

EARLY LITERACY: THE FIVE PRACTICES

The following five early literacy practices develop six key early literary skills: Print awareness, print motivation, phonological awareness, vocabulary, narrative skills, and letter knowledge. A child's development is always relational, so early literacy engages entire families and lays the groundwork for lifelong readers. Try to integrate these five practices into every storytime!

TALK. Children learn about language by listening to people talk and joining in the conversation.

- Encourage baby babble by asking questions, pointing to objects, and describing what you are doing.
- Toddlers understand more than they speak, so it is helpful to use everyday vocabulary rather than “baby talk.”
- Ask open-ended questions and allow children plenty of time to respond.
- Be sure to define new words.
- For preschoolers, read picture books with no words and ask them to help you tell the story. Or ask how they might feel in situations the book describes.
- Extend what they say. For example, if a toddler says “milk,” respond with, “Would you like some milk to drink?”

SING. Singing helps children learn new words and concepts, and reinforces memory and phonological awareness.

- Sing clearly, slowly, and clap or move to the beat.
- Incorporate lapsits and bounces for babies so they associate caregiver connection with phonological awareness.
- Sing songs at various volume levels to help toddlers learn how to modulate their voices.
- Repeat, repeat, repeat! Repetition strengthens brain synapses and memory, from babies to preschoolers.
- Singing strengthens speech, social skills, and imagination, which strengthens kindergarten readiness.
- Children love singing even if adults are off key, so sing away regardless of your skill.

READ. Reading together develops vocabulary and comprehension. It also nurtures a love for reading through the interactional process wherein multiple people are all paying attention to the same story at once.

- Babies mirror adult facial expressions, so be sure to exaggerate any mood or feeling in a book you read aloud.
- Read a variety of books, from poetry to nonfiction, and have books available for browsing after storytime.
- Repeat the same books across multiple storytimes. Repetition helps toddlers master words and phrases, and increases self-confidence, which prepares them for more learning.
- Choose fast-paced, engaging books to encourage print motivation, particularly those that encourage children to read along.

WRITE. In early literacy, writing skills include becoming aware that printed letters correspond to spoken sounds and words. Children are also developing the coordination they will need to form letters.

- For babies, fingerplays, finger paint, and even playing with food at home helps to develop finger strength.
- For toddlers, scribbling and tearing give them practice with writing tools.
- For preschoolers, cutting and tracing practice gets them closer to forming letters on their own.
- Provide lots of different drawing materials to play with.
- Celebrate their drawings! Ask children to sign their names, and display them in your library.

PLAY. Play develops language and literacy skills by allowing children to put thoughts into words and talk about what they are doing. Social interaction increases learning at all ages!

- Greet babies or toddlers as they enter storytime with a colorful puppet. This sets the tone with giggles and models play for caregivers.
- For babies and toddlers, set out blocks, puzzles, and simple games for free play. Naming shapes and colors is practice for naming to letters.
- For preschoolers, emphasize imagination, emotions, and empathy.

These five practices are based on Every Child Ready to Read standards from ALSC and PLA: <http://every-childreadytoread.org/>

EARLY LITERACY TIPS: VIRTUAL STORYTIMES

CHOOSING VIRTUAL STORYTIME BOOKS

- Look for books with high-contrast images, matte pages, and a consistent orientation.
- The shorter and more engaging the story, the better.
- Required: Double-check copyright! Every publisher has different policies, so contact them directly before reading one of their books virtually.

AUDIENCE ENGAGEMENT DURING VIRTUAL STORYTIME

- Break up programming with movement breaks (stretches, dancing, etc.)
- Remember to introduce yourself and your library.
- Always introduce the book title, author/illustrator, and publisher (same for songs).
- Hold eye contact with the camera as much as possible.
- Consider asking someone to hold cue cards behind your recording device so you can maintain eye contact with the camera.
- Present a virtual schedule of storytime components.
- Start with your most engaging songs and books.
- Smile, ask questions, and maintain enthusiasm, just like for in-person storytime.
- Provide transitions between storytime elements (such as a clap or picture).
- Provide a document with songs and rhymes that parents can print at home.
- Be sure to use inclusive language, such as “y’all” or “friends,” instead of “you guys.”

VIDEOGRAPHY TIPS

- Required tools: A recording device, a microphone, a speaker, a ring or umbrella light, and video editing software (unless you are recording live).
- Optional tools: A music or book stand (to hold the book steady while you turn pages), props, cue cards, and a partner to interact with on camera.
- Facebook, YouTube, and Zoom are all popular virtual storytime platforms.
- Write a script so that you are extra intentional about word choice and pacing.
- Practice recording beforehand and watch your performance. Is the video well framed?
- Ensure audio and video quality is high.
- For pre-recorded videos, you can add large words and letters over the screen.
- Many video platforms allow you to turn on live captioning.
- Do not strive for perfection, and talk about your mistakes!

This handout includes information from the OCLC WebJunction webinar, “Getting Started with Virtual Storytimes” (2020, June 16), presented by Renee Grassi.

EARLY LITERACY TIPS: SPANISH OR BILINGUAL PROGRAMMING

BILINGUAL STORYTIMES

- Are primarily for Spanish-speaking families, but anyone can join!
- Strengthen both native language and second-language learning.
- Support early literacy through talking, singing, reading, writing, and playing.
- Help to dispel myths about second-language learning at home.
- Connect Spanish-speaking families in your community.

TYPES OF BILINGUAL STORYTIMES

- Bilingual with one presenter who is fluent in both languages.
- Bilingual with two presenters—one who speaks Spanish, and one who speaks English. The Spanish-speaking presenter can be a volunteer or staff member.
- Sprinkle, or culturally inclusive, storytimes where English speakers present materials that sprinkle in words in another language. These are great, but be careful not to advertise them as bilingual storytimes because it opens a false door to bilingual families who may expect to be able to ask you questions in Spanish.

CHOOSING MATERIALS

- Know your audience and their countries of origin.
- Choose songs and activities from a variety of Spanish-speaking countries.
- Not all Spanish is the same, so allow for variation.
- Choose songs and books written in Spanish originally over English materials translated into Spanish.
- Be sure to ask a Spanish speaker to review your materials beforehand. Just because a song is traditional does not mean it stands the test of time.
- Ask parents and caregivers for suggestions!

ENGAGEMENT TIPS

- Build community relationships alongside offering bilingual storytimes.
- Rehearse storytime components beforehand, especially if you have a partner. Be sure to match each other's energy!
- Call-and-response is a great way to engage all ages.
- Project song lyrics for parents to follow along and take pictures of the lyrics.
- Run activities that are fun for multiple ages, such as dancing and movement.
- Set out a single row of chairs to encourage parent participation.
- When reading two books, read one full spread in both languages before turning the pages.
- Encourage families to stay and play.
- Be available for caregiver questions in both languages.

BEST PRACTICES: OUTREACH TO SPANISH-SPEAKING COMMUNITIES

STEP 1: RESEARCH LOCAL DEMOGRAPHICS

- The Latino community in the U.S. is young, large, and diverse. First-generation immigrants may come from any of 21 Spanish-speaking countries, not only Mexico or the Northern Triangle (Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador).
- Start with local schools, city and regional governments, and state data centers. American Fact Finder or the Pew Research Center are good national sources.

STEP 2: ESTABLISH A PRESENCE OUTSIDE THE LIBRARY

- Outreach is critical to building awareness of library programs.
- Consider local nonprofits, community centers, ESL classes at local churches, parks, businesses, grocery stores, restaurants owned by Spanish-speakers, daycares, health care providers, free lunch sites, etc.
- Connect with organizations already working with these communities, such as schools and health organizations. Relationship-building is key.
- Engage with city-sponsored events and parties.
- Invite partners to host events at your library for parents (and provide food).

STEP 3: IDENTIFY SERVICE GAPS

- Identify community leaders and reach out to them.
- Conduct interviews with community leaders.
- Consider setting up a Latino advisory committee that meets a few times per year.

STEP 4: ADVERTISE PROGRAMS

- Translate fliers into Spanish.
- Identify local Spanish-language media or radio stations.
- Send a Spanish-language email newsletter that features library events.
- Invite patrons to share their cultures!

STEP 5: KEEP IT GOING

- Outreach is circular, not linear. Be consistent to develop that critical element of trust.
- Word of mouth is important!
- Be patient. Relationship-building is marketing, but it is a long-term process.

Adapted from “Before Bilingual Storytime: Engaging Latino and Spanish-Speaking Families” (2016) Webinar presented by Katie Scherrer and Lauren Simon. OCLC WebJunction.

DISPELLING MYTHS ABOUT RAISING BILINGUAL CHILDREN

(CAREGIVER HANDOUT)

Myth: Speaking more than one language at home will cause my children's English to suffer.

Pre-language milestones are the same in all languages, and bilingual children hit these developmental milestones in both languages at the same time as monolingual children.

Myth: Code-switching (switching between two languages in the same sentence) means my child is confused or at risk of developing a speech disorder.

Mixing languages is an effective communication strategy while children are developing their vocabularies. Usually by age four, children are able to switch between languages with no problems. If a bilingual child develops a speech or language disorder, their bilingualism is almost never the cause.

Myth: My child will fall behind in school.

Children who speak a second language at home typically do better in school than monolingual speakers. Children who speak two languages fluently often have better vocabularies, stronger empathy, and increased creativity and cognitive flexibility. Young children do great in English immersion classrooms. Older children, such as high schoolers, often do better learning in their native language while still learning English.

Myth: I should speak to my child in English at home so they are ready for school.

You should speak to your children in the language in which you are most fluent. Otherwise, you are modeling a lack of fluency and limited vocabulary, which can hinder language and academic development. Children who grow up in the U.S. typically have no problem learning English because they have ample opportunities to practice outside the home.

Myth: My English is not good enough to raise a bilingual child.

Children become bilingual from repeated practice in a given language. Their language ability is not based on the fluency of their caregivers.

Myth: Being bilingual means having the exact same proficiencies in both languages.

Language proficiency changes based on how a language is used and how often. Shifting fluencies are okay. Children who speak a second language at home and attend school in English typically develop stronger writing skills in English. Even after starting school, encourage your child to practice reading and writing in the language you speak at home. Children typically learn to speak fluently before they develop academic proficiency.

DISIPANDO MITOS SOBRE LA CRIANZA DE NIÑOS BILINGÜES

(FOLLETO DEL CUIDADOR)

Mito: Hablar más de un idioma en casa hará que el inglés de mis niños se vea afectado.

Los logros del pre-lenguaje son los mismos en todos los idiomas, y los niños bilingües llegan a estos logros del desarrollo en ambos idiomas al mismo tiempo como niños monolingües.

Mito: Cambiar de código (cambiar entre dos idiomas en la misma oración) significa que mi niño está confundido o en riesgo de desarrollar un trastorno del habla.

Mezclar idiomas es una estrategia de comunicación eficaz mientras los niños están desarrollando sus vocabularios. En general, a los cuatro años de edad, los niños pueden cambiar entre idiomas sin ningún problema. Si un niño bilingüe desarrolla un trastorno del habla o idioma, su bilingüismo casi nunca es la causa.

Mito: Mi niño se atrasará en la escuela.

A los niños que hablan un segundo idioma en casa típicamente les va mejor en la escuela que a los monolingües. Los niños que hablan dos idiomas con fluidez a menudo tienen mejores vocabularios, empatía afectiva más intensa y una mayor creatividad y flexibilidad cognitiva. A los niños pequeños les va bien en las aulas de inmersión en inglés. A los niños más grandes, como los estudiantes de secundaria, les va mejor aprendiendo su idioma nativo mientras todavía están aprendiendo inglés.

Mito: Yo debería hablar en inglés con mi niño en casa para que esté listo para la escuela.

Usted debería hablar con su niño en el idioma en que usted sea más fluido. De otra manera, usted estaría modelando una falta de fluidez y vocabulario limitado, lo que podría obstaculizar el desarrollo del lenguaje y académico. Los niños que crecen en los EE. UU. suelen no tener problemas para aprender el inglés porque ellos tienen muchas oportunidades para practicar fuera del hogar.

Mito: Mi inglés no es lo suficientemente bueno para criar a un niño bilingüe.

Los niños se vuelven bilingües por la práctica repetida en un idioma determinado. Su capacidad lingüística no está basada en la fluidez de sus cuidadores.

Mito: Ser bilingüe significa tener exactamente las mismas competencias en ambos idiomas.

El dominio del idioma cambia basado en cómo un idioma se usa y qué tan a menudo. Los cambios de fluidez están bien. Los niños que hablan su segundo idioma en casa y asisten a la escuela en inglés típicamente desarrollan habilidades de escritura más fuertes en inglés. Incluso después de iniciar la escuela, aliente a su niño a practicar la lectura y escritura en el lenguaje que usted habla en casa. Los niños típicamente aprenden a hablar de manera fluida más rápido de lo que desarrollan competencias académicas.

INCLUSION CHECKLIST FOR LIBRARY PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Ideally, all staff should have equity, diversity, and inclusion training. Check out Project READY and Project ENABLE (see Resources) for free online training geared to librarians and library administrators.

Always seek insight and feedback from members of the community/staff with lived experiences.

RACE/ETHNICITY

- Feature books and resources including diverse representations of race/ethnicity. Characters should not necessarily focus on specific historical events or moments of struggle.
- Avoid materials with characters portraying the “white savior” trope or materials where BIPOC are treated as “sidekicks” or represented in offensive, clichéd ways.
- Marketing materials should feature youth from diverse backgrounds/ethnicities without reinforcing cultural stereotypes.
- Art supplies/toys should include multiple skin tone options and representations.
- Include characteristics representing different cultures and lived experiences from BIPOC at events.
- Pay special attention to the pronunciation of names. Do not make up nicknames or shorten names to make them “easier” to remember.
- Be cognizant of the various implicit and/or unconscious biases, including affinity bias, when it comes to racial and ethnic diversity.
- Bring in presenters of all abilities that are culturally diverse.
- Think about your own racial and ethnic identity and engage in self-work before brainstorming and reviewing content for library programs.
- Create a team of colleagues to proofread ideas for content and programs through an inclusive lens.



Image source: Shutterstock

GENDER/SEXUALITY

- Include books and resources that present a wide range of gender norms.
- Avoid programming that caters to specific gender stereotyping.
- Avoid separating groups by gender.
- Use gender-neutral language when presenting ideas and information.
- Ask program presenters/participants if they have preferred pronouns.
- Consider using gender neutral terms like “they” or “them” when referring to animal characters.
- When children present stereotypes in their own stories or in response to a question, use the moment as a learning opportunity.

ACCESSIBILITY

- Language is always evolving. Be aware of current disability language when developing content for programs/services. (See style guide from NCDJ in Resources.)
- Always ask participants/speakers/staff with disabilities if they prefer person-first (i.e., person with autism) or identity-first (autistic person) language when describing themselves, and never correct their preference.
- Always presume competence of people of all abilities.

