

Pet Parade

Presenter Tip Sheet

About This Storytime

Many children this age have a pet or have close relatives or friends who have pets, so they can identify with the theme. Children can bring their own stuffed animal pet to storytime if desired. Ask children when they arrive if they have a pet and what its name is.

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:

- *Dear Zoo*, by Rod Campbell (Little Simon, 2005)
- *Giant Pop-Out Pets*, by Amelia Powers (Chronicle, 2007)
- *I Want a Pet!* by Cathy Morrison (Tiger Tales, 2012)
- *Mary Had a Little Lamb*, by Sarah Josepha Hale (Two Lions, 2011) (or other version)
- *Me Want Pet!* by Tammi Sauer (Simon & Schuster, 2012)
- *My Dog, My Cat*, by Ashlee Fletcher (Tanglewood, 2011)
- *Peek-a-Pet!* by Marie Torres Cimarusti (Dutton, 2004)
- *Pet Shop Lullaby*, by Mary Ann Fraser (Boyd's Mill Press, 2009)
- *The Pigeon Wants a Puppy!* by Mo Willems (Disney-Hyperion, 2008)
- *Who's That Scratching at My Door?* by Amanda Leslie (Handprint, 2001)

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
- "How Much Is That Doggie in the Window?" 🎧 1.27
- "Little Polly Parakeet" (sung to the tune of "Down By the Station") 🎧 2.07
- "Mary Had a Little Lamb" 🎧 2.09

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:

- "I've Got a Dog"
- "Three Little Pets"
- "Little Bo Peep"
- 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:

Creative Dramatics. Teach the children how to do dog tricks, such as roll over, sit and beg, shake, dance, bark on command, and pretend to chase their tails. For cats, children can act out movements such as stalking, stretching, slinking, sleeping, chasing their tails, and chasing bugs.

Bone Toss. Use masking tape to mark a throw line. Provide bone-shaped dog biscuits and dog dishes. Have the children toss the bones into the doggie dishes.

Bingo Name Puzzles. Print a Bingo Name Puzzle from www.upstartpromotions.com/upstart/pages/reproducibles for each child. Cut out the rectangles, laminate them, and then cut puzzle pieces. Place each puzzle in a plastic resealable bag. Invite children to put their puzzles together and take them 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.