

Feathered Friends

Presenter Tip Sheet

About This Storytime

Children are introduced to several kinds of feathered fowl in this storytime: hens, ducks, geese, and even swans. The concept of birds hatching from eggs is also presented. In addition to the simple science facts to learn, there is a fun connection to music, with ducks in socks dancing to jazzy music!

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:

- *Big Fat Hen*, by Keith Baker (Harcourt, 1994)
- *Cold Little Duck, Duck, Duck*, by Lisa Westberg Peters (Greenwillow, 2000)
- *Do You Have My Quack?* by Keith Faulkner (Cartwheel, 2001)
- *Duck Sock Hop*, by Jane Kohuth (Dial, 2012)
- *The Duckling Gets a Cookie!?* by Mo Willems (Hyperion, 2012)
- *Five Little Chicks*, by Nancy Tafuri (Simon & Schuster, 2006)
- *Five Little Ducks*, by Annie Kubler (Child's Play, 2003)
- *Ten Little Ducks*, by Airlie Anderson (Child's Play, 2008)
- *This Little Chick*, by John Lawrence (Candlewick, 2013)
- *Wee Little Chick*, by Lauren Thompson (Simon & Schuster, 2008)
- *Whose Chick Are You?* by Nancy Tafuri (Greenwillow, 2007)

Songs

This storytime includes four 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
- "Over in the Barnyard" (sung to the tune of "Down by the Station") 🎧 2.13
- "Five Little Ducks" 🎧 1.24
- "If You're Ducky and You Know It" (sung to the tune of "If You're Happy and You Know It") 🎧 1.29

Rhymes

This storytime includes four 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:

- "Five Eggs and Five Eggs"
- "Little Chicks"
- "Five Little Ducks That I Once Knew"
- 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:

Duck Hop. Play music, give each child a craft feather, and have all your little ducks hop to lively music (as in *Duck Sock Hop*).

Sock Drop OR Feather Drop. Have several large boxes and socks for the children. Have the children drop the socks in the boxes, or stand a short distance away and throw the socks in the boxes. This is similar to an activity on author Jane Kohuth's website: www.janekohuth.com. Or do a feather drop, giving each child a craft feather to drop in a box.

Chick Duck Tissue Paper Collage. Using the template of a duckling and chick at www.upstartpromotions.com/upstart/pages/reproducibles, provide one pattern for each child on tag paper. Children can tear pieces of white tissue paper for the duck and yellow tissue paper for the chick. Adults can glue the tissue paper onto the template. The chick and duck can be used for rhymes and songs at home.



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.