- Site should be accessible, including accessible parking, paths, restrooms, and clearly identifiable wayfinding.
- Provide programming materials in a variety of formats, in addition to print, including audio, large print, e-format (which has many accessibility options!), and high-contrast/tactile literacy.
- Include books and resources representing people with disabilities and also written by people with a lived disability experience.
- Consider providing a social narrative (or Social Story) to help people of all ages and abilities prepare for a visit or specific program that is new to them (especially helpful for the neurodivergent community, people with PTSD, and dementia).
- Provide a visual schedule during programs and allow time for processing before transitioning to the next activity.
- Avoid visual clutter (in backgrounds and printed materials).
- Dim bright lights or cover fluorescent lighting with filters and provide noise-canceling headphones in case of sensory overwhelm.
- Use a microphone when possible.
- Recorded and live virtual programs need to have captioning.
- Provide adaptive alternatives (movement or art supplies) for participants with physical disabilities.
- If possible, identify a quiet space or room with some sensory calming devices for patrons experiencing sensory overwhelm. Devices can include items for sensory seekers (e.g., fidgets, weighted lap pads) and sensory avoiders (e.g., pop-up tents, headphones).
- Avoid flashing lights, loud content, or sudden movements, or provide warning in advance.
- Provide different seating options that allow space for wheelchairs, walkers, and/or strollers.
- If providing food items, avoid items with common allergens (e.g., nuts, gluten, dairy), and list food items in advance. Provide alternatives.
- Provide concise instructions in multiple formats (i.e., visuals, demonstration, video, and written). Consider combining written with visual instructions.
- Provide verbal description of visuals, illustrations, and speakers.
- Consider providing tactile manipulatives and other sensory tools to engage the senses.
- Allow time for participants to look at you and a sign language interpreter.
- All marketing should include an accommodations statement. Also consider providing some accommodations in advance so someone does not need to make a request.

RESOURCES

Project READY: <https://ready.web.unc.edu/>

Project ENABLE: <https://projectenable.syr.edu/>

Style guide from National Center on Disability and Journalism: <https://ncdj.org/style-guide/>

“Literacy for Youth with Low Vision” from Adaptive Umbrella: <https://bit.ly/3tVtuUq>

Social narrative resources from *Libraries and Autism: We’re Connected*: <http://librariesandautism.org/news-resources.htm>

“What Is a Social Story?” from Carol Gray Social Stories: <https://bit.ly/3yeCF5b>

“Social Story” from Deerfield Public Library: <https://deerfieldlibrary.org/socialstory/>

“What Is a Visual Schedule?” from Adaptive Umbrella: <https://bit.ly/3QFXZaF>

“Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion” from ALA: <https://www.ala.org/advocacy/diversity>

“Virtual Storytime Services Guide” from ALSC: <https://bit.ly/3yaPygj>

STORYTIME BOOKS

Babies (English)

Hello, Biscuit! Hello, Friends! (2021) by Alyssa Satin Capucilli and illustrated by Pat Schories. A tabbed book about Biscuit, the little yellow puppy, and all of his friends.

Every Night Is Pizza Night (2020) by J. Kenji López-Alt and illustrated by Gianna Ruggiero. A fun, colorful introduction to international foods and cultures. Starred reviews.

Where Are Swimmy's Friends? (2021) by Leo Lionni. A lift-the-flap book about a little fish finding his underwater friends.

Bear and Bird Learn to Share (2021) by Johnny Lambert. A lyrical board book about sharing and a forest adventure.

I Like to Share! (2021) by Stephen Krensky and illustrated by Sara Gillingham. A board book with encouraging text for babies and toddlers.

Babies (Spanish/Bilingual)

Cerca / Close (2019) by Juan Felipe Herrera and illustrated by Blanca Gómez. A simple concept board book about a little girl taking note of her surroundings and visiting her close friend next door. Bilingual.

Hello Friend, Hola Amigo (2020) by Andrés Salguero and illustrated by Sara Palacios. A board book about how friendships come in all shapes and sizes. Great to combine with the song of the same title by 123 Andrés. Starred reviews. Bilingual.

Toddlers (English)

Mabel: A Mermaid Fable (2020) by Rowboat Watkins. A silly read-aloud about friendship and being yourself. Starred reviews.

A Great Day for a Hug (2021) by Mack van Gageldonk. A chick gives hugs to all the other farm animals.

Sleepy Bird (2018) by Jeremy Tankard. A good storytime addition for restless toddlers and preschoolers. No matter Bird's problem, his faithful friends stay by his side.

Croc and Turtle! The Bestest Friends Ever (2019) by Mike Wohnoutka. Colorful illustrations and a story about an uncomplicated friendship that will elicit giggles and confidence. Starred reviews.

My Friends Make Me Happy (2018) by Jan Thomas. Sheep's friends try to guess what makes her happy in this fun read aloud.

TIP:

Pass out stuffed animals or soft puppets for babies to hold while you read books featuring animals.

TIP:

For slightly older titles, consider *Baby Party* (2015) by Rebecca O'Connell and *How to Grow a Friend* (2015) by Sara Gillingham.

TIP:

To welcome bilingual patrons, decorate the children's area with bright, colorful words and illustrations in Spanish (or other languages!) as well as English.

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TIP:

After reading a story, talk about the rhyming words you just read. Ask children if they can come up with any more rhymes.

TODDLERS

In a Jar (2020) by Deborah Marcero. A joyful, captivating book about long-distance friendship. Starred reviews.

Toddlers (Spanish/Bilingual)

Let's Be Friends / Seamos amigos (2021) by René Colato Laínez and illustrated by Nomar Perez. A joyful story about two boys, one English speaker and one Spanish speaker, who meet at school. They paint together and learn about colors. Starred reviews. Bilingual.

I Need a Hug / Necesito un abrazo (2019) by Aaron Blabey. A tiny porcupine just wants a cuddle, but his prickly spikes scare away all the other animals... until snake comes along. Bilingual.

Coque escoge / Charlie Chooses (2021) by Lou Peacock. A heartwarming story about a boy who struggles with choosing but who, in the end, is chosen by his new dog at the shelter. Starred reviews. Available in separate Spanish and English editions.

Preschool (English)

Luna and Pebble (2019) by Wendy Meddour and illustrated by Daniel Eg-néus. A little girl in a refugee camp passes her beloved pebble to another boy when she leaves. Starred reviews.

Harold and Hog Pretend for Real! (2019) by Mo Willems and illustrated by Dan Santat. A simple story is paired with detailed art in this fun book about a friendship between two creatures with very different personalities.

Goodbye, Friend! Hello, Friend (2019) by Cori Doerrfeld. Two best friends say goodbye (and hello) to their favorite parts of every season before having to say goodbye to each other. A tender book about friendship and loss.

Anemone Is Not the Enemy (2021) by Anna McGregor. A charming tale of searching for new friendship in an ocean tidal pool.

Let's Play!: A Book About Making Friends (2021) by Amanda McCardie and Colleen Larmour. An engaging book with social-emotional messages of overcoming isolation.

Bear Can't Wait (2021) by Karma Wilson and Jane Chapman. Simple rhymes and appealing illustrations in this story about Bear's impatience for the party he planned for his friend.

The Big House and the Little House (2021) by Yoshi Ueno and illustrated by Emiko Fujishima. Bear and Mouse become friends. The friendship is awkward at first, but a big storm brings them closer together.

Hum and Swish (2019) by Matt Myers. Jamie plays quietly by the sea and eventually finds a friend who wants to play with her just as she is. Starred reviews.

TIP:

In bilingual storytimes, double down on music and movement. Learning new words through song or dance is extra fun and primes memory.

TIP:

For a sweet bilingual friendship book to read in the fall (not summer), check out *Gustavo, el fantasmita tímido / Gustavo, the Shy Ghost* (2020) by Flavia Z. Drago.

TIP:

For large storytime groups, try projecting e-books on a screen using TumbleBooks.

PRESCHOOL

The Squirrels Who Squabbled (2019) by Rachel Bright and illustrated by Jim Field. A dynamic rhyming book about two squirrels who race for the last pinecone of the season. Their misadventures end in friendship.

Preschool (Spanish/Bilingual)

¡Vamos! Let's Cross the Bridge (*World of ¡Vamos!*) (2021) by Raúl the Third III. A group of friends hit a traffic jam on the way to a party. Starred reviews. In English with Spanish words.

La casa de algún día / The One Day House (2017) by Julia Durango and illustrated by Bianca Diaz. A little boy promises his beloved friend, an elderly lady, that one day he will fix up her house, and his words inspire others in the neighborhood to pitch in and get it done. Available in separate Spanish and English editions.

Kiki y Jax: La magia de la amistad / Kiki and Jax: The Life-Changing Magic of Friendship (2019) by Marie Kondo and illustrated by Salina Yoon. A simple story with vibrant illustrations about the life-changing magic of friendship (and tidying up). Available in separate Spanish and English editions.

Eldie Makes New Friends! / ¡Eldie hace nuevos amigos! (2021) by Lissarette Nisnevich. Eldie the bear with wings makes new friends at preschool. Bilingual.

We Laugh Alike / Juntos nos reímos (2021) by Carmen T. Bernier-Grand and illustrated by Alyssa Bermudez. Six children at park—three who speak English and three who speak Spanish—find ways to play together. Colorful illustrations and responsive dual text. Bilingual.

STORYTIME SONGS

Song/Movement: Will You Be My Friend Today? (English)

To the tune of “London Bridge Is Falling Down.” Piggyback words by Angel Waters and Janet Reynolds of Library District #2 of Linn County in La Cygne, KS.

Will you be my friend today, friend today, friend today?

Will you be my friend today? Come and play!

Verses:

Clap your hands with me today...

Stomp your feet with me today...

Turn around with me today...

Shout hooray with me today...

Yes, you are my friend today...

Song: Make New Friends (English)

A classic rhyme originally written by Joseph Parry.

Make new friends, but keep the old

One is silver and the other gold.

A circle is round, it has no end,

That's how long I will be your friend.

TIP:

Music is a key component of early literacy. Singing slows down language so children can hear the different sounds that make up words.

TIP:

For maximum engagement, sing songs that tell a story.

STORYTIME SONGS

Rhyme: Who Borrowed the Book? (English)

A fun variation on “Who Stole the Cookie from Cookie Jar?” that is also a great way for children to learn each other’s names.

(Name) borrowed a book from the library!
Who me?
Yes, you!
Couldn’t be!
Then who?

Song/Bounce/Movement: I’m Your Little Friend (English)

To tune of “I’m a Little Teapot.” A fun bounce to sing with babies before playing peekaboo. Toddlers and preschoolers can do the motions themselves before a game of hide and seek. Piggyback works by CSLP and Janet Reynolds of Library District #2 of Linn County in La Cygne, KS

I’m your little friend who likes to hide (cover eyes with hands)
Up and down, and side to side (bend knees and twist from side to side)
When I get all warmed up, watch me run (run in place)
Find me now and have some fun (hand over eyes like a visor)

Song: Are You Friendly? (English)

To the tune of “Are You Sleeping?” Piggyback words by Janet Reynolds of Library District #2 of Linn County in La Cygne, KS.

Are you friendly, are you friendly,
Storytime kids, storytime kids?
Join in the singing, join in the singing,
We are friends, we are friends!
Are you playing, are you playing,
At the library, at the library?
Join in the music, join in the music,
Keep the beat, keep the beat.

Song/Movement: Hello, Friend / Hola, Amigo (Bilingual)

Sing this simple chorus while saying hello to children and adults and encouraging them to sing along. The full recorded version by 123 Andrés is also great to play as a background greeting before the program begins. Lyrics reprinted with permission from 123 Andrés. Buy or listen to digital album *Hola, Amigo: Songs of Friendship*: <https://bit.ly/3O896Hv>

Hola amigo, ¿cómo te llamas?
Hola amigo, canta conmigo.
Hola amigo, ¿cómo te llamas?
Hola amigo, canta conmigo.

TIP:

Modify “If You’re Happy and You Know It” into a friendship song by singing “If you have friends and you know it, wave at them...” (Verses: join hands, smile at them, say hello, etc.). New lyrics from Janet Reynolds of Library District #2 of Linn County in La Cygne, KS.

TIP:

Jose-Luis Orozco has a similar version of this song on YouTube, only instead of asking, “¿Dónde estás?/Where are you?” you ask, “¿Cómo estás?/How are you?: <https://bit.ly/3xFBU4D>

STORYTIME SONGS

Hello friend, it's great to meet you.
Hello friend, tell me your name.
Hello friend, it's great to meet you.
Hello friend, tell me your name

Fingerplay: Where is Thumbkin? / Pulgarcito (Bilingual)

A traditional nursery rhyme that works well in both English and Spanish. To the tune of "Are You Sleeping?" Hide both hands behind your back and bring them out one at a time as they greet each other.

Where is Thumbkin, where is Thumbkin?
Here I am! here I am!
How are you today, sir?
Very well, I thank you.
Run away, run away. (Move one hand at a time behind your back.)

Pulgarcito, pulgarcito, ¿dónde estás?
¡Aquí estoy! ¡Aquí estoy!
Como esta usted?
Muy bien, ¡gracias!
Ya me voy. Ya me voy. (Move one hand at a time behind your back.)

Continue naming the rest of your fingers: Pointer (*Señor Indice*), Tall Man (*Señor Medio*), Ring Man (*Señor Anular*), Pinkie (*Señor Meñique*).

Rhyme: Tan, Tan / Knock, Knock (Bilingual)

A New Mexican adaptation of "La vieja Inés." This is a fun, engaging rhyme that includes children's names and has them practice their colors in either language. Provide toys, blocks, or paper to demonstrate colors.

Tan, tan. ¿Quién es?
La vieja Inés (change name each verse)
¿Qué quieres?
Quiero colores.
¿Que color quieres?
Quiero _____

Knock, knock. Who's there?
Old lady Inez (change name each verse)
What do you want?
I want colors
What color do you want?
I want _____



Image source: Shutterstock

STAY-AND-PLAY

Playing with Sensory Balls (Babies)

Children play with and share sensory balls.

Bags of Clay (Babies)

Put balls of clay in a clear heavy-duty Ziploc bag, and let babies smash the clay in the bag. This keeps clay off the floor and out of their mouths. If you seal the bags as airless as possible, and the clay will keep. Add colorful duct tape for security, and be sure to monitor in case bags break open.



Image source: Stephanie Burr of Los Lunas Public Library in Los Lunas, NM

Color Matching Bags (Toddlers)

Make sensory Ziploc bags by adding colored squares of construction paper and pompoms of the same color. Encourage toddlers to move the red pompoms to the red square, blue to blue, etc.

Friendship Necklaces (Toddlers/Preschoolers)

Use a variety of materials (cereal, noodles, pieces of paper straws, etc.) to string on yarn or cord. Tie them to make a necklace, or use felt and Velcro to fasten. Preschoolers can trade them with their friends.

Postcards for Friends (Preschoolers)

Children decorate blank postcards for their friends. Provide stickers, crayons, and markers. This can be adapted to any theme (e.g., community helpers, kind words, etc.) See Chapter 08: Standalone Printables for a postcard template.

Paper Bag Puppets (Preschoolers)

You can use various mediums to decorate the sack. Build your perfect friend using stickers, jewels, yarn, eyes, dot markers, crayons. Have stage for children to put on their own puppet shows. Alternatively, set out templates for cutting practice: Preschoolers cut out elephant shapes and glue them to paper bag. See Chapter 08: Standalone Printables for the elephant template.

Paper Chain Friends (Preschoolers)

Preschoolers practice cutting to make a chain of paper friends. Prepare a station by pre-folding the paper and tracing a human silhouette on the front of each. Provide safety scissors and drawing supplies for children to personalize their paper chain friends.



Image source: Shutterstock

TIP:

Another option is to make bags of shaving cream and food coloring, or use empty plastic bottles to make sensory tubes, which are less likely to break than plastic bags.

TIP:

Babies demonstrate color recognition at around 18 months. For younger babies, emphasize matching objects of the same type.

TIP:

If using food items, watch for choking hazards for children under 4. The bigger the “beads,” the better to prevent younger children from swallowing the pieces.

TIP:

When demonstrating crafts, be sure to encourage children to be creative! They do not have to make things exactly like you do.

TIP:

For early literacy printables, see Chapter 08: Standalone Printables.



