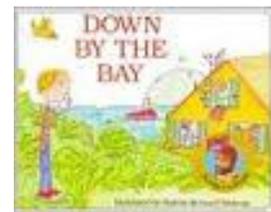




Mengle Memorial Library

presents:

Down by the Bay by Raffi



Down by the Bay is book version of a silly rhyming song. Singing songs and rhyming are a great way to encourage phonological awareness, the ability to hear and play with smaller sounds in words. You can encourage children to come up with their own rhymes to finish the line in the song: "Have you ever seen a _____ with a _____, down by the bay."

Songs help children develop listening skills and pay attention to the rhythms and rhymes of spoken language. Most songs have a different note for each syllable. This helps children break down words so they hear individual sounds in a word. This is an important pre-reading skill.

Singing also helps children learn new words and adds to their general knowledge. Singing slows down language so children can hear different parts of words and notice how they are alike and different. Clapping along to rhythms helps children hear the syllables in words and it helps them practice motor skills.

Other Rhyming and Silly Song Books

Bingo by Rosemary Wells

Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes

The Cat in the Hat Song Book by Dr. Seuss

Rhyming Dust Bunnies by Jan Thomas

Cows in the Kitchen by Child's Play

There was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly by Child's Play

The Eensy-Weensy Spider by Mary Ann Hoberman

Ten Little Monkeys by Child's Play

Hand Hand Fingers Thumb by Al Perkins

Today is Monday by Eric Carle

Extend the Book

One of the ways you can help your child improve his or her reading skills is by pointing out rhymes where you hear them. After you read a book that has rhyming words in it, go back through the story and talk about the words that rhyme. You can sing this song together, substituting rhyming words for "moose" and "goose."

"These Words Rhyme"

(Sing to the tune of "Skip to My Lou")

Moose, Goose, these words rhyme

Moose, Goose, these words rhyme

Moose, Goose, these words rhyme

So rhyme along with me.

Keep your ears ready to hear rhyme. You can use rhyming words from songs that you sing as well as make up your own sets of rhyming words. You can also make up silly nonsense words just as long as they rhyme!



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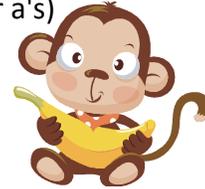
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More Fun Sing-Alongs

Apples and Bananas

This song teaches children about the different vowel sounds. Each refrain changes the vowel sound. Kids also love it because it sounds silly to say eeples instead of apples!

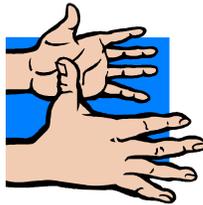
I like to eat, eat, eat apples and bananas
I like to ate, ate, ate ay-pples and banaynays (long a sound for all of the letter a's)
I like to eat, eat, eat ee-ples and baneenees (long e)
I like to ite, ite, ite i-ples and baninis (long i)
I like to ote, ote, ote o-pples and banonos (long o)



Open, Shut Them

This finger play can be used with the youngest children and babies. Follow the actions of the rhyming song.

Open, shut them
Open, shut them
Give a little clap, clap, clap
Open, shut them
Open, shut them
Put them in your lap, lap, lap



Creep them, creep them
Creep them, creep them
Right up to your chin, chin, chin
Open wide your little mouth
But do not let them in!



Willoughby Wallaby Woo

This song is all about rhyming! Older children may be able to create rhymes for it. Sing the first half of the line and see if the children can come up with a rhyming word for the end, or make the song rhyme with their names

Willoughby wallaby wee, an elephant sat on me
Willoughby wallaby woo, an elephant sat on you
Willoughby wallaby wary, an elephant sat on Mary
Willoughby wallaby wack, an elephant sat on Jack
Willoughby wallaby w_____, an elephant sat on _____



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