

Things That Go!

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** If your child shows interest in a book, go for it! Even if your baby is interested only in the pictures, sharing the book will encourage the love of reading.
- 2. SHARE SOUNDS** Things that go make amazing sounds! Vroom, splash, rrrrrr, and zoom are all great sounds to make with your baby. These are especially fun at bath time.
- 3. SHARE WORDS** Call little ones' attention to travel and other vehicles when you are in the car or riding the bus. You might see trains, planes, buses, trucks, bicycles, strollers, wagons, riding lawn mowers, and tractors. Naming these vehicles helps build your baby's vocabulary. Add to the fun by imitating the sounds that each vehicle makes.
- 4. SHARE RHYMES** Recite rhymes such as those presented in today's storytime. It doesn't matter if you remember or recite the same words. Improvise, using anything your baby shows interest in as your subject.
- 5. SHARE SONGS** The car is a great place to do some singing! Keep a selection of your child's favorite music close at hand so that you can practice some duets on the road.
- 6. SHARE STORIES** You can easily tell your own story about "things that go." When you get home, describe your trip to storytime, how you got there, what happened there, and how you returned home. Make up stories about other places where you might travel and what mode of transportation you would use. Act them out!
- 7. SHARE PLAYTIME** Have a play session about things that fly, such as birds and airplanes. Make flying arms, then pick up your child for a flight of her own.

Songs and Rhymes for Things That Go!

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)*

Bumping Up and Down in My Little Red Wagon

Bumping up and down in my little red wagon, *(Bounce child in lap)*
Bumping up and down in my little red wagon,
Bumping up and down in my little red wagon,
Won't you be my darling?

Additional Verses

One wheel's off and the axle's draggin' ... *(Bounce, leaning side to side)*
Let's get a hammer and a nail and fix it ... *(Pretend to hammer a nail)*
Bumping up and down in my little red wagon ... *(Bounce child in lap)*

The Wheels on the Bus

The wheels on the bus go round and round, *(Roll hands)*
Round and round, round and round.
The wheels on the bus go round and round,
All through the town.

Additional Verses

The doors on the bus go open and shut ... *(Open and close arms)*
The wipers on the bus go swish-swish-swish ... *(Sweep arms)*
The people on the bus go up and down ... *(Lift child up and down)*

Row, Row, Row Your Boat

Row, row, row your boat, *(Make rowing arms)*
Gently down the stream,
Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily,
Life is but a dream.

Additional Verses

Twist, twist, twist your boat ... *(Twist back and forth)*
Bounce, bounce, bounce your boat ... *(Bounce gently)*

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

Zoom, Zoom, Zoom!

Zoom, zoom, zoom, we're going to the moon! *(Bounce child)*
Zoom, zoom, zoom, we're leaving very soon!
Ready?
Five, four, three, two, one...
BLAST OFF! *(Lift child high overhead)*

This Is a Choo-Choo Train

This is a choo-choo train,
(Move arms in circular motion at sides like train wheels)
Puffing down the track.
Now it's going forward, *(Move forward)*
Now it's going back. *(Move back)*
Now the bell is ringing, *(Make bell-ringing motion with hand)*
Now the whistle blows. *(Put hand to mouth and say, "toot, toot!")*
What a lot of noise it makes,
Everywhere it goes!
(Move arms in circular motion at sides like train wheels)

Motorboat, Motorboat

Place your baby on his back, then take one foot in each hand and move his legs back and forth, first slow, then fast. A young toddler can stand in place and act out the rhyme by moving her legs slow, then fast.

Motorboat, motorboat, go so slow,
Motorboat, motorboat, go so fast,
Motorboat, motorboat, step on the gas!
VROOOM!