Image source: Stephanie Burr of Los Lunas Public Library in Los Lunas, NM

STORYTIME BOOKS

Babies (English)

Here Come the Helpers (2018) by Leslie Kimmelman and illustrated by Barbara Bakos. A board book about emergency vehicles.

Count on Me 123 (2021) by J. B. Frank and Ela Smietanka. Babies count diverse community helpers; engaging rhymes and bright colors.

You See, I See: In the City (2018) by Michelle Sinclair Colman and Paul Schmid. A dad and his daughter experience their city, community, and neighbors from different perspectives. A colorful, rhyming board book.

Babies (Spanish or Bilingual)

Singing Cantando de Colores: A Bilingual Book of Harmony (2019) by Patty Rodriguez and Ariana Stein, and illustrated by Citlali Reyes. A joyful board book inspired by the beloved Spanish folk song “De Colores.” Bilingual.

Toddlers (English)

Fry Bread (2019) by Kevin Noble Maillard and illustrated by Juana Martinez-Neal. A warm, charming book about Native identity, community, and intergenerational love. Starred reviews and multiple award-winner.

Quill Soup: A Stone Soup Story (2020) by Alan Durant and Dale Blankaar. A vibrant twist on a classic tale set in South Africa.

Green Green (2022) by Marie Lamba and Baldev Lamba, and illustrated by Sonia Sanchez. Charming rhymes in this picture book about a city’s growing and changing green space.

Hello! Hometown Heroes (2021) by Toni Armier and illustrated by Anna Jones. A boy and his mom greet different neighbors and workers as they walk through town. Inviting illustrations and rhymes.

Bunnies on the Bus (2019) by Philip Ardagh. Energetic rhyming text that is perfect for reading aloud.

Won’t You Be My Neighbor? (2020) by Fred Rogers and Luke Flowers. A singable tune celebrates a diverse group of neighbors, workers, and friends.

Toddlers (Spanish or Bilingual)

Un pregón de frutas / A Song of Frutas (2021) by Margarita Engle and illustrated by Sara Palacios. A rhythmic book about a little girl who visits her street vendor grandfather. Starred reviews. Available in Spanish and English versions; the English version has sprinkle Spanish.

TIP:

Be sure to ask questions during baby storytime. While they might not be able to respond, babies mimic the sounds, gestures, and facial expressions they see and hear. This back-and-forth rhythm helps their brain develop important social skills.

TIP:

For a slightly older rhyming book to fit a community helpers theme, check out *Clothesline Clues to Jobs People Do* (2014) by Kathryn Heling and Deborah Hembrook, and illustrated by Andy Robert Davies.

TIP:

If running a bilingual storytime with two presenters, run through all books, songs, and rhymes beforehand. Practice matching each other’s enthusiasm!

TODDLERS

¡Gracias, Omu! / Thank You, Omu! (2020) by Oge Mora. When the aroma of Omu's homemade stew fills the air, her neighbors arrive for a taste. Starred reviews. Bilingual.

Palettero Man (2021) by Lucky Diaz and illustrated by Micah Player. A rhyming story about a boy passing through a busy Los Angeles neighborhood; this book celebrates kindness and has an accompanying song. Starred reviews. In English with Spanish words.

Let's Work!: Mexican Folk Art Trabajos in English and Spanish (2019) by Cynthia Weill and Bryant Boucher. An eclectic array of careers is presented in this charming narrative illustrated with Mexican folk art. Bilingual.

Preschoolers (English)

Our Little Kitchen (2020) by Jillian Tamaki. A rousing story about resourceful neighbors who come together to cook for their community. Starred reviews.

It Fell from the Sky (2021) by Terry Fan and Eric Fan. A whimsical picture book starring insects in a garden; on community, art, and giving back. Starred reviews.

The 12 Days of Kindness (2021) by Jenna Lettice and Colleen Madden. A singable book about community helpers and small acts of kindness.

Cheer (2020) by Uncle Ian Aurora and illustrated by Natalia Moore. According to Kirkus Reviews, "This enthusiastic tribute to multigenerational family members and community helpers is an ideal preschool storytime choice to spark discussion, appreciation, and, yes, cheers."

Harlem Grown: How One Big Idea Transformed a Neighborhood (2020) by Tony Hillery and illustrated by Jessie Hartland. A whimsically illustrated story about starting a successful community garden in Harlem. Gives kids the message that one person can make a big difference.

Thank You, Neighbor! (2021) by Ruth Chan. A girl and her dog walk around Brooklyn greeting people in their neighborhood. Starred reviews.

Keeping the City Going (2021) by Brian Floca. A story of gratitude for all the people who kept New York City going during the Covid-19 pandemic. Starred reviews.

All of Us (2021) by Kathryn Erskine. Lyrical text about global inclusivity and how the whole world is a community. Starred reviews.

Preschoolers (Spanish or Bilingual)

Oye, muro / Hey, Wall (2020) by Susan Verde and illustrated by John Parra. A story in verse about neighbors who turn a wall into a community art project. Starred reviews. Available in separate English and Spanish editions.

TIP:

After reading a book, take time to talk about one or two big words that children might not be familiar with. Practice saying those words together and using them in sentences.

TIP:

For a slightly older title, check out *Community Soup* (2013) by Alma Fullerton, a rollicking rhyme about a community garden in Kenya and a goat who wants to eat it all up.

TIP:

For a lyrical modern classic, consider *The Last Stop on Market Street* (2015), which follows and grandmother and her grandson as they take an energetic ride through a vibrant city. Also available in Spanish as *Última parada de la calle Market*.

TIP:

Speaking Spanish outside the home helps bilingual children to value Spanish and English equally. As such, bilingual library programs play an important role in helping bilingual children retain confidence in Spanish even after they start school in English.

PRESCHOOL

Quizás algo hermoso: Como el arte transformó un barrio / Maybe Something Beautiful: How Art Transformed a Neighborhood (2018) por F. Isabel Campoy. Mira lives in a gray urban community until a muralist arrives and, along with his paints and brushes, brings color, joy, and togetherness to Mira and her neighbors. Available in separate Spanish and English editions.

Mi vecino Paco / My Neighbor Frankie (2020) by Ignacio Sanz and illustrated by Eva Poyato. A story about friendship between a child and his neighbor, an old man who has lived many adventures. Available in separate English and Spanish editions. *!Mi comunidad! / My community!* (2021) by 123 Andrés and Mónica Poala Rodríguez. Song lyrics from 123 Andrés turned into a book that celebrates community helpers. Comes with access to a song recording. Bilingual.

The Mexiglish Girl / La chica Mexiglish (2021) by Natalia Simons and illustrated by Alessia Fraschetta. A bilingual girl brings her confidence to a neighborhood piñata party with her grandma in Mexico. Bilingual.

Nuestro autobús / The Bus for Us (2020) by Suzanne Bloom. A perfect picture book for children going to school or riding a bus for the first time. Bilingual.

STORYTIME SONGS

Song: I Can Help My Friends (English)

To the tune of “Row, Row, Row Your Boat.”

I can help my friends

Each and every day.

When they need me I am there

To help them learn and play.

Song: Community Helpers Song (English)

To the tune of “The Farmer in the Dell.” Add any verses you can think of to suit your theme.

The dentists check our teeth.

The dentists check our teeth.

Hi ho they help us so,

The dentists check our teeth.

Verses:

Fire fighters are so brave...

Ambulances are so fast...

Rhyme/Bounce: A Hippopotamus Got on a City Bus (English)

A great traditional rhyme for a lapsit/bounce. Video from Sunnyvale Public Library on YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3aOewsX>

A hip, a hip, a hippopotamus,
Got on, got on, got on a city bus,

TIP:

“My Hands Are for Helping” by Lisa Conrad is another good song for a helping theme. Listen/purchase here: <https://bit.ly/3ObnS0f>

TIP:

Sing “The Song that Never Ends,” adding a new singer (or a few new singers) for each verse until everyone is singing. Beware that this song gets stuck in your head forever.

TIP:

Bouncing helps babies to hear and feel words, songs, and sounds so that they can begin to repeat them. Storytime classics “Bumpin’ Up and Down in My Little Red Wagon” and “The Grand Old Duke of York” also make perfect bouncing songs.

STORYTIME SONGS

And all, and all, and all the people said,
 "You're squishing us!" (hug baby)
 A cow, a cow, a cow got on a bus,
 And all, and all, and all the people said,
 "Mooooove over!" (lean baby to the side)
 A sheep, a sheep, a sheep got on a city bus,
 and all, and all, and all the people said,
 "Baaaack up!" (lean back with baby)

Song: Days of the Week/Los Días de la Semana (Bilingual)

A simple song for teaching days of the week in both languages. To the tune of "Oh, My Darling Clementine." Audio version recorded by Barbara Cohen of Warner Library in Tarrytown, NY. From CSLPreads on YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3aVu3XS>

There are seven days, there are seven days,
 There are seven days in a week.
 Sunday, Monday.
 Tuesday, Wednesday,
 Thursday, Friday, Saturday.

*Hay siete días, hay siete días,
 Hay siete días en la semana.
 Domingo, lunes,
 Martes, miércoles,
 Jueves, viernes, sábado.*

Song/Movement: My Community/Mi Comunidad (Bilingual)

A companion song to the bilingual book *Mi Comunidad/My Community!* (2021) written by 123 Andrés and illustrated by Mónica Paola Rodriguez. The text contains the song's full lyrics, which show gratitude for the following community helpers: Firefighters, crossing guards, grandmas, mail carriers, nurses, bus drivers, and teachers. Chorus excerpt reprinted with permission from 123 Andrés.

*Mi comunidad, mi comunidad
 Tiene muchos ayudantes que trabajan sin parar.
 Mi comunidad, mi comunidad
 Tiene muchos ayudantes que trabajan sin parar.*

My community, my community
 Has lots of special people helping you and me.
 My community, my community
 Has lots of special people helping you and me.

Lapsit/Bounce: Pollito, Chicken (Bilingual)

A traditional song from Puerto Rico that switches back and forth between

TIP:

To encourage mastery, repeat favorite songs across multiple storytime sessions.

TIP:

If you are not confident singing Spanish yourself, play a song!

STORYTIME SONGS

Spanish and English. Use puppets and props to teach words in both languages (translations are within the song!). Listen or purchase from Dan Zanes on the album ¡Neuva York!: <https://bit.ly/3mFQ0Nf>

Pollito, chicken,
Gallina, hen,
Lápiz, pencil
And pluma, pen.
Ventana, window,
Puerta, door,
Maestra, teacher
And piso, floor.
"Mamá" is said "mother,"
"Papá" is said "father,"
Hermana, sister
And hermano, brother.

Song/Movement: Quiero Salir (Spanish)

Find the full song lyrics on the album Activate (2021) by 123 Andrés. In the original song, the verse is a call and response where adults sing the first two lines and children sing the next two. Or bring out maracas, and have a dance party! Excerpt reprinted with permission.

Eh eh oh oh
Eh eh oh oh
Quiero salir a caminar
Y saludar a mis vecinos al pasar
Quiero salir con mamá y papá
Ir por mi barrio caminando en libertad

Rhyme/Movement: Dos Manos, Dos Pies / Two Hands, Two Feet (Bilingual)

This only rhymes in Spanish, but the movement still works if you recite it in English. Connect this rhyme to outreach by asking kids how they can use their hands to help others. Recording from Princeton Public Library on YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3mDi7wE>

Tengo dos manos para jugar. (wave hands)
Tengo dos brazos para abrazar. (hug self)
Tengo dos pies para caminar. (march in place)
¡Y tengo dos piernas para saltar! (jump!)

I have two hands to play.
I have two arms to hug.
I have two feet to walk.
And I have two legs to jump!

TIP:

Jose-Luis Orozco's "Buenos días" is a fun greeting song on the album *De colores*. Listen or purchase here: <https://amzn.to/3NlyUu1>

TIP:

¡Pío Peep! Traditional Spanish Nursery Rhymes (2019) by Alma Flor Ada et al. has more great nursery rhymes and songs.

TIP:

Hiding theme-appropriate stuffed toys is another great activity for any theme.

TIP:

Collaborative art on butcher paper is fun for the whole family! It makes a good filler activity for any program.

TIP:

For early literacy printables, see Chapter 08: Standalone Printables.

STAY-AND-PLAY

Texture Walk (Babies/Toddlers)

Take a walk around your library or neighborhood, focusing on everyday textures that babies can feel. Inside, make a bulletin board filled with vibrant images and textures (i.e., sandpaper for bricks, leaves, feathers, etc.). Prompt discussion by modeling questions that caregivers can ask babies while they explore.

Finger Paintings for Community Members (Babies/Toddlers)

Children make simple finger paintings, which can be given to a nursing home, rehabilitation center, or long-term care facility.

Hidden Community Helpers (Toddlers/Preschoolers)

Print and laminate (or mount on cardboard) pictures of community helpers, which caregivers hide for older toddlers to find. Preschoolers can hide the pictures for each other or make popsicle stick puppets out of the images. Alternatively, print duplicate sheets to make a matching game. See Chapter 08: Standalone Printables.

Community Helpers Q & A (Toddlers/Preschoolers)

Kids love asking questions of community helpers! Enlist your local fire or police department to park in your library parking lot during summer reading programs.

Collaborative Dots Mural (Toddlers/Preschoolers)

Cover tables with butcher paper and set out dot markers. Children work together to create some art! Predraw an outline for them to fill in together, or ask them to draw a single dot monster (everyone takes turns drawing a different part).

Community Rocks (Preschoolers and Older)

Set out rocks and painting supplies. Children paint rocks to hide around the community.



Image source: Shutterstock

STORYTIME BOOKS

Babies (English)

Up to My Knees! (2020) by Grace Lin. Part of the Storytelling Math series, a little girl named Mei measures a growing sunflower according to how high it reaches on her body. Also great for toddlers. Starred reviews.

Bathtime Mathtime: Shapes (2019) by Danica McKellar and illustrated by Alicia Padrón. A board book to introduce babies to shapes during bathtime; joyful rhymes for reading aloud.

Bulldozer's Shapes (2019) by Sherri Duskey Rinker and illustrated by Ethan Long. Part of the Goodnight, Goodnight, Construction Site series, this is a rhyming, STEM-focused board book that teaches babies their shapes.

Baby Loves Coding! (2018) by Ruth Spiro and Irene Chan. Using train imagery, this board book explains logic, sequence, and patterns in coding. Incorporates color and movement. Part of the Baby Loves Science series.

Hello, Garden Bugs (2017) by Duopress Labs and illustrated by Julissa Mora. A high-contrast book about bugs in the garden. Great for any gardening theme.

Babies (Spanish or Bilingual)

La abejita amarilla / Little Yellow Bee (2020) by Ginger Swift and illustrated by Katya Longhi. A lift-the-flap board book that explores the garden with a little yellow bee. Available in separate English and Spanish editions.

A la rueda rueda en el Jardín / Round and Round the Garden (2021) by Sarah Dellow and illustrated by Annie Kubler. Charming board book that introduces a well-known nursery rhyme. Bilingual.

Toddlers (English)

Bathtime Mathtime (2018) by Danica McKellar and illustrated Alicia Padrón. Great book to turn sneak basic math into bathtime in a way toddlers will love.

Lía and Luis: Who Has More? (2020) by Ana Crespo and Giovana Medeiros. Part of the Storytelling Math series, this is a playful exploration of math and sharing between siblings. Includes a glossary of Brazilian Portuguese words. Also great for preschoolers.

Baby Loves Scientists: You Can Be Anything! (2019) by Ruth Spiro and illustrated by Irene Chan. Large, bright illustrations and simple text combine to create a fun introduction to different scientific fields.

