

Pet Show

Tips for Parents and Caregivers

Here are ideas and activities to try this week with your child. Each activity is based on one of the **7 Days • 7 Ways** principles of early literacy development and is designed to engage your child, stimulate his or her literacy skills, and enhance the bonds between you.

- 1. SHARE BOOKS** Do you own a pet? See if you can find a very easy nonfiction (true facts) book about your pet animal. If you do not have a pet, what type of pet would your child like to have? Read books about that animal.
- 2. SHARE SOUNDS** Talk to your child about all the different kinds of animals that people keep for pets. Say the name of the animal, and then make the animal's sound. Have fun making up silly sounds for animals that don't make sounds, such as bunnies, gerbils, and snakes. Young children enjoy playing with sounds and making up new words.
- 3. SHARE WORDS** Introduce your child to names of unusual pet animals, such as hedgehogs, lizards, pygmy goats, potbellied pigs, and llamas.
- 4. SHARE RHYMES** Continue reciting the rhymes that were introduced during today's storytime. Talk about different animal names that rhyme, such as: dog, hog, frog; cat, rat, bat; lamb, clam; goose, moose; hare, bear; and puppy, guppy. Hearing rhyming words will help your child begin to learn that combinations of letters make similar sounds.
- 5. SHARE SONGS** Continue singing the songs that we introduced in storytime, and make up new songs, too! Here are two that you can sing to the tune of "Bingo."

I have a cat with a frisky tail,
And Kitty is her name-o.
K-I-T-T-Y, K-I-T-T-Y, K-I-T-T-Y,
And Kitty is her name-o.

I have a dog with great big ears,
And Doggy is his name-o.
D-O-G-G-Y, D-O-G-G-Y, D-O-G-G-Y,
And Doggy is his name-o.

- 6. SHARE STORIES** Tell your child a story about a pet you remember from childhood, or make up stories about the pets now in your home.
- 7. SHARE PLAYTIME** Have your own special pet show at home with stuffed animals. Have your child come up with categories for prizes: prettiest, most favorite, scariest, and so on.

Songs and Rhymes for Pet Show

Here are the songs and rhymes that you and your child enjoyed today. By continuing to sing, chant, and play with them every day, you will help your child make sense of the new information and concepts introduced at storytime.

Songs

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)*

My Dog Rags

(sung to the tune of "Five Little Ducks")

I have a dog, *(Point to self)*
And his name is Rags, *(Pat imaginary dog)*
He ate all his dinner, *(Pat tummy)*
So his tummy sags,
His ears flip-flop, *(Bend left and then right hand at wrist)*
And his tail wig-wags, *(Put hands together and wave side to side)*
And when he walks,
He ziggy-zig-zags! *(Move child in zig-zag motion)*

How Much Is That Doggie in the Window?

How much is that doggie in the window? Arf! Arf!
(Tap fingers in barking motion or clap on "Arf! Arf!")
The one with the waggily tail? Arf! Arf!
How much is that doggie in the window? Arf! Arf!
I do hope that doggie's for sale. Arf! Arf!

How much is that kitty in the window? Meow! Meow!
(Tap fingers or clap on "Meow! Meow!")
The one with the long furry tail? Meow! Meow!
How much is that kitty in the window? Meow! Meow!
I do hope that kitty's for sale. Meow! Meow!

Mary Had a Little Lamb

Mary had a little lamb, *(Sway child back and forth on lap)*
Little lamb, little lamb,
Mary had a little lamb,
Its fleece was white as snow.

Everywhere that Mary went, *(Make walking motions)*
Mary went, Mary went,
Everywhere that Mary went,
The lamb was sure to go.

The More We Get Together

The more we get together, *(Sway 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.

Additional Verse

The more we play together...

Rhymes

Three Little Pets

Three little pets jumped up on the bed,
(Bounce baby on lap, or toddler jumps up and down)
One fell off and bumped his little head. *(Touch or clutch head)*
Mama called the vet, and the vet said, *(Hand to ear like phone)*
"No more pets jumping up on the bed." *(Waggle finger "no")*

Additional Stanzas

Two little pets jumped up on the bed...

One little pet jumped up on the bed...

Three little pets jumped up on the bed, *(Bounce or jump)*
None fell off and bumped their little heads.
(Spoken softly) Because they fell asleep.
(Finger to mouth in shhh gesture)

Fiddle-Dee-Dee

Fiddle-dee-dee, fiddle-dee-dee, *(Clap hands in time to rhyme)*
A dog and a cat sat next to me.
Dog jumped up, on my knee, *(Jump hands up in air, then pat knees)*
Fiddle-dee, fiddle-dee, fiddle-dee-dee. *(Clap in time to rhyme)*
Arf-arf!

Fiddle-dee-dee, fiddle-dee-dee, *(Clap hands in time to rhyme)*
A dog and a cat sat next to me.
Cat jumped up, on my knee, *(Jump hands up in air, then pat knees)*
Fiddle-dee, fiddle-dee, fiddle-dee-dee. *(Clap in time to rhyme)*
Meee-ow!

There Was a Little Turtle, by Vachel Lindsay

There was a little turtle, *(Clap hands)*
He lived in a box,
He swam in a puddle,
He climbed on the rocks.
He snapped at a mosquito, *(Make snapping motion with hands)*
He snapped at a flea,
He snapped at a minnow,
And he snapped at me.
He caught the mosquito, *(Make catching motion with hands)*
He caught the flea,
He caught the minnow,
But he didn't catch me! *(Pat child's tummy)*