

Creepy Crawlies and Bugs

Presenter Tip Sheet

About This Storytime

Children are naturally curious about bugs, which makes this topic perfect for exploration and discovery. This storytime covers both insects and spiders. The difference between insects and spiders is briefly explained in some of the stories and there is an opportunity to offer further explanation when sorting bugs as well.

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:

- *Beetle Bop*, by Denise Fleming (Harcourt, 2007)
- *Bugs! Bugs! Bugs!* by Bob Barner (Chronicle, 1999)
- *Butterfly Butterfly*, by Petr Horáček (Candlewick, 2007)
- *How Many Bugs in a Box?* by David A. Carter (Little Simon, 1998)
- *The Itsy Bitsy Spider*, by Lorianne Siomades (Boyd's Mills Press, 1999)
- *The Itsy Bitsy Spider*, by Iza Trapani (Whispering Coyote Press, 1993)
- *I Love Bugs!* by Philemon Sturges (HarperCollins, 2005)
- *I Love Bugs!* by Emma Dodd (Holiday House, 2011)
- *Ten Little Caterpillars*, by Bill Martin Jr. (Beach Lane, 2011)
- *The Very Busy Spider*, by Eric Carle (Philomel, 1984) Also, flap book version (Grosset & Dunlap, 2006)
- *The Very Hungry Caterpillar*, by Eric Carle (Philomel, 1986)

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
- "My Busy Garden" (sung to "She'll Be Coming 'Round the Mountain") 🎧 2.11
- "The Ants Go Marching" 🎧 1.02
- "Itsy Bitsy Spider" 🎧 2.05
- "There's a Bug on My Toe" (sung to the tune of "If You're Happy and You Know It") 🎧 2.21

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 some limited fine motor skills. Younger children may need caregivers' help with the motions in these rhymes.

Rhymes for This Storytime:

- "Little Miss Muffet"
- "Little Flea"
- 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:

Bug Study. Provide plastic bugs and small magnifying glasses for children to explore bugs close up. Check out Oriental Trading's "Just Buggy Bugs" at www.orientaltrading.com. Or, if you are able to take children outside, they could do this exploration with live bugs!

Bug Drawings. Provide enlarged photos of insects to inspire children to draw a bug of their choosing.

Bug Facts. Download the bug patterns of a butterfly, a fly, a ladybug, a spider, a caterpillar, a bee, a beetle, and an ant at www.upstartpromotions.com/upstart/pages/reproducibles and print a set for each child on card stock. Have children sort them into categories of how each bug moves, how many legs it has, and where it lives.



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.