My Mama Is a Mechanic (2019) by Doug Cenko. A mother is many different things through a son's eyes. This beautiful book is imaginative, energetic, and fun.

TIP:

The board book series Baby University and Baby 101 are more fun options for introducing STEM concepts to babies.

TIP:

It is perfectly okay to paraphrase or skip parts of a long book if it otherwise makes a great storytime choice.

TIP:

For a slightly older title, try *If You Plant a Seed* (2015) by Kadir Nelson, an award-winning new classic about planting seeds of all kinds, including seeds of kindness

TIP:

Project a PowerPoint with storytime song lyrics, videos, and a visual schedule to help caregivers (including caregivers who do not speak English!) orient themselves to storytime flow.

TODDLERS

Bear and Bird Lend a Helping Hand (2022) by Jonny Lambert. Bear, Bird, and their friends learn about gardening and helping others.

Toddlers (Spanish or Bilingual)

Señorita Mariposa (2019) by Ben Gundersheimer and illustrated by Marcos Almada Rivero. This story follows the extraordinary journey of monarch butterflies from Canada to Mexico; delightful rhymes and lively illustrations. Bilingual.

Be Bold! Be Brave! Sé audaz, sé valiente! (2019) by Naibe Reynoso and illustrated by Jone Leal. 11 Latinas who made U.S. History in simple rhyming verse and illustrations. Also great for preschoolers and above. Bilingual.

Rosa's Big Bridge Experiment / Rose y el experimento del gran puente (2020) by Jessica Spanyol. Rosa and her friends investigate bridges using STEM concepts. Bilingual (also available in separate Spanish and English editions).

Preschoolers (English)

Usha and the Big Digger (2021) by Amitha Jagannath Knight and illustrated by Sandhya Prabhat. Part of the Storytelling Math series, this story features Indian American characters and introduces geometry, spatial relationships, and constellations.

Boxitects (2020) by Kim Smith. A STEM-focused book about children who build fantastic creations (and friendships). Includes tips and ideas for building with cardboard (for a fun stay-and-play tie-in).

Count on Me (2019) by Miguel Tanco. A picture book about math that celebrates different passions and ways of looking at the world. Strong reviews across the board.

Goldilocks and the Three Engineers (2021) by Sue Fliess and Petros Bouloubasis. The classic tale gets a STEM twist in which Goldilocks is an inventor with inventor's block; rhyming text.

How to Code a Sandcastle (2018) by Josh Funk and Sarah Palacios. An entertaining story about a girl who uses code to instruct her robot friend to build a sandcastle.

What Grew in Larry's Garden (2020) by Laura Alary and illustrated by Kass Reich. Grace helps Larry in his garden and learns what you can grow when you tend to your garden with kindness.

Preschoolers (Spanish or Bilingual)

Sembrando historias: Pura Belpré: Bibliotecaria y narradora de cuentos / Planting Stories: The Life of Librarian and Storyteller Pura Belpré (2019) by Anika Aldamuy Denise and illustrated by Paola Escobar. A colorful and rhythmic book about the first Puerto Rican librarian in New York City. Starred reviews. Available in separate Spanish and English editions.

Fearless Trailblazers, Pioneros Audaces: 11 Latinos Who Made U.S. History (2020) by Naibe Reynoso and illustrated by Jone Leal. Brief biographies in rhyme of 11 notable Latinos. Bilingual.

STORYTIME SONGS

Bounce/Lapsit/Movement: Tick, Tock (English)

Continue counting as high as desired, adding a “cuckoo!” for every hour.
 Toddlers can sway back and forth, and raise their arms with every “cuckoo!”
 Video from Palo Alto City Library on YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3HnPPQ8>

Tick tock, tick tock, (rock baby back and forth)
 I'm a little cuckoo clock
 Tick tock, tick tock, it's 1 o'clock!
 Cuckoo! (lift baby up in air or raise baby's arms)
 Tick tock, tick tock, (rock baby back and forth)
 I'm a little cuckoo clock
 Tick tock, tick tock, it's 2 o'clock!
 Cuckoo! Cuckoo!

Rhyme/Fingerplay: Here's a Ball for Baby (English)

Song in the public domain. Originally found in *Finger Plays for Nursery and Kindergarten* (1893) by Emilie Poulsson. Video from Washington County Cooperative Library Services on YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3zDbLVM>
 Here's a ball for baby, (touch ten fingers together in a ball)

Big and soft and round.
 Here is baby's hammer, (pound fist into palm)
 See how it can pound.
 Here are baby's soldiers, (hold fingers up)
 Standing in a row.
 Here is baby's music, (clap hands)
 Clapping, clapping so.
 Here is baby's trumpet, (stack fists on mouth like a trumpet)
 Doot-doot-doooo!
 And here's baby's favorite game,
 Peek-a-boo! (cover hands with face, then remove)

Song/Bounce/Movement: Let's Go Riding on an Elevator (English)

This song works great with parachutes or scarves for toddlers and preschoolers.
 Try it standing up for maximum movement! Caregivers can also bounce babies on their laps. Video from Jbrary on YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3aYqwI8>

Let's go riding on an elevator (shake scarf up and down)
 Elevator, elevator,
 Let's go riding on an elevator,
 Come along with me! (Hold scarf low, rising higher as you count)
 First floor, second floor, third floor, fourth floor, fifth floor,
 And.... down, down, down, down, down (scarf all the back down. bend back down to the floor)

TIP:

When singing or reading rhymes, pause at the end of each line to allow to children fill in the missing word(s). You can also work together as a group to think of more rhyming words.

STORYTIME SONGS**Song/Movement: Construction Worker Song (English)**

To the tune of “Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush.” Video from Westerville Public Library on YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3NUaC02>

This is the way we pound the nails, pound the nails, pound the nails
 This is the way we pound the nails so early in the morning.
 This is the way we saw the wood, saw the wood, saw the wood.
 This is the way we saw the wood so early in the morning.
 More verses: Stack the bricks, stir the paint, paint the wall

Song Movement: I’m a Little Dump Truck (English)

To the tune of “I’m a Little Teapot.”

I’m a great big dump truck, full of rocks, (hold arms out to your sides)
 Here is my engine, (hold hands out in front of you)
 Here is my box. (hold hands out behind you)
 When the crew is ready, hear me shout. (hold hands up around mouth)
 Pull the lever and dump me out. (pull down with your hand/arm)
 Tshhhhhh (point thumbs back and lean back)

Song/Movement: In My Garden (English)

To the tune of “Are You Sleeping?” Have children curl up on the floor like little “seeds” and grow into plants while you sing the song together.

In my garden, in my garden
 There are plants, there are plants.
 All the plants are growing, all the plants are growing
 Grow plants, grow. Grow plants, grow.

Song: Brinca la Tablita / Jump Over the Board (Bilingual)

A traditional children’s song from Puerto Rico. Great for doing addition with preschoolers. Video from Tulsa Library on YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3tErFLx>

*Brinca la tablita que lo la brinque
 Brinca la tu ahora que yo me canse.
 Dos y dos son cuatro.
 Cuatro y dos son seis,
 Seis y dos son ocho,
 Y ocho, dieciseis.
 Y ocho veinticuatro
 Y ocho treintaidos.
 Más diez que le sumo,
 Son cuarentaidos.*

Jump over the board so that I can jump
 You jump over it now that I am tired.
 Two and two are four.

STORYTIME SONGS

Four and two are six,
Six and two are eight,
And eight, sixteen.
And eight more is twenty-four
And eight thirty-two.
If I add ten more,
Then I have forty-two.

Song: Caracol, Col, Col (Spanish)

A traditional nursery rhyme from Argentina. Listen to melody from Pica Pica on YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3b2jVg3>.

Caracol, col, col,
Saca tus cuernos al sol,
Saca uno, saca dos,
Caracol, col, col.
Si saca la cabeza y los cuernitos
Cuando hay sol,
Seguro que es un bicho
Que se llama caracol.

Song/Fingerplay: La Araña Pequeñita (Bilingual)

A Spanish translation of “The Itsy, Bitsy Spider.” Audio version recorded by Barbara Cohen of Warner Library in Tarrytown, NY. From CSLPreads on YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3O9IxBE>

La araña pequeñita
subió, subió, subió
Vino la lluvia y se la llevó.
Salió el sol y todo lo secó
Y la pequeña araña
Subió, subió, subió.

STAY AND PLAY

Inclined Plane Rolling (Babies/Toddlers)

Set up simple inclined planes (you can use books!) and show babies how to roll soft balls down the incline. Guide babies to retrieve the ball and repeat the roll.

Sorting Objects (Toddlers)

Gather stuffed animals, other soft toys, or play food, and help toddlers sort them by color, shape, number of legs, etc.

TIP:

Check out “Al mercado” from Cantaré. This fun lapsit/rhyme is about going to the market. Caregivers tickle babies, and the rhyme repeats at different volumes. Available to listen or purchase here: <https://amzn.to/3xnwxFY>

TIP:

Another fun fingerplay is “Las ruedas del camión,” a direct translation of “The Wheels on the Bus” into Spanish. Jose-Luis Orozco has one version on the album *Diez Deditos*.

TIP:

Plastic parachute bags are another fun way to explore gravity (and you can make your own to save costs).

TIP:

Lakeshore Learning has multicultural play food sets.

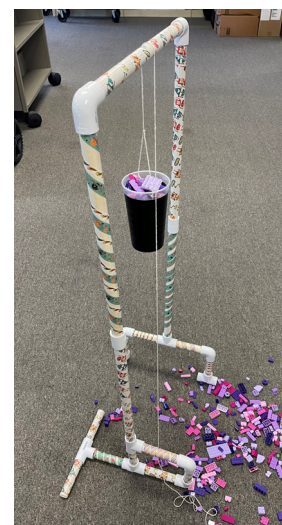


Image source: Lynn McKiernan of The Horry County Memorial Library System, SC

Sensory Sand Construction Site (Toddlers)

Create a communal bin with kinetic sand. Children share funnels, scoops, and cardboard tubes to explore the sand's properties. Add small construction vehicles.

PVC Pulley (Toddlers/Preschoolers)

Create a simple pulley system with PVC pipe pieces, a plastic cup, and string. Children can raise the lower the cup filled without whatever objects you have on hand.

Block Architecture (Toddlers/Preschoolers)

Use cardboard boxes or blocks to build structures. Try different building challenges (highest, biggest, etc.) and encourage working (and knocking them down!) together.

Flower Magnification (Toddlers/Preschoolers)

Bring in potted flowers and magnifying glasses for children to inspect the blooms. Alternatively, take them outside. What do they notice? Which flowers are their favorites?

Carrot Patch Craft (Preschoolers)

Precut orange triangles and green strips out of construction paper. Provide glue and blank paper for children to make carrot art. Ask them to number their carrots. Provide safety scissors for older preschoolers to practice cutting out their own shapes. (For a flower theme, precut circles for flowers instead of carrots.)



Image source: Shutterstock

TIP:

For early literacy printables, see Chapter 08: Standalone Printables.

STORYTIME BOOKS

Babies (English)

Hello, My World (2020) by Duopress Labs and illustrated by Jannie Ho. A high-contrast book about baby saying hello to parts of the world. Includes simple greetings in other languages, such as hola and bonjour.

Global Baby Playtime (2021) by Maya Ajmera. Photos of babies playing around the world.

Babies Around the World: Dancing (2019) by Tamara Barker and illustrated by Violet Lemay. Greetings in different languages and dances from around the world. Great for toddler movement as well.

Babies (Spanish or Bilingual)

I Love You, Baby Burrito (2021) by Angela Dominguez. A playful book about swaddling newborns like a burrito. Starred reviews. In English with Spanish words.

Carteras y carteros (2020) by Caracolino. Board book sing-along about mail carriers all over the world. Song provided by QR code. Spanish.

Vámonos a Bogotá / Let's Go to Bogotá (2021) by Patty Rodriguez and Ariana Stein, and illustrated by Ana Godinez. A board book with colorful illustrations to introduce babies to the capital of Columbia. Bilingual.

Toddlers (English)

Every Night Is Pizza Night (2020) by J. Kenji López-Alt and illustrated by Gi-anna Ruggiero. A fun, colorful introduction to international foods and cultures. Starred reviews.

Love Around the World: Family and Friendship Around the Globe (2020) by Alli Brydon and illustrated by Wazza Pink. A book about how love is expressed in different cultures.

What if We Were All the Same! (2019) by C.M. Harris and illustrated by Eric Everett. A book about embracing our differences, from skin color to ability.

The Circles All Around Us (2021) by Brad Montague. A rhyming book about growing our circle of community and connection as we get older, with messages of inclusion and kindness. Also good for preschoolers. For a stay-and-play activity, tape large concentric circles on the floor for children to play in.

A World of Kindness (2018) by Ann Featherstone et al. Simple questions and joyful images that examine how young children can show kindness to the world around them.

Going Up! (2020) by Sherry J. Lee and illustrated by Charlene Chua. An elevator ride turns into a multicultural journey. Also good for a community theme.

TIP:

For bilingual programs, reduce the number of books you read (remember every book is read twice!). You can also repeat favorite books, even within the same storytime.

TIP:

For more bilingual picture books (age range from babies to kindergarten), check out the L'il Libros series.

TIP:

You can often regain the attention of your storytime audience by asking a question or asking for help counting items on a page.

TODDLERS

Toddlers (Spanish or Bilingual)

Say Hello! (2017) by Rachel Isadora. Carmelita greets everyone in her colorful neighborhood. Starred reviews. In English with Spanish words (and “hello” in several languages).

My Voice / Mi voz (2018) by José Fragoso. A book about using your voice to make a better world. Bilingual.

Nieve en la jungla / Snow in the Jungle (2021) by Ariane Hofmann-Maniyar and illustrated by Yanitzia Canetti. A picture book about the anxieties and hardships of moving, with a heart-warming positive ending. Bilingual.

The Life of / La Vida de Ritchie (2019) by Patty Rodriguez and Ariana Stein, and illustrated by Citlali Reyes. A board book that introduces the life of legendary Mexican-American singer, songwriter, and guitarist Ritchie Valens. Bilingual.

Preschoolers (English)

In My Mosque (2021) by M.O. Yuskel and Hatem Aly. A celebration of mosques as centers for friendship, community, and love. Starred reviews.

I Dream of Popo (2021) by Livia Blackburne and Julia Kuo. A lyrical story about a young girl who emigrates from Taiwan to America and misses her beloved grandmother (popo) every day. Starred reviews.

Teatime Around the World (2020) by Denyse Waissbluth and illustrated by Chelsea O’Byrne. Vivid poetry and vibrant illustrations. Well reviewed across the board.

Danbi Leads the School Parade (2020) by Anna Kim. An enjoyable read aloud about a little girl who starts school in America and learns to navigate her two cultures. Starred reviews.

Pancakes to Parathas: Breakfast Around the World (2019) by Alice B. McGinty and illustrated by Tomoko Suzuki. A book with fun rhymes and bold graphics about breakfast around the world.

All Are Welcome (2018) by Alexandra Penfold and illustrated by Suzanne Kaufman. A rhyming back-to-school read about diversity and inclusion.

How to Change the World in 12 Easy Steps (2021) by Peggy Porter Tierney and illustrated by Marie Letourneau. A beautifully illustrated book about simple gestures that make the world a better place. Starred reviews.

We Are Grateful: Otsaliheliga (2018) by Traci Sorrell and illustrated by Frane Lessac. A warm, gracious look at carrying on traditions in the Cherokee Nation. Starred reviews.

