

# Mice Are Nice!

## Presenter Tip Sheet

### About This Storytime

Mice are always appealing to young children. From Mighty Mouse to Mickey Mouse to more current picture book stories, such as *Angelina Ballerina* and *Pip and Posy*, these furry little critters are popular. Children are fascinated by both the very large and the very small characters. This storytime capitalizes on this fascination.

### 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 fours and fives. Always share your longest book first. For your second, try to 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:

- *Angelina Ballerina*, by Katharine Holabird (Viking, 2008)
- *The Completed Hickory Dickory Dock*, by Jim Aylesworth (Atheneum, 1990)
- *The Gruffalo*, by Julia Donaldson (Dial, 2005)
- *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie*, by Laura Numeroff (HarperCollins, 2010)
- *Mouse Count*, by Ellen Stoll Walsh (HMH, 1991)
- *Mouse Mess*, by Linnea Asplind Riley (Blue Sky, 1997)
- *Mouse Shapes*, by Ellen Stoll Walsh (HMH, 2007)
- *The Napping House*, by Audrey Wood (Harcourt, 2009)
- *Pip and Posy: The Big Balloon*, by Axel Scheffler (Nosy Crow, 2013) (others in series)
- *The Tale of Pip and Squeak*, by Kate Duke (Dutton, 2007)
- *Whose Mouse Are You?* by Robert Kraus (Aladdin, 1986)

### Songs

This storytime includes five songs. The same opening song and closing 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. Using recorded music during the storytime is fine, but try to sing some songs with a live voice so that children can hear the words and the sounds making up each word. 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 songlist below and on the storytime program card.

#### Songs for This Storytime:

- Opening Song: “Moving Hands” (sung to the tune of “The Farmer in the Dell”) 🎧 2.08 🎵 2.09
- “Hickory Dickory Dock” 🎧 1.28
- “Three White Mice” (sung to the tune of “Three Blind Mice”) 🎧 2.24
- “Little Bunny Foo Foo” 🎧 2.03
- Closing Song: “Library Storytime Song” (sung to the tune of “I’ve Been Workin’ on the Railroad”) 🎧 2.01 🎵 2.02

#### Alternate Songs:

- “Three White Mice” by Schiller Educational Resources, *Critters and Company*. Schiller Educational Resources, LLC, 2005.
- “Mice Are Nice” by Sharon MacDonald, *Unglue It!* Grasshopper Press, 2008.
- “Grey Little Mouse” by Peter and Ellen Allard, *Sing It! Say It! Stamp It! Sway It! Volume 3*. 80-Z Music, 2002.
- “Hickory Dickory Dock” by Pamela Beall and Susan Nipp, *Wee Sing: Children’s Songs and Fingerplays*. Price Stern Sloan, 2006.
- “The Little Mouse Goes Creeping” by Carole Peterson, *Tiny Tunes*. CD Baby, 2005.

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## Rhymes

This storytime includes three rhymes. The rhymes used in these storytimes have motions that are appropriate for fours and fives with developing fine motor skills.

### Rhymes for This Storytime:

- “Old Gray Cat”
- “Baby Mice”
- “Round the House”

## Activities

This storytime includes an optional theme-related activity, to be completed after the closing song. Below are three 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 fours and fives 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 having fun!

### Activity Suggestions:

**Fingerprint Mice.** Provide rubber stamp pads and paper. Show the children how to make a finger print mouse with their thumbs or fingers. Use a black marker or crayon to make eyes and a tail. Use a pink marker or crayon to make a nose and ears.

**Old Gray Cat Creative Dramatics.** This rhyme is used as a fingerplay in the storytime. It is also fun to act out: Select one child to be the cat. The other children are mice. During the first verse, the cat curls up, pretending to sleep. During the second verse, the mice creep around the sleeping cat. During the third verse, the cat slowly sits up and stretches. During the fourth verse, the cat chases the mice. During the fifth verse, the mice squeal.

**I Love Mice.** Download and print one heart-shaped mouse template from [www.upstartpromotions.com/upstart/pages/reproducibles](http://www.upstartpromotions.com/upstart/pages/reproducibles) for each child. Have children cut out the heart shape and fold it in half for the mouse’s body. Add a piece of yarn or ribbon for a tail between the folded heart shape, and then have children glue the heart mouse halves together. Add wiggly eyes and ears, and use a black crayon to add a nose and whiskers.



## 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.