

Things That Go!

Presenter Tip Sheet

About This Storytime

Honk, rattle, choo-choo, beep, zoom, vroom! Little ones often love the sounds of travel and are fascinated by planes and trains, boats and trucks. Today's storytime explores different modes of transportation, along with the fun sounds and words that describe them.

Books

For books to share in this storytime, pick three from the list below, or choose other board books or picture books in your collection that reflect the theme and are developmentally appropriate for babies and young toddlers. Always share your longest book first. For your second, choose a participatory book that engages the child or both the caregiver and child. 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. If most children are restless and you feel the program is too long for that day, skip the last story and concentrate on the rhymes and songs.

Book Suggestions:

- *The Babies on the Bus*, by Karen Katz (Henry Holt, 2011)
- *The Baby Goes Beep*, by Rebecca O'Connell (Roaring Brook Press, 2003)
- *Beep Beep*, by Petr Horáček (Candlewick, 2008)
- *Bizzy Bear: Off We Go!* by Nosy Crow (Nosy Crow, 2012)
- *Boats*, by Byron Barton (HarperFestival, 1998)
- *Brownie and Pearl Go for a Spin*, by Cynthia Rylant (Beach Lane, 2012)
- *Choo Choo*, by Petr Horáček (Candlewick, 2008)
- *Fire Truck*, by Peter Sís (Greenwillow, 1998)
- *Freight Train*, by Donald Crews (Greenwillow, 2003)
- *I Love Planes*, by Philemon Sturges (HarperCollins, 2003)
- *I Love Trucks*, by Philemon Sturges (HarperCollins, 2001)
- *Maisy Drives the Bus*, by Lucy Cousins (Candlewick, 2000)

- *My Car*, by Byron Barton (Greenwillow, 2004)
- *On the Move!* by Emily Hawkins (Silver Dolphin Books, 2007)
- *Peek-a-Choo-Choo*, by Marie Torres Cimarusti (Dutton Juvenile, 2007)
- *Planes*, by Byron Barton (HarperFestival, 1998)
- *Riding in My Car*, by Woody Guthrie (LB Kids, 2012)
- *Splish-Splash*, by Nicola Smee (Boxer, 2011)
- *Tons of Trucks*, by Sue Fliess (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2012)
- *Wheels on the Bus*, by Paul Zelinsky (Dutton, 1990)
- *Zoom*, by Simms Taback (Blue Apple, 2010)

Songs

This storytime includes five songs. The same opening and closing songs should be used each week if you are holding a series of storytime programs. Always provide movements or motions to accompany each song, but keep these simple, such as the caregiver rocking the baby back and forth, bouncing the baby in time to the music, or clapping the baby's hands. Using recorded music during the storytime is fine, although it's best to sing the songs with a live voice, or sing along with simple recordings, so that very young children can hear the words and the sounds making up each word. Recorded music is often sung too fast for this purpose. For your reference or to play during storytime, The Very Ready Reading Program includes a CD of songs recorded at an appropriate tempo. Track numbers for each recording are provided in the songlist below and on the storytime program card.

Songs for This Storytime:

- Opening Song: "If You're Happy to Be Here" (sung to the tune of "If You're Happy and You Know It") 🎧 22 🎵 23
- "Bumping Up and Down in My Little Red Wagon" 🎧 8
- "The Wheels on the Bus" 🎧 54
- "Row, Row, Row Your Boat" 🎧 40
- Closing Song: "The More We Get Together" 🎧 28 🎵 29

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Rhymes

This storytime includes three rhymes, with movements to accompany them. Caregivers perform the movements with the child, depending on the child's ability. For babies, the caregiver can move the child's hands, fingers, and body, or otherwise help the baby execute the movements. Young toddlers may be able to do the movements themselves, or may need a little help. Keep in mind that children up to 24 months of age have not developed fine motor skills to the same degree as older toddlers and preschoolers; open and close motions are better than, say, putting one finger down at a time. The Very Ready Reading Program storytimes include different types of movement rhymes for variety, such as bounce/lift, finger/hand, and toe/foot rhymes.

Rhymes for This Storytime:

- "Zoom, Zoom, Zoom!" (bounce/lift)
- "This Is a Choo-Choo Train" (finger/hand)
- "Motorboat, Motorboat" (movement)

Activities

This storytime includes an optional theme-related activity, to be completed after the closing song. Below are three to choose from, including at least one that is suitable for the youngest babies. 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 very limited attention spans of babies and young toddlers in mind. However, always keep in mind and remind caregivers: **Any time an activity involves materials such as paint, sand, string, or small pieces, close adult supervision is required.** Although each activity has a learning aspect, the emphasis should be on fun!

Activity Suggestions:

We Move! Act out a slow car, a fast car, a bumpy car, and a race car, and have young toddlers move their bodies and imitate. For babies, caregivers can lay the baby down and move his legs and arms to do these motions. You can also make airplane and helicopter arms, or act like a choo-choo train.

Wheel Toys. Have available a variety of pull toys, train cars, and other baby-safe vehicles with wheels for children to explore. Play some transportation songs while children are playing.

Baby Train. Use black plastic tape to make a winding train track on the floor. Invite children to travel the tracks while making the sound of a train—choo-choo! toot-toot! Caregivers can carry babies over the tracks. Challenge toddlers to hop along the track and crawl over the track. Optional: add a train tunnel by cutting the sides out of a large cardboard box. Invite little ones to crawl through the tunnel.

Early Literacy Tips

Promote the **7 Days • 7 Ways** principles with parents and caregivers by emphasizing the three early literacy tips found in the yellow boxes in the storytime program.