Drawn Together (2018) by Minh Lê and illustrated by Dan Santat. When a boy and his grandfather do not speak the same language, they learn to connect through the language of drawing. Starred reviews.

TIP:

For an older book that fits this theme, consider *Same, Same but Different* (2011) by Jenny Sue Kostecki-Shaw.

TIP:

After reading multicultural picture books, guide children towards more library resources that help them explore the world.

Preschoolers (Spanish or Bilingual)

Rescatando palabras: José Alberto Gutiérrez y la biblioteca que creó / Digging for Words: José Alberto Gutiérrez and the Library He Built (2020) by Angela Burke Kunkel and illustrated by Paola Escobar. A garbage collector in Bogotá, Colombia starts a free library. Starred reviews. Available in separate English and Spanish editions.

Un nuevo hogar / A New Home (2019) by Tania de Regil. A boy is nervous about moving from New York to Mexico City, and a girl is nervous about moving from Mexico City to New York. A story about how different places in the world are more alike than we think. Simple text and endearing illustrations. Available in Spanish and English editions.

De aquí como el coquí / Coquí in the City (2021) by Nomar Perez. When Miguel and his parents move from Puerto Rico to the U.S. mainland, Miguel misses their home, his grandparents, and his pet frog, Coquí, but he soon realizes that New York City has more in common with back home than he originally thought. Available in Spanish and English editions.

We've Got the Whole World in Our Hands / Tenemos el mundo entero en las manos (2018) by Rafael López. A re-rendering of the well-known spiritual song that celebrates unity across the world. Gorgeous illustrations. Bilingual.

Juanita: La niña que contaba estrellas / Juanita: The Girl Who Counted the Stars (2021) by Lola Walder and illustrated by Martina Peluso. A beautiful snapshot of Guatemala with rich, jewel-toned colors and a touch of magic. Available in separate English and Spanish editions.

El color de tu piel / The Color of Your Skin (2021) by Desirée Acevedo and illustrated by Silvia Álvarez. An entertaining story that explores the diversity of skin colors through a girl and her colored pencils. Available in separate English and Spanish editions.

Si quisqueya fuera un color / If Dominican Were a Color (2020) by Sili Recio and illustrated by Brianna McCarthy. A colorful, rhyming picture book that celebrates the joy of being Dominican. Available in separate English and Spanish editions.

STORYTIME SONGS

Song/Movement: Hello in 18 Languages (English)

This song has a simple melody and a chorus that gets preschoolers moving. Lyrics reprinted with permission from Miss Nina at <http://mymissnina.com>. Listen on YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3QlceBA>. Purchase here: <https://amzn.to/3tBsHI5>.

TIP:

Try singing your books! Books with rhyme and rhythm can often be sung to common tunes. Singing slows down language and trains little ears to break words into smaller sounds, a skill necessary for reading.

TIP:

Be sure to adapt movement activities for children with physical disabilities (e.g., instead of stomping your feet, pat your lap; instead of turning around, look around).

STORYTIME SONGS

Come on everybody join in my song
Hello, ni hao (Chinese)
Hola (Spanish), xin chao (Vietnamese)
Move your body and dance along, hello

Share a smile while we wave and we say
Hello, bonjour (French)
Shalom (Hebrew), salam (Persian)
Start the day in a friendly way
Yassou (Greek), privyet (Russian), hello

Now let's stamp our feet and move to the beat
And wake up our legs today
And then we clap your hands to the beat of the band
And then we shake shake shake
Our bodies awake. Everybody now!

It's fun to dance and sing with all of our friends
Hello, yah-at-hey (Navajo)
Kamusta (Tagalog), namaste (Hindu)

Let's hello until this song ends
Marhabaan (Arabic), ciao (Italian), hello
Konnichiwa (Japanese), guten Tag (German), hello

Ahn nyong (Korean), jambo (Swahili), hello!

Song/Fingerplay: I Have Two Hands (English)

A traditional English-language nursery rhyme from the Philippines. Great for babies and toddlers to follow along. Listen to an audio version from **ROBIEKidsTV** on YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3aVot7N>

I have two hands, the left and the right.
Hold them up high, so clean and bright.
Clap them softly, 1-2-3.
Clean little hands are good to see.

Song/Movement: Hey, Everybody! (English)

The tune of this song is similar to "Buffalo Gal" chorus. Add as many verses as you like to suit your audience. Video from Ms. Montana at Mammen Family Public Library on YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3zD0cNZ>

Hey, everybody can you clap your hands,
Clap your hands, clap your hands
Hey, everybody can you clap your hands
Clap your hands

Verses:

Touch your nose...
Stomp your feet...
Touch your toes...

TIP:

For multicultural song ideas, solicit input from parents! What songs or rhymes did they learn as children that they could share with the group?

STORYTIME SONGS

Rub your tummy...
Wave to your friend...

Song/Bounce: Debajo de un Botón (Spanish)

A traditional song from Spain. Bounce baby on your lap three times at the end of each line. Audio version recorded by Barbara Cohen of Warner Library in Tarrytown, NY. From CSLPreads on YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3xqhM5b>

*Debajo un botón, ton, ton
Que encontró Martín, tin, tin
Había un ratón, ton, ton
Hay que chiquitín, tin, tin*

*Hay que chiquitín, tin, tin
Era el ratón, ton, ton
Que encontró Martín, tin, tin
Debajo un botón, ton, ton*

Rhyme/Fingerplay: Pon, Pon, Pon (Bilingual)

A traditional Puerto Rican nursery rhyme. Children tap right index finger on left palm along to the beat. Audio version recorded by Barbara Cohen of Warner Library in Tarrytown, NY. From CSLPreads on YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3xwsK9c>

*Pon, pon, pon
Pon, pon, pon
el dedito en el pilón.*

*Put, put, put
Put, put, put
Your little finger in the cup.*

Rhyme: Erre Con Erre (Bilingual)

A traditional Spanish rhyme with many variations, all of which help children practice saying “rr” in Spanish. English translation recorded by Barbara Cohen of Warner Library in Tarrytown, NY. From CSLPreads on YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3zxdzsz>. Spanish version from Cuentacuentos Beatriz Montero on YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3OwNuVB>

*Erre con erre cigarro,
Erre con erre barril,
Rápido ruedan los carros
Sobre los rieles del ferrocarril*

*R with R is carry,
R with R is borrow,
Rapid run the rail cars
Carrying sugar for tomorrow.*

STAY AND PLAY

Inflatable Globe Play (Babies/Toddlers/Preschoolers)

After storytime, leave out several inflatable globes for children to play with. Babies can push them around a floor mat. For toddlers and preschoolers, be sure to point out where you live on the globe!

Make a Mini Maraca (Toddlers/Preschoolers)

Children use funnels (or their hands) to fill a cardboard tube with dry beans or rice. Prepare tubes by covering one end with construction paper and a tight rubber band. Provide funnels, construction paper, and a second tight rubber band. After the maraca has been filled, caregivers cover the other end, and children get to shakin'! Optionally, prepare a play list for a maraca dance party.

Maraca Freeze Dance (Toddlers/Preschoolers)

Pass out maracas or shakers (or have them use the ones they made themselves!), and lead the group in shaking quickly, slowly, high, low, etc. Then practice shaking and holding still. Play a freeze dance song for children to practice shaking in unison and gross motor control.

Paper Hand Wreaths (Toddlers/Preschoolers)

Trace children's hands onto flesh-colored paper and cut them out. (Or precut silhouettes of hands or feet.) Glue them around a paper plate. In the center, write "Friends come in all colors from all places" (or similar), or let children draw a picture of a friend.

Telephone Wires (Toddlers/Preschoolers)

How do we talk with people on the other side of the world? Through telephone wires! (Okay, we are mostly wireless these days, but the game is still fun). Provide sets of two cups with one piece of string between them. Show children how they have to pull the string taut to use their "telephone" to talk with each other.

Puzzle Piece Collage (Preschoolers)

Each child needs a 6-inch square of cardboard as a canvas and several puzzle pieces from an old puzzle. After gluing the puzzle pieces shiny side-down, they decorate them as desired. Narrative: People are like pieces of a puzzle; they come in all shapes and sizes, and make a pretty picture when joined together.



Image source: Stephanie Birr of Los Lunas Public Library, Los Lunas, NM



Image source: Beth Ratliff of Winder Public Library, Winder, GA

TIP:

For early literacy printables, see Chapter 08: Standalone Printables.

STORYTIME BOOKS

Babies (English)

Get Together (2021) by Miguel Ordóñez. A humorous board book that constructs animals from different shapes.

Rosa Loves Cars (2018) by Jessica Spanyol. A board book about Rosa and her friends, who play with a variety of vehicle toys. Also good for toddlers.

Playdate (2019) by Maryann Macdonald and illustrated by Rahele Jomepour Bell. A cheerful rhyming book that explores opposites in the context of a play date.

The ABCs of Musical Instruments (2020) by Ailie Busby. A cast of animals make music on instruments from A to Z.

Babies (Spanish or Bilingual)

Salsa Lullaby (2019) by Jen Arena and illustrated by Erika Meza. A bouncy rhyming lullaby that says goodnight in both English and Spanish. In English with Spanish words.

El zorro conduce (2022) by Susanne Straber. When a speedy fox comes to a stop, he befriends other animals who hitch a ride. Available in separate English and Spanish editions.

Ten Little Birds / Diez pajaritos (2021) by Andrés Salguero and illustrated by Sara Palacios of 123 Andrés. Count to ten and back again in this musical math adventure. Starred reviews. Bilingual.

Toddlers (English)

ROAR-chestra! A Wild Story of Musical Words (2021) by Robert Heidbreder and illustrated by Dušan Petričić. A conductor and his orchestra of animals introduce seven musical terms. Great book for movement and music programs. Starred reviews.

Play This Book (2018) by Jessica Young and illustrated by Daniel Wiseman. An interactive book about the sounds instruments make; a fantastic way to energize toddlers for a music program.

We're Better Together (2021) by Eileen Spinelli and illustrated by Ekaterina Trukhan. "A tribute to human kindness, empathy, and mutual support. Useful and jolly." -Kirkus Reviews

Together (2021) by Mona Damluji and Innosanto Nagara. A free verse poem about the power of unity in social change; has an ideal rhythm for reading aloud.

That Fruit Is Mine (2018) by Anuska Allepuz. Five elephants learn the value of cooperation from a group of mice who are able to snag fruit from a tall tree;

TIP:

Repeat books to strengthen learning! Children thrive off repetition; you can even repeat favorite books during the same storytime.

TIP:

If you read *How to Fold a Taco*, set out circles of paper for toddlers to practice folding after storytime.

TIP:

For a tie-in with *Chirp!*, preschoolers can make paper bag chipmunk puppets to play with together.

TIP:

For a dance party song, try "Silly Dance Contest" by Jim Gill: <https://amzn.to/39rwNvH>

TODDLERS

repetition and amusing illustrations make for an engaging read aloud.

Toddlers (Spanish or Bilingual)

Leila, the Perfect Witch / Leila, la bruja perfecta (2022) by Flavia Z. Drago. Leila excels as a witch but struggles in the kitchen. Luckily, her three magical sisters step in to help. Bright illustrations and fast-paced story. Available in separate Spanish and English editions.

Canta conmigo / Sing with Me (2020) by José-Luis Orozco and illustrated by Sara Palacios. Six classic songs in English and Spanish. Bilingual.

How to Fold a Taco / Cómo doblar un taco (2020) by Naibe Reynoso and illustrated by Ana Varela. A team of fantastical creatures explore creative ways to fold a taco. Provides fun and imaginative exercises, and encourages basic motor skills. Bilingual.

Días y días / Days and Days (2019) by Ginger Foglesong Guy and illustrated by René King Moreno. A charming introduction to basic concepts connected to the four seasons. Bilingual.

Preschoolers (English)

Change Sings: A Children's Anthem (2021) by Amanda Gorman and illustrated by Loren Long. A musical journey about making a difference. Starred reviews.

The World Needs Who You Were Made to Be (2020) by Joanna Gaines and illustrated Julianna Swaney. A story in verse about a group of children who work together to build hot air balloons.

Chirp! Chipmunk Sings for a Friend (2021) by Jamie A. Swenson and illustrated by Scott Magoon. A simple story about collaboration, singing together, and finding friends in unexpected places.

This Magical, Musical Night (2021) by Rhonda Gowler Greene and illustrated by James Rey Sanchez. All the instruments in an orchestra are introduced in rhyming couplets. An energetic story that is perfect for a music-making theme. Rave reviews from Kirkus and SLJ.

Unstoppable (2020) by Adam Rex and illustrated by Laura Park. In this fun read aloud with silly wordplay, forest animals team up to share their unique traits and take on a common threat to their home. Starred reviews.

We Are Together (2018) by Britta Teckentrup. A vibrant book about working together to make amazing things happen; fun peekaboo pages.

Stick and Stone Best Friends Forever (2018) by Beth Ferry and Tom Lightenheld. Bright and engaging illustrations in this book about finding our roots and accepting help from family and friends.

Preschoolers (Spanish or Bilingual)

Manos que bailan / Dancing Hands (2019) by Margarita Engle and illustrated by Rafael López. The story of Teresa Carreño, a child prodigy who played piano for Abraham Lincoln. Free verse and vivid artwork. Starred reviews. Available in separate English and Spanish editions.

¡Solo pregunta! / Just Ask! (2019) by Sonia Sotomayor and illustrated by Rafael López. Children use their strengths to work together and learn about each other in this warm and inclusive exploration of disabilities. Starred reviews. Available in separate English and Spanish editions.

PRESCHOOL

La selva de Zonia / Zonia's Rain Forest (2021) by Juana Martinez-Neal. A young girl's day surrounded by unique species in the lush rainforest of Peru; back matter includes facts about threats to the Amazon rainforest. Available in separate Spanish and English editions.

Milo imagina el mundo / Milo Imagines the World (2021) by Matt de la Peña and illustrated by Christian Robinson. While Milo and his sister travel to visit their incarcerated mother, he draws what he imagines strangers' lives to be. Poetic text and starred reviews. Available in separate Spanish and English editions.

El secreto de las hormigas / The Ants' Secret (2019) by Baltasar Magro and illustrated by Dani Padrón. A simple, rhythmic structure evokes the underground passages of anthills, with a message of respecting the contributions of all creatures. Available in separate Spanish and English editions.

Sofi Paints Her Dreams / Sofi pinta sus sueños (2019) by Raquel M. Ortiz and illustrated by Roberta Collier-Morales. An exploration of Caribbean traditions through a story about unfinished song lyrics and a half-finished mural; great for a music or community art theme. Bilingual.

STORYTIME SONGS

Rhyme/Bounce: Bouncing, Bouncing (English)

A simple baby lapsit/bounce that is easy to modify with any movement you can think of. Video from Lafayette Free Library on YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3Of2Fm1>

Bouncing, bouncing, baby on my knee, (bounce)
Bouncing, bouncing, 1 2 3! (lift or big bounce)
Clapping, clapping, baby on my knee, (clap)
Clapping, clapping, 1 2 3! (big clap)
Hugging, hugging, baby on my knee, (hug)
Hugging, hugging, 1 2 3! (hug or tilt)

Rhyme/Fingerplay: Roll, Roll Sugar Babies (English)

Bounce with babies, or use with toddlers to practice their motor skills. Video from Jbrary on YouTube: <https://bit.ly/39mV9H1>

Roll, roll sugar babies (2x) (roll hands)
Push and pull, (lean forwards and back)
Clap, clap, clap! (repeat 2x)
Roll up high. (roll hands high)
Roll down low. (roll hands low)
Roll real fast. (roll hands quickly)
Roll real slow. (roll hands slowly)
Roll, roll sugar babies (2x) (roll hands)

TIP:

Many storytime playlists are available on Hoopla. Incorporate gross motor movements into dances by asking children to follow along with what you do.

STORYTIME SONGS

Push and pull
Clap, clap, clap!
Verses: Up and down; left and right

Rhyme/Fingerplay: Here's a Cup (English)

Caregivers move baby's hands along with the song; toddlers and preschoolers can do the motions themselves. Jbrary shows how you can pair children up to do the rhyme together: <https://bit.ly/3QjFIFr>

Here's a cup and here's a cup, (raise one hand for each "cup")
And here's a pot of tea (pull hands together so they touch)
Pour a cup, pour a cup, (make pouring motion with hands)
And drink some tea with me. (make a drinking motion with hand)

Rhyme/Fingerplay: Five Good Friends (English)

A simple countdown rhyme that works well as a fingerplay, with puppets, or with a flannelboard. To the tune of "Five Little Monkeys."

Five good friends went out to play (hold up five fingers)
On a bright and sunny day
One good friend said, "I can't stay."
Then there were four friends left to play

Verses:

Four good friends went out to play (hold up four fingers)...
Three good friends went out to play (hold up three fingers)...
Two good friends went out to play (hold up two fingers)...
Only one good friend was left to play (hold up one finger)...
So he went home that bright sunny day.

Song/Movement: The More We Get Together (English/ASL)

A traditional American children's song to the tune of "Did You Ever See a Lassie." This version from Miss Holly at Skokie Public Library on YouTube includes ASL signs: <https://bit.ly/3aSAjzz>.

The more we get together, together, together.
(for "more," fold hands like beaks and touch fingertips together)
The more we get together, the happier we'll be.
(for "together," hold two fists together and make small circles; for "happy," hold hands flat and circle them towards you.)
For your friends are my friends,
(point to a friend and clasp index fingers)
And my friends are your friends.
(point to yourself and clasp index fingers fingers)
The more we get together, the happier we'll be.
Verses:

TIP:

"Here Is a Beehive" is another fun rhyme/fingerplay to do in groups of babies and toddlers. Original lyrics in *Wee Sing Children's Songs and Fingerplays* (1979) by Pamela Conn Beall and Susan Hagen. Video from Jbrary on YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3QjFIFr>

TIP:

For a movement song, sing "The Ants Go Marching," but change "ants" to "friends," and encourage children to march along!

TIP:

Use instruments like bells, rhythm sticks, drums, and egg shakers with abandon.

TIP:

Raffi also has also a version of this song on the album *Singable Songs for the Very Young* (1976).

STORYTIME SONGS

The more we play together... (extend pinky and thumb and wiggle)
 The more we learn together... (extend one palm like a book and then pull
 information from it with the other hand and put it in your head)
 The more we sing together... (bend one arm and strum with other hand)

Lapsit/Bounce: Tortita (Spanish)

A fun song to go with a cooking theme. Listen to version from Cantaré on
 Spotify: <https://spoti.fi/3xqjUth>

*Tortita, tortita
 Tortita de casabe,
 Para mamá
 Que bien lo sabe.*

*Tortita, tortita
 Tortita de maíz tostado,
 Para papá
 Que está enojado.*

Lapsit/bounce: Aserrín, Aserrán (Spanish)

A traditional children's rhyme from Mexico. Traditionally sung on June 24 for
 the feast of San Juan. Listen to pronunciation from jorgeembon on YouTube:
<https://bit.ly/3twLx3a>

*Aserrín, aserrán
 Los maderos de San Juan.
 Piden pan no les dan
 Piden queso les dan hueso*

Rhyme/Bounce: Bate, Bate Chocolate (Bilingual)

A traditional children's rhyme from Mexico about making hot chocolate. The
 song has a steady beat for a lapsit/bounce or for children to clap along. Audio
 version recorded by Barbara Cohen of Warner Library in Tarrytown, NY. From
 CSLPreads on YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3twLx3a>. Alternative version from I'm
 Bilingual! on YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3aXtmNE>

*123 cho, 123 co
 123 la, 123 te
 Bate, bate, chocolate,
 Con harina y con tomate
 Bate, bate, chocolate,
 Con harina y con tomate*

*123 hot, 123 chocolate
 123 hot, 123 chocolate
 Whip it up, hot chocolate*

TIP:

Ask children to suggest
 other verses and motions,
 such as "The more we
 read together..." or "The
 more we help each
 other..."

STAY AND PLAY

Bate, bate, chocolate,
Bate, bate, chocolate!

Song: Cosquillas (Bilingual)

A fun song that encourages children to listen for rhyming words. Lyrics by 123 Andrés. Reprinted with permission. Listen to song from Arriba Abajo here: <https://amzn.to/3aVtptl>

Tuve una amigo llamada Esperanza
Me hacía cosquillas aquí en la... ¡panza!
Cosquillas con Esperanza
Cosquillas en la panza

Verses:

Tuve una amiga llamada Teresa / ... en la ¡cabeza!...
Tuve un amigo llamado Andrés /... en los ... -¿Brazos? ¡No! ¿Hombros? ¡No!
¿Pies? ¡Sí! / ...

I had a friend. Her name was Kelly.
She used to tickle me here on my... belly!
Tickles with my friend Kelly.
Tickles, tickles on my belly.

Verses:

I had a friend. His name was Ted / He used to tickle me here on my...head! ...
I had a friend. His name was Joe. / He used to tickle me here on my...arms?
No! Shoulders? No! Toes? Yes! ...

STAY AND PLAY

Baby Band (Babies/Toddlers)

Pass out plastic rattles/shakers, drums, and bells for babies to play with. Consider aging up to toddlers/preschoolers by adding a dance party that focuses on movement and creating music together.

Contact Paper Stick and Play (Babies/Toddlers)

Mount contact paper to a wall sticky side out. Set out large foam shapes for babies to stick on and peel off. This fun sensory activity gives lots of opportunities to talk about shapes and colors.

Sharing Blocks (Toddlers)

Incorporate a set of blocks into playtime. Playing with blocks in a group helps toddlers learn how to share and cooperate.

Parachute Play (Toddlers/Preschoolers)

Run a 30-minute parachute party or add parachute play to the end of storytime. Parachute play is great for developing physical strength,

TIP:

Be sure to check out 123 Andrés, who has several albums for little language learners in Spanish and English: <https://123andres.com/>

TIP:

Storytime instruments are a great way to introduce the concepts of tempo (fast and slow) and rhythm. Repeat a storytime song; on the second run-through, ask children to beat a drum, shake a rattle, or ring a bell.



Image source: Azita Frattarelli of Riverview Veterans Memorial Library, Riverview, MI

coordination, and teamwork. Gripping the parachute encourages fine motor skills. Lifting the parachute up and down, dancing, and jumping encourage gross motor skills. Games and songs emphasize the importance of active listening, sharing, and taking turns. It is also great for illustrating opposites or taking outside.

Collaborative Puzzle (Preschoolers)

Cut big puzzle pieces out of cardboard for children to decorate/color. Attach and display the pieces together. Be sure to save the template so you can make extras (in case anyone insists on taking their puzzle art home).

Collaborative Quilt (Preschoolers)

Leave out quilt squares and coloring supplies. When placed together on the wall, all of their quilt squares make a beautiful “blanket!”

Giant Floor Grid (Preschoolers)

Tape a grid on the floor, and provide laminated square letter tiles. Preschoolers fill in the grid with letters/words of their choosing. (See the Giant Floor Crossword program for an adaptation of this idea for children 5–8).

TIP:

Parachute play is also ideal for teaching new words during bilingual storytime!

up—arriba

down—abajo

in—adentro

out—afuera

fast—rápido

slow—lento

TIP:

Some parachute songs to consider: “Roly, Poly,” “The Elevator Song,” “If You’re Happy and You Know It,” and “Shaky, Shaky” by The Wiggles.

TIP:

Show caregivers how to replicate parachute play at home using items such as blankets, tablecloths, towels, and scarves.

TIP:

For early literacy printables, see Chapter 08: Standalone Printables.

STORYTIME BOOKS

Babies (English)

ABCs of Kindness (2019) by Patricia Hegarty and illustrated by Summer Macon. A board book that is light and friendly without being preachy.

The Baby Goes Beep (2020) by Rebecca O'Connell and illustrated by Ken Wilson-Max. A story about all the things baby can do; perfect rhymes for an engaging baby and toddler storytime.

Let's Be Kind (2020) by Amy Pixton and Ekaterina Trukhan. Bright illustrations and simple text about kindness and manners.

The Last Marshmallow (2020) by Grace Lin. Part of the Storytelling Math series, this board book tells a cute story in minimal words about how to split an extra marshmallow between friends.

Babies (Spanish or Bilingual)

Happy Within / Feliz por dentro (2020) by Marisa J. Taylor and illustrated by Vanessa Balleza. A book to help teach children self-love. Bilingual.

!Me gusto cómo soy! / I Like Myself! (2018) by Karen Beaumont and illustrated by David Catrow. A high-energy ode to self-esteem with fun rhymes and colorful illustrations. Bilingual.

Un mundo muy amable / Kindness Makes Us Strong (2022) by Sophie Beer. A sweet, rhyming read aloud about how kindness builds friendship and community. Bilingual.

¿Tú serás mi rayito de sol? Will You Be My Sunshine? (2020) by Julia Lobo and illustrated by Nicola Slater. Adorable mouse characters and gentle rhyming text for reading aloud. Bilingual.

Toddlers (English)

When We Are Kind (2020) by Monique Gray Smith and illustrated by Nicole Neidhardt. A beautiful story that centers Indigenous families and minimal text. Starred reviews.

All Kinds of Kindness (2020) by Judy Carey Nevin and illustrated by Susie Hammer. Vibrant illustrations and bouncing rhymes.

A Little Spot of Kindness! (2019) by Diane Alber. A fun story about how a little kindness can go a long way. Hand out sticker dots for an interactive component.

My Papa Is a Princess (2018) by Doug Cenko. Through a little girl's eyes, her dad is many things. Cute book about father–daughter kindness.

Tomorrow I'll Be Kind (2020) by Jessica Hische. A rhyming book with vibrant illustrations

TIP:

Words and letters are all around us! Encourage caregivers to read signs and point out letters to their toddlers/preschoolers as they run errands.

TODDLERS

The Rabbit Listened (2018) by Cori Doerrfeld. A picture book about empathy, kindness, and the importance of listening. Starred reviews.

How Do Dinosaurs Show Good Manners? (2021) by Jane Yolder and Mark Teague. A great toddler primer for social skills. Also consider some older books in the same series.

The Kindness Book (2019) by Todd Parr. Bright illustrations and simple text about different ways to show kindness.

If Animals Tried to Be Kind (2021) by Ann Whitford Paul and illustrated by David Walker. Animals are kind to each other in various silly ways.

Try a Little Kindness (2018) by Henry Cole. A humorous rhyming book about how it is fun to be kind; features animal characters.

Toddlers (Spanish or Bilingual)

The Three Billy Goats Buenos (2020) by Susan Middleton Elya and illustrated by Miguel Ordóñez. Bouncy rhymes in a modern spin on a classic tale where kindness prevails. Starred reviews. In English with Spanish words.

My Heart Fills with Happiness / Mi corazón se Llena de Alegría. (2020) by Monique Gray Smith and illustrated by Julie Flett. A book about identifying what fills your heart with happiness; includes family, music, dance, and storytelling. Starred reviews. Bilingual.

A los unicornios no les gustan los arcoíris / Unicorns Don't Love Rainbows (2021) by Emma Adams. A funny rhyming book about empathy, kindness, and celebrating what makes us different. Available in separate English and Spanish editions.

A contar amabilidad / Counting Kindness (2021) by Hollis Kurman and illustrated by Barroux. A bilingual counting book that teaches about refugees and the joys of being welcomed into a new community. Bilingual.

Preschoolers (English)

Listen (2021) by Gabi Snyder. A mindfulness primer good for reading aloud. Starred reviews.

I Walk with Vanessa (2018) by Kerascoët. A simple yet powerful book about standing up to bullying. Starred reviews.

Sulwe (2019) by Lupita Nyong'o and illustrated by Vashti Harrison. A girl with skin the color of midnight takes a magical journey and learns to see her own unique beauty. Stunning illustrations and starred reviews

A World of Kindness (2018) by Ann Featherstone et al. A series of questions to encourage reflection on what it means to be kind.

Amy Wu and the Warm Welcome (2022) by Kat Zhang and Charlene

TIP:

Toddlers need to move, so tell caregivers it is okay if their little one needs to romp around while you read. They still hear the sound of your voice and the rhythms of storytime.

TIP:

After reading *A World of Kindness* (or similar), give children paper and crayons, and ask them to draw what kindness looks like to them. Optional: Collect and display their artwork!

PRESCHOOL

Chua. A warm book about kind gestures and cross-cultural communication.

Group Hug (2021) by Jean Reidy and illustrated by Joey Chou. A story about hugs with adorable rhymes.

I Wish, Wish, Wish for You (2022) by Sandra Magsamen and illustrated by Melisa Fernández Nitsche. A book to inspire confidence and encourage children to follow their dreams.

Clovis Keeps His Cool (2021) by Katelyn Aronson and Eve Farb. A bull in a china shop struggles with his temper in this story about finding inner peace in response to bullying.

Eyes That Kiss at the Corners (2021) by Joanna Ho and illustrated by Dung Ho. A lyrical book about learning to love and celebrate Asian-shaped eyes. Starred reviews.

I Am Thinking My Life (2022) by Allysun Atwater and illustrated by Stevie Lewis. An empowering story about an imaginative young girl's discovery of the power of positive thinking and transformation. Great for reading aloud.

Home Base (2020) by Nikki Tate and illustrated by Kathie Kath. An empowering book about a daughter who loves baseball and her bricklaying mom; this rhythmic story encourages love, self-confidence, and hard work. Starred reviews.

Be Kind (2018) Pat Zietlow Miler and illustrated by Jen Hill. A book about being kind at school. Starred reviews.

Best Day Ever (2021) by Marilyn Singer and illustrated by Leah Nixon. Engaging rhymes in this story about a boy in a wheelchair and his dog.

I Am Enough (2018) by Grace Byers and illustrated by Keturah A. Bobo. A lyrical ode to loving who you are. Award-winner.

Preschoolers (Spanish or Bilingual)

¿Qué serás? / What Will You Be? (2021) by Yamile Saied Méndez and illustrated by Kate Alizadeh. A young girl's abuelito encourages her to be true to herself. Starred reviews. Available in separate English and Spanish editions.

Jaguares y mariposas / Jaguars and Butterflies (2020) by Catherine Russler and illustrated by Ely Ely. A self-empowerment story with enchanting art for girls of Mexican heritage. Available in separate English and Spanish editions.

Nosotros Means Us: Un cuento bilingüe (2021) by Paloma Valdivia. A sweet and poetic story about loving familial bonds. Starred reviews. Bilingual.

Caleb el castor calma su ansiedad / Brave the Beaver Has the Worry Warts (2021) by Misty Black and illustrated by Ana Rankovic. This story about first-day-of-school jitters includes a poetic mantra that children can repeat to themselves when they get worried. Available in separate Spanish and English editions.

¡Hola, sol! / Hello, Sun! (2019) by Sarah Jane Hinder. Simple text invites young readers to notice what they experience; encourages children to move along as you read. Available in separate Spanish and English editions.

