magnetic board or a flannelboard. Patterns can be found at <http://www.dltk-teach.com/books/brownbear/>. If you can afford to, copy patterns for each family to take home to make their own story. With small pieces of magnetic tape on the back of each piece, they can use them on a refrigerator or metal cookie sheet to retell the story. This is one story that is great for all ages—from babies to early readers!

Rhyme (FROM THE “AGES BIRTH–24 MONTHS” MANUAL)

Way Up High in the Apple Tree

Way up high in the apple tree (Hold hands up)
 Two red apples smiled down at me (Make hands into fists)
 So I shook and I shook just as hard as I could (Shake fists)
 And down came an apple, and mmm was it good! (Drop one hand and rub tummy)
 (Repeat with second apple)
 (Older children do motions as given; adult holds baby's hands and does motions)

Song (FROM THE “AGES 2–3” MANUAL)

Color Hokey Pokey

(sung to the tune of “Hokey Pokey”)

(Children have red, yellow, and green circles from the previous traffic light song—give them a fourth circle of blue. Then have them stand up and act out the song by holding the corresponding color each time.)

You put your blue one in,
You put your blue one out,
You put your blue one in,
And you shake it all about.
You do the hokey pokey and you turn yourself around.
That’s what it’s all about.

Additional Verses

You put your red one in ...
You put your yellow one in ...
You put your green one in ...

Closer (FROM THE “AGES BIRTH–24 MONTHS” MANUAL)

The More We Get Together

The more we get together, *(Sway child from side to side in time to music)*
Together, together,
The more we get together,
The happier we’ll be.
For your friends are my friends, *(Point to child, then to self)*
And my friends are your friends, *(Point to self, then to child)*
The more we get together,
The happier we’ll be. *(Sway child from side to side in time to music)*

Additional Verse

The more we play together...

(Motions above are for adults with babies; older children can stand and sway back and forth; then point to themselves, and then to someone else)

Activity

Fill empty water bottles with water. Have older children add a few drops of food coloring to make different colors, or they can mix colors. Babies can roll the bottles around.