

Small Cars, Big Trucks

Presenter Tip Sheet

About This Storytime

Many kids this age love big trucks, construction equipment, and cars. This storytime builds on that natural fascination and ends with a jeep story that is filled with rhyming words—a classic book that increases phonological awareness.

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:

- *Construction Kitties*, by Judy Sue Goodwin Sturges (Henry Holt, 2013)
- *Dazzling Diggers*, by Tony Mitton and Ant Parker (Kingfisher, 2000) (also *Cool Cars* and *Tough Trucks*, by same authors)
- *Digger Man*, by Andrea Zimmerman and David Clemesha (Henry Holt, 2003)
- *I Love Trucks!* by Philemon Sturges (HarperCollins, 1998)
- *The Little Dump Truck*, by Margery Cuyler (Henry Holt, 2009)
- *My Car*, by Byron Barton (Greenwillow, 2001)
- *Red Truck*, by Kersten Hamilton (Viking, 2012)
- *Sheep in a Jeep*, by Nancy Shaw (HMH, 1997)
- *Truck Driver Tom*, by Monica Wellington (Dutton, 2007)
- *A Truck Goes Rattley-Bumpa*, by Jonathan London (Henry Holt, 2005)
- *Trucks*, by Byron Barton (HarperFestival, 1986)
- *Where Do Diggers Sleep at Night?* by Brianna Caplan Sayres (Random House, 2012)

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
- “I’m a Little Dump Truck” (sung to the tune of “Up on the Housetop”) 🎧 1.30
- “Little Hunk of Tin” (sung to the tune of “I’m a Little Acorn Brown”) 🎧 2.06
- “Buckle Up” (sung to the tune of “The Ants Go Marching/ When Johnny Comes Marching Home”) 🎧 1.10

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:

- “Front-End Loader”
- “Cars and Trucks”
- “I’m a Windshield Wiper”
- Closing Rhyme: “Wave Goodbye”

Presenter Tip Sheet for Small Cars, Big Trucks

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:

Wiper Movements. Have children lie on the floor and use their legs like windshield wipers. Recite the rhyme in the storytime, or sing this song to the tune of “Row, Row, Row Your Boat”:

I’m a little windshield wiper,
back and forth I go,
swish, swish, swish, swash,
oh, how the rain does flow.

I’m a little windshield wiper,
back and forth I go,
no matter how hard it rains,
I keep your windshield clean.

©Pam Schiller

Car Tracks. Place a folded paper towel in a foam meat tray or other small tray. Pour tempera paint over the towel. Provide butcher paper and small cars and trucks, and invite children to roll the vehicles in the paint and then across the paper. You may want to tape the butcher paper to the tabletop to keep it from moving.

Rubbings. Download car and truck templates from www.upstartpromotions.com/upstart/pages/reproducibles and print out multiple copies on card stock. Tape the templates to the table, and provide paper and crayons for children to make rubbings of the vehicles.



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.