STORYTIME SONGS

Rhyme/Movement: I Have a Little Heart (English)

Video from Jbrary: <https://bit.ly/3xSyyM0>

I have a little heart, (place hand over heart)
 And it goes thump, thump, thump! (pat chest three times)
 It keeps right on beating,
 When I jump, jump, jump. (jump three times)
 I get a special feeling, when I look at you. (point to child)
 It makes me want to give you a hug or two. (hug yourself)

Song/Movement: If You're Happy and You Know It (English)

New lyrics for the traditional melody. A good song for themes of self-care or emotions.

If you're happy and you know it, give a shake (shake your whole body)
 If you're happy and you know it, give a shake.
 If you're happy you know it, and you really want to show it
 If you're happy and you know it, give a shake.
 Verses: Tap your toes, wiggle your fingers, swing your arms...
 Verses for emotional awareness:
 If you're sad and you know it, get a hug...
 If you're angry and you know it, take a break...
 If you're tired and you know it, have a nap...
 If you're worried and you know it, talk it out...

Song/Movement: Skinnamarink (or Skidamarink) (English)

A traditional North American children's song. Original version written by Felix F. Feist and Al Piantadosi in 1910.

Skinnamarinky dinky dink
 Skinnamarinky do
 I love you.
 Skinnamarinky dinky dink
 Skinnamarinky do
 I love you.
 I love you in the morning
 And in the afternoon.
 I love you in the evening
 Underneath the moon.
 Skinnamarinky dinky dink
 Skinnamarinky do
 I love you.

TIP:

Incorporate bubbles into storytime! Not only is it fun and relaxing, but bubbles can be good for growing brains as it develops visual tracking skills and hand-eye coordination.

Song: Say My Name (English)

To the tune of “I’m a Little Teapot.” Lyrics from CSLP. Add fun for toddlers and preschoolers by saying one of their names after each round.

I’m a kind person to my friends
I listen and play, the fun never ends.
When I’m with my family, it’s the same.
Kind and gentle, say my name.

Lapsit/Bounce: Que Linda la Mano (Spanish)

A traditional rhyme from Mexico. Twist hands in a circular motion and side to side. Also good for toddlers and preschoolers who are expecting a new sibling. Listen to audio version from Cantarima on YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3zlskzD>

Que linda manita que tiene el bebé,
Que linda, que mona, que bonita es.
Pequeños deditos, rayitos de sol,
Que gire que gire como un girasol.

Fingerplay/song: Pin Pon (Spanish)

A traditional nursery rhyme from Spain about a doll’s bedtime hygiene. This song has many different versions with slight variations. Listen to an audio version from PBS Learning Media: <https://bit.ly/3b5AW9f>

Pin Pon es un muñeco muy guapo de cartón
Se lava su carita con agua y con jabón
Se desenreda el pelo con peine de marfil
Y aunque no le gusta no llora, ni hace así (frotar los ojos)
Pin Pon dame la mano con fuerte apretón
Pues quiero ser tu amigo, Pin Pon, Pin Pon, Pin Pon
Y cuando las estrellas comienzan a salir
Pin Pon se va a la cama, Pimpón se va a dormir.

Rhyme: (Sana Sana) Colita de Rana (Spanish)

A traditional rhyme from Mexico. The direct English translation is “Heal, heal, little frog’s tail. If you do not heal today, you will heal tomorrow.” It means do not worry about something that will heal on its own. Listen to the Canticos version on Spotify: <https://spoti.fi/3xuwsjH>

Sana sana colita de rana/Si no sanas hoy, sanaras mañana

TIP:

For this song in book form, check out *Pin Pon* (2020) by Susie Jaramillo.

TIP:

The song “De esta forma nos vestimos” / “This Is the Way We Get Dressed” is another fun movement song that ties into a self-care theme for toddlers and preschoolers. Lyrics from *Canciones Infantiles* here: <https://bit.ly/3Ohza2K>; English version from *Super Simple Songs* here: <https://bit.ly/3tAUWGU>

STAY AND PLAY

Song/Movement: Cabeza, Hombros, Rodillas, y Pies (Bilingual)

This Spanish translation of “Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes” is a great way for active toddlers and preschoolers to release some energy. For babies, caregivers can touch body parts while you sing. Excellent choice for bilingual audiences. Listen to pronunciation from Super Simple Español on YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3mKPTjp>

Cabeza, hombros, rodillas, y pies, rodillas y pies
Cabeza, hombros, rodillas, y pies, rodillas y pies
Ojos, orejas, boca, y nariz
Cabeza, hombros, rodillas, y pies, rodillas, y pies

Song: Los Pollitos Dicen / Little Chicks (Spanish)

A traditional nursery rhyme from Mexico about hungry baby chicks fed by their mother. Audio version recorded by Barbara Cohen of Warner Library in Tarrytown, NY. From CSLPreads on YouTube: <https://bit.ly/3xtw6dd>

Los pollitos dicen pío, pío, pío
Cuando tienen hambre, cuando tienen frío
La gallina busca el maíz y el trigo
Les da la comida y les presta abrigo
Bajo sus dos alas, acurrucaditos
Duermen los pollitos hasta el otro día
(3x)
Cuando se levantan dicen mamacita,
Tengo mucha hambre dame lombricitas.

STAY AND PLAY

Animal Petting (Babies)

Using stuffed animals, caregivers demonstrate to babies how to be kind to pets, such as snuggling, stroking their fur gently, not picking them up by their tails, etc.

Who Do You See? (Babies/Toddlers)

Babies play with mirrored blocks for self-discovery; toddlers use sturdy mirrors. Guide caregivers in how to ask babies about what they see, or in playing peek-a-boo. Caregivers can ask toddlers more detailed questions (e.g., eye color, hair color, etc.), and toddlers can also be encouraged to share the mirrors with their friends.

Seeds of Kindness (Preschoolers)

TIP:

Explain to caregivers that children learn to scribble before they learn to write. Encourage scribbling to develop fine motor skills!

STAY AND PLAY

Set out cups with soil and bean seeds. Label each cup with a craft stick that reads “KIND” (prepare the sticks beforehand, or let older preschoolers write the word themselves). Provide leaf, plant, or ladybug stickers for decorating the cups. Narrative: Kindness is like a seed; “water” it every day and watch it grow!

Kindness Counts BINGO (Preschoolers)

Play a game of kindness BINGO! This is an interactive game where children do the activities you call out. It be done as a group with a large shared BINGO game on a white board or flannelboard. Alternatively, provide handouts for a home-based version; children bring their completed game cards back to the library for a sticker or small prize. (See Standalone Printables in Chapter 08.)

Favorite Things Paper Chains (Preschoolers)

How can preschoolers be kind to themselves? By doing their favorite things and loving their favorite people! Preschoolers write down their favorite things, activities, or people on strips of paper. Caregivers help tape them into a chain, which you can connect with others’ chains to display in the library.

TIP:

Sunflower and zinnia seeds sprout easily, but they will need to be planted in the ground to bloom. Basil plants are also a good choice: Start with small plants that children can harvest for a recipe later in the summer.

TIP:

For early literacy printables, see Standalone Printables in Chapter 08.



Call for Volunteers

For the 2023 Summer Library Program

All Together Now!

at _____
(library name)

Dear Parents and Friends:

We are looking for volunteers to help us offer more activities for our summer program. "All Together Now!" is designed to encourage children to continue reading during vacation so that valuable reading skills won't be lost. In addition, we hope to offer a variety of activities for children, teens, and adults. If you are interested in helping, please fill out the form below and return it to the library or school by _____.

Yes, I want to help at the library this summer. I am willing to:

- ____ Help with registration and recording reading logs.
- ____ Solicit donations of incentive prizes from local businesses.
- ____ Assist the librarian with storytime or other programs.
- ____ Offer or help with a craft program.
- ____ Help with games or sports activities.
- ____ Create a display or help decorate the room.
- ____ Chaperone a reading party or field trip.
- ____ Provide refreshments for a special event.
- ____ Offer a workshop using a special skill I have.
- ____ Translate during a bilingual program.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____





Llamado para voluntarios

Durante de programa de biblioteca de verano de 2023

¡Todos juntos ahora!

en la _____
(biblioteca pública)

Estimados padres y amigos:

Nosotros estamos buscando voluntarios para ayudarnos a ofrecer más actividades para nuestro programa de verano. “¡Todos juntos ahora!” está diseñado para alentar a los niños que continúen leyendo durante las vacaciones para no perder las habilidades de lectura. Además, esperamos ofrecer una variedad de actividades para niños, adolescentes, y adultos. Si estás interesado en ayudarnos, complete el siguiente formulario y envíelo a la biblioteca o escuela hasta el _____.

Sí, quiero ayudar en la biblioteca este verano. Estoy dispuesto a:

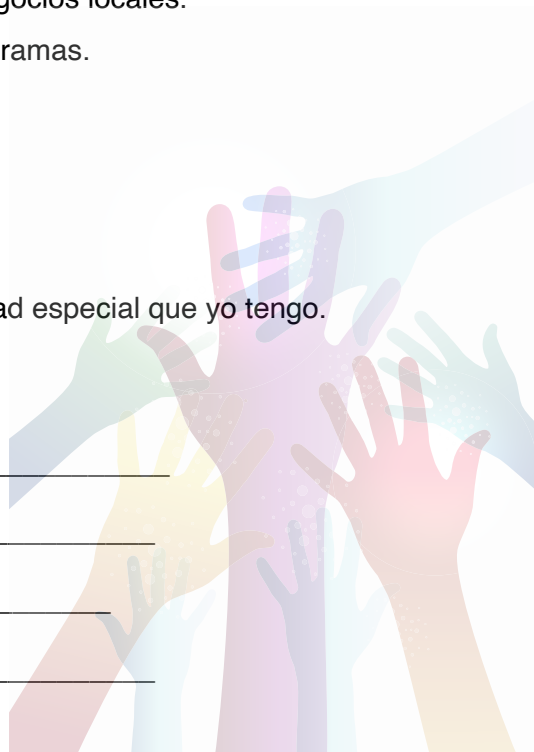
- _____ Ayudar con la inscripción y registro de los libros leídos por los niños.
- _____ Solicitar donaciones para premios de incentivo de negocios locales.
- _____ Ayudar a la bibliotecaria con las historias u otros programas.
- _____ Ofrecer o ayudar con el programa de arte.
- _____ Crear una cartelera o ayudar a decorar una sala.
- _____ Supervisar una fiesta de lectura o excursión.
- _____ Servir refrescos en un evento especial.
- _____ Ofrecer la realización de un taller usando una habilidad especial que yo tengo.
- _____ Traducir durante programas bilingües.

Nombre: _____

Dirección: _____

Teléfono: _____

Email: _____



All Together Now!

Permission to Record and/or Photograph

I, _____, am 18 years or older.
(name, please print)

I, _____, am the parent/guardian of _____.
(name, please print) (name, please print)

I understand that the _____ may record or photograph the event or activity in which I am (or my child is) participating for the purpose of promoting its services and programs. I give permission with the following understanding: No compensation of any kind will be paid to me (or my child) at this time or in the future for the use of my (or my child's) likeness.

Permission is not required to take part in events or activities.

Signature _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone or email: _____

¡Todos juntos ahora!

Permiso para filmar y/o fotografiar

Yo, _____, tengo por lo menos 18 años de edad.
(nombre, en imprenta)

Yo, _____, soy padre o tutor legal de _____.
(nombre, en imprenta) (nombre, en imprenta)

Comprendo que _____ puede fotografiar o filmar los eventos o actividades en las cuales you estoy (o mi hijo está) participando. Doy permiso para utilizar fotografías o filmaciones mías (o de mi hijo) con el propósito de promocionar sus servicios/programas. Doy permiso y tengo claro lo siguiente: No se me pagará compensación de ningún tipo (ni tampoco a mi hijo) en esta oportunidad ni en el futuro por la utilización de mi imagen (o la imagen de mi hijo).

No se necesita permiso para participar en los eventos de la ciudad.

Firma: _____ Fecha: _____

Dirección : _____ Zip: _____

Teléfono o email _____

Registration

2023 Summer Library Program: *All Together Now!*

Reader's name: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

Parent phone or email: _____

School: _____ Grade in September: _____

Circle one: independent reader family reader

Completed program: ☐ Yes ☐ No

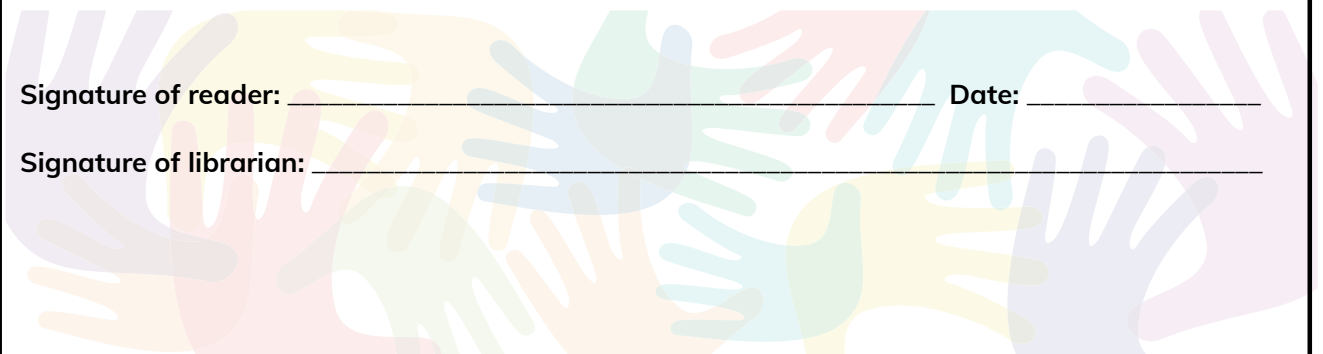
Reading Contract

2023 Summer Library Program: *All Together Now!*

I, _____, agree to read _____ books, minutes, or
pages (circle one) this summer as part of the 2023 summer library program.

Signature of reader: _____ Date: _____

Signature of librarian: _____



Inscripción para el programa de
biblioteca de verano 2023
¡Todos juntos ahora!

Nombre: _____ Edad: _____

Dirección: _____

Teléfono o email de los padres: _____

Escuela: _____ Año en septiembre: _____

Encierre uno en un círculo: lector independiente lector en familia

Completó el programa: ☐ Sí ☐ No

Contrato de lectura para
el programa de biblioteca de verano 2023
¡Todos juntos ahora!

Acepto leer _____ número de libros, minutos, o páginas (encierre uno en un círculo) este
verano como parte del programa de lectura de verano 2023.

Firma del lector: _____ Hecha: _____

Firma de bibliotecario: _____

Teen Registration

2023 Summer Library Program: All Together Now!

Name: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

Phone or email: _____

School: _____ Grade in September: _____

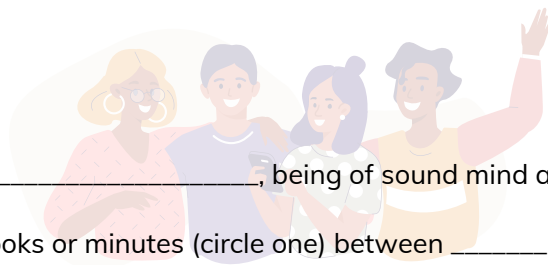
My favorite book genres (check all that apply):

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| _____ mystery | _____ romance |
| _____ fantasy | _____ science fiction |
| _____ classics | _____ suspense |
| _____ nonfiction | _____ graphic novels |
| _____ dystopian | _____ books in a series |
| _____ horror | _____ biography |
| _____ detective | _____ other _____ |

Completed program: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Teen Reading Contract

2023 Summer Library Program: All Together Now!



I, _____, being of sound mind and body, do hereby promise to read _____ books or minutes (circle one) between _____ and _____ of the year 2023.

