

# Sing, Sing a Song!

## Tips, Songs, and Rhymes 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.

- **SHARE BOOKS** Your library has tons of song picture books; ask your librarian for suggestions. After you've read the book once, sing it and have your child sing along. The quality of your voice is unimportant. Your child will not care.
- **SHARE WORDS** Introduce some simple musical terms—beat, harmony, medley, octave, duet, chord, melody, etc.
- **SHARE RHYMES** Clap out a favorite nursery rhyme, and see if your child can guess what it is. If this is too difficult, mention three rhymes; then clap out one, and see if he can tell which one it is.
- **SHARE SONGS** Singing songs with your child is important for learning how to read. Songs have a different note for each syllable, which helps children break down words. You can clap the syllables while singing to help your child hear them within the words. This will help her break apart unfamiliar words when learning to read.
- **SHARE STORIES** Make up new words for the song “There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly.” Or, change the items the old lady eats to create a whole new story. Invite your child to choose the items the old lady swallows.
- **SHARE PLAYTIME** Play music with different tempos, and dance with your child! You can include streamers, bean bags, scarves, etc.
- **SHARE WRITING** Give your child paper and colored markers or crayons. Play different types of music—classical, pop, country, etc. Ask your child to draw what she hears or to move her crayon to the sounds of the music.

Here are the words to the songs and rhymes that you and your child enjoyed today. By continuing to sing, chant, and play with your child throughout the week, you will help him or her make sense of the new information and concepts introduced at storytime.

### Songs

#### Moving Hands

(sung to the tune of “The Farmer in the Dell”)

Put your hands on your head, *(Suit actions to words)*

Put your hands on your knees,

Put your hands behind you now,

If you please.

Put your hands on your tummy,

Put your hands on your toes,

Put your hands upon your cheeks,

Put them on your nose.

Put your hands in the air,

Put your hands on your hair,

Clap your hands, one, two, three,

Then fold them on your knees.

#### Mister Sun

Oh, Mister Sun, Sun, *(Hold arms overhead like sun)*

Mister Golden Sun,

Please shine down on me.

Oh, Mister Sun, Sun,

Mister Golden Sun,

Hiding behind a tree. *(Hold hands over face as if to hide)*

These little children

Are asking you,

To please come out *(Motion hands as if to beckon children)*

So we can play with you.

Oh, Mister Sun, Sun, *(Hold arms overhead like sun)*

Mister Golden Sun,

Please shine down on me!

*(Repeat)*

# Tips, Songs, and Rhymes for Parents and Caregivers

## Days of the Week

(sung to the tune of “The Addams Family” theme song)

Days of the week, *(Clap twice)*  
Days of the week, *(Clap twice)*  
Days of the week, days of the week,  
Days of the week. *(Clap twice)*

There’s Sunday and there’s Monday,  
There’s Tuesday and there’s Wednesday,  
There’s Thursday and there’s Friday,  
And then there’s Saturday.

Days of the week, *(Clap twice)*  
Days of the week, *(Clap twice)*  
Days of the week, days of the week,  
Days of the week. *(Clap twice)*  
*(Repeat)*

## Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes

*(Place both hands on parts of body as they are mentioned. Sing a second time and get faster)*

Head, shoulders, knees, and toes—knees and toes,  
Head, shoulders, knees, and toes—knees and toes,  
And eyes, and ears, and mouth, and nose,  
Head, shoulders, knees, and toes—knees and toes!

Knees, tummy, neck, and nose—neck and nose!  
Knees, tummy, neck, and nose—neck and nose!  
And shoulders, hands, and two elbows,  
Knees, tummy, neck, and nose—neck and nose!

## The More We Get Together

The more we get together, *(Cross arms and sway from side to side)*  
Together, together,  
The more we get together,  
The happier we’ll be.  
For your friends are my friends,  
*(Point to someone else and then to yourself)*  
And my friends are your friends.  
*(Point to yourself and then to someone else)*  
The more we get together, *(Cross arms and sway from side to side)*  
The happier we’ll be.  
*(Repeat)*

## Library Storytime Song

(sung to the tune of “I’ve Been Workin’ on the Railroad”)

I came to my storytime  
*(Can sway side to side throughout and point to self)*  
At the library today,  
I came to my storytime *(Point to self)*  
To sing, and laugh, and play,  
I listened to some picture books,  
Sang songs, said some rhymes,  
I hope I can come back again,  
Because I had a very good time!  
I want to come back, *(Clap!)*  
I want to come back, *(Clap!)*  
I want to come back to storytime!  
I want to come back, *(Clap!)*  
I want to come back, *(Clap!)*  
To my storytime!  
*(Spoken)* See you soon! *(Wave goodbye)*