I am of junior high or high school age. Furthermore, I state the the aforementioned pages or minutes will relate to titles that are appropriate for my age and sensibilities.

Signed this _____ day of _____, 2023.

Signature of reader

Signature of librarian

Inscripción de lector adolescente para el programa de verano 2023 ¡Todos juntos ahora!

Nombre: _____ Edad: _____

Dirección: _____

Teléfono o email: _____

Escuela: _____ Año en septiembre: _____

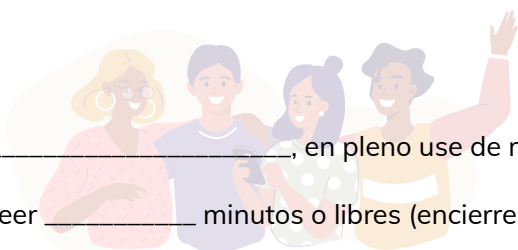
Mis géneros de libros favoritos:
(marque todo lo que corresponda)

____ misterio
____ fantasía
____ clásico
____ no-ficción
____ distopía
____ horror
____ detective

____ romance
____ ciencia ficción
____ suspenso
____ novela gráfica
____ los libros en saga
____ biografía
____ other _____

Completó el programa: ☐ Sí ☐ No

Contrato de lector adolescente para el programa de biblioteca de verano 2023 ¡Todos juntos ahora!



Yo, _____, en pleno uso de mis facultades físicas y mentales,
por la presente prometo leer _____ minutos o libros (encierre uno en un círculo) entre _____
y _____ de 2023. Además, declaro que las páginas mencionados provendrán de títulos que son
apropiados para mi edad y mis capacidades.

Firmado este día _____ de _____, 2023.

Firma del lector

Firma del bibliotecario

All Together Now!

Activity Log

Complete the activities below.

**Read a
wordless book.**

Sing the ABCs.

**Play with a
friend.**

**Attend a library
program.**

**Recite some
nursery rhymes.**

**Dance to fun
music.**

**Check out a
book.**

**Read a bedtime
story.**



¡Todos juntos ahora!

Registro de actividades

Completar las siguientes actividades.

**Leer un libro sin
palabras.**

**Cantar una
canción de ABC.**

**Jugar con un
amigo.**

**Ir a un
programa de la
biblioteca.**

**Recitar algunas
canciones de
cuna.**

**Baila al ritmo
canción.**

**Saca un libro de
la biblioteca.**

**Leer un cuento
para antes de
dormir.**



All Together Now!

loved this book



All Together Now!

loved this book



All Together Now!

loved this book



¡Todos juntos ahora!

amaba este libro



¡Todos juntos ahora!

amaba este libro



¡Todos juntos ahora!

amaba este libro



All Together Now!

Kindness Bingo



High-five a
friend.

Give yourself a
pat on the back.

Pick something
up off the floor.

Ask someone if
they need help.

Ask a friend if
they want a
hug. (If they say
yes, give them
one!)

Say please and
thank you.

Tell your friend
something you
like about them.

Draw a picture
to give as a gift.

Wave at
someone you
don't know.

¡Todos juntos ahora!

Bingo bondad



**Choca los cinco
con un amigo.**

**Date una
palmadita en la
espalda.**

**Recoger algo
del suelo.**

**Pregúntale a
alguien si
necesita ayuda.**

**Pregúntale a un
amigo si quiere
un abrazo. (Si
dicen que sí,
¡dales uno!)**

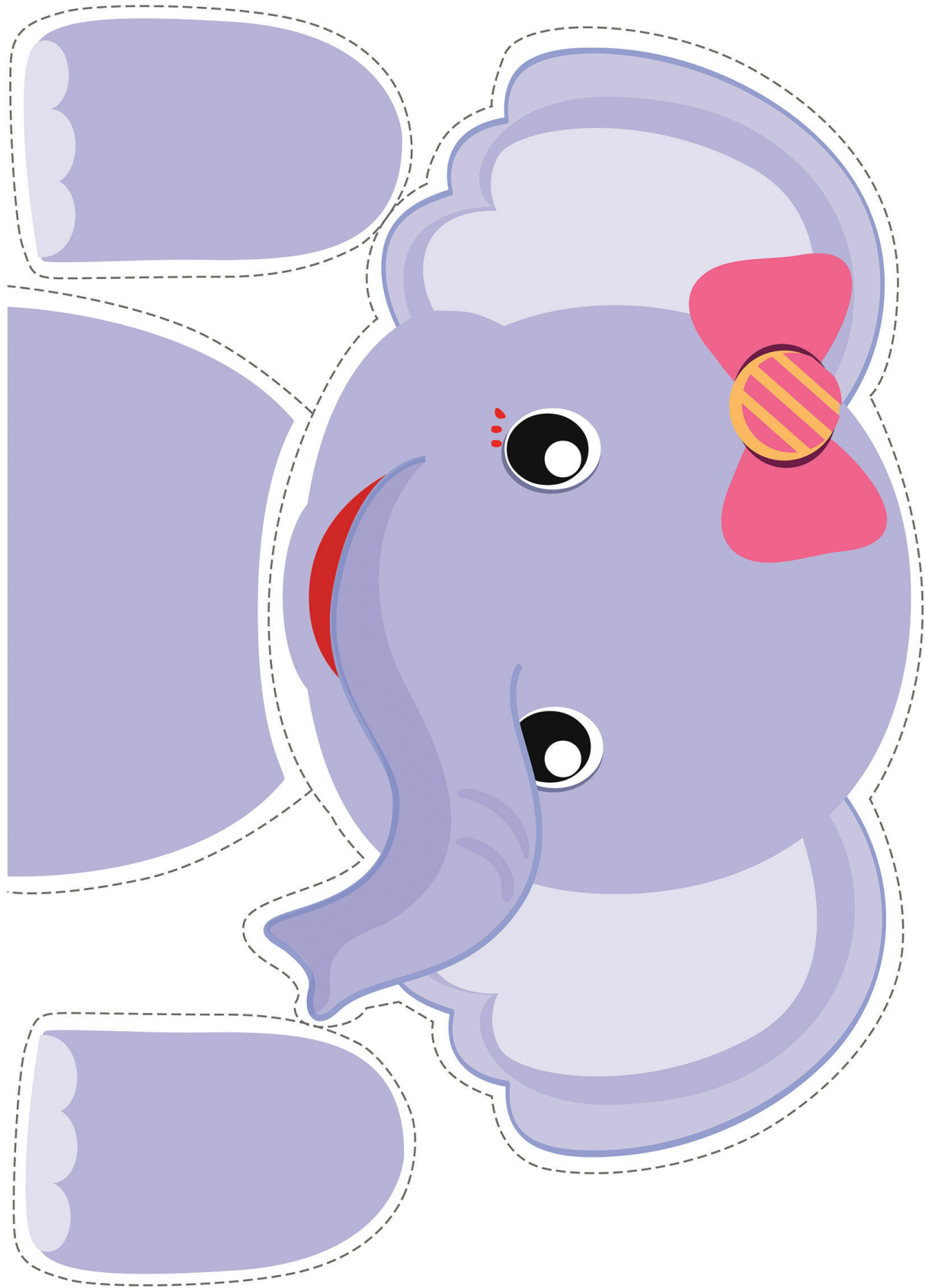
**Di por favor y
gracias.**

**Dile a tu amigo
also que te
guste de él.**

**Haz un dibujo
para regalar.**

**Saluda a
alguien que no
conoces.**



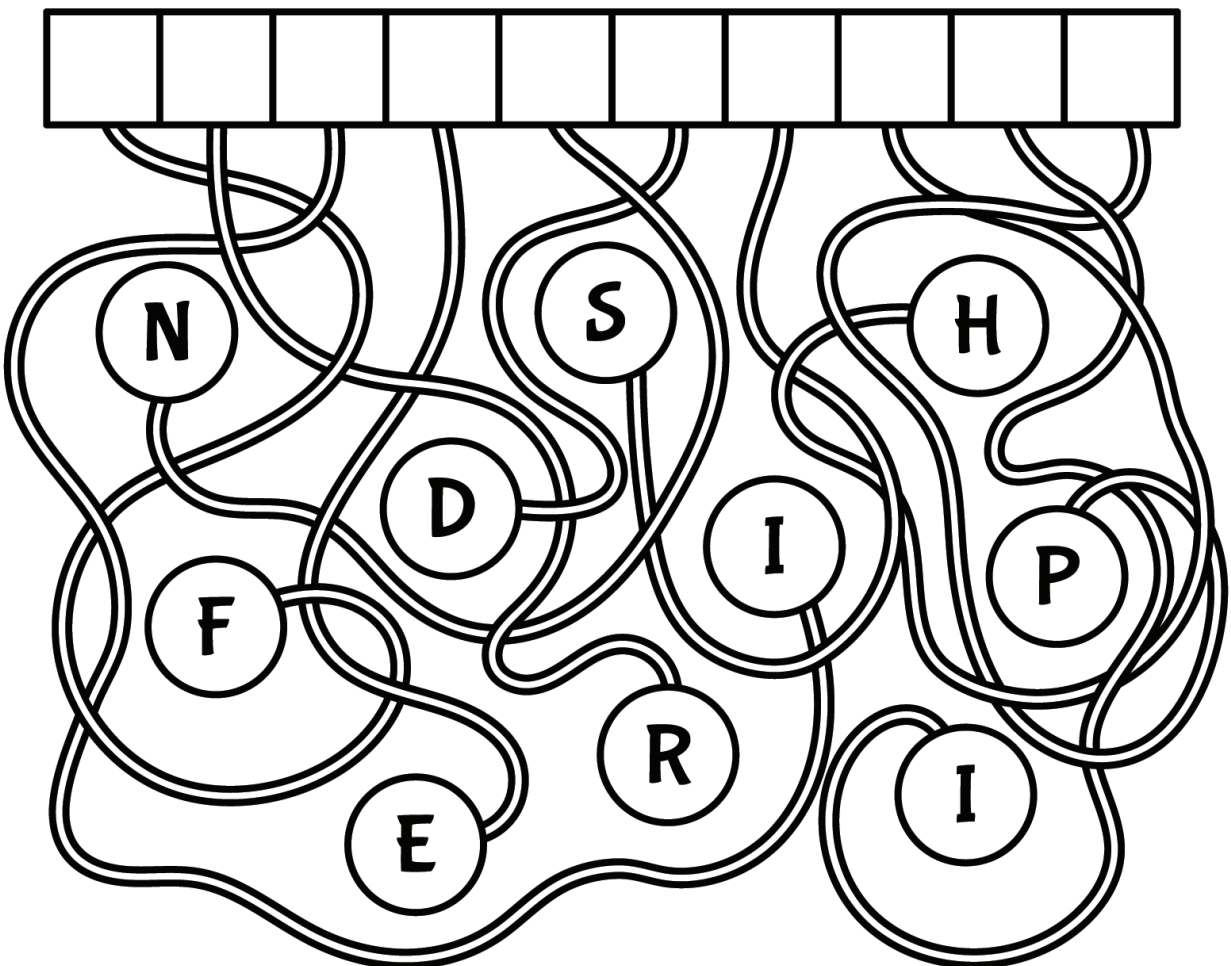




SUMMER MEMORY GAME



Print twice and cut out the cards



HOW MANY?



2



3



5



1



4

¿CUANTOS?



2



3



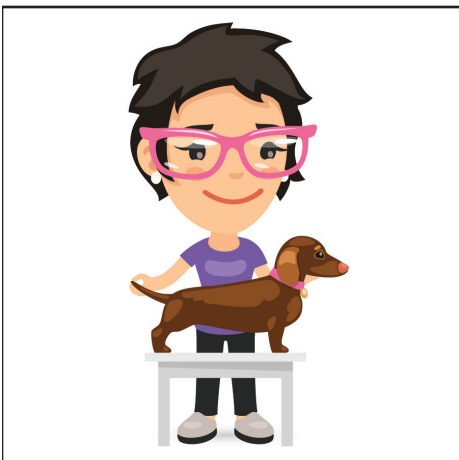
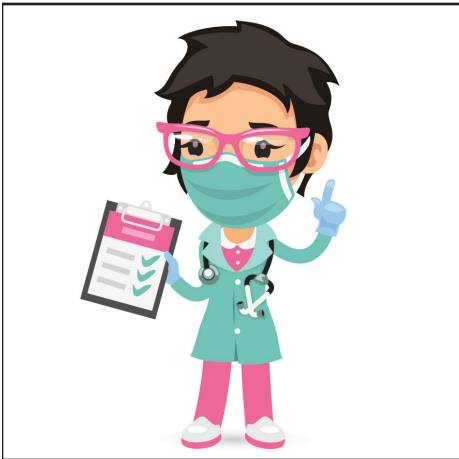
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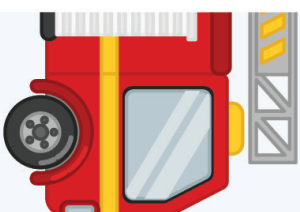
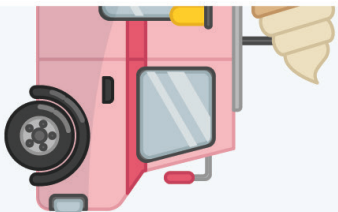


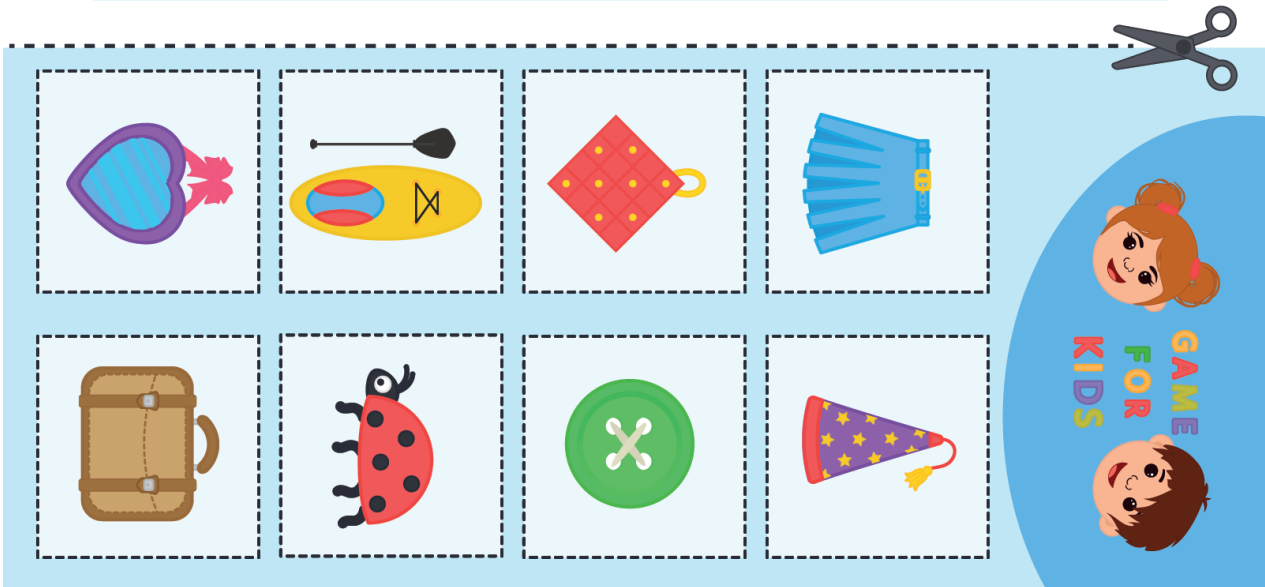
4



MATCH THE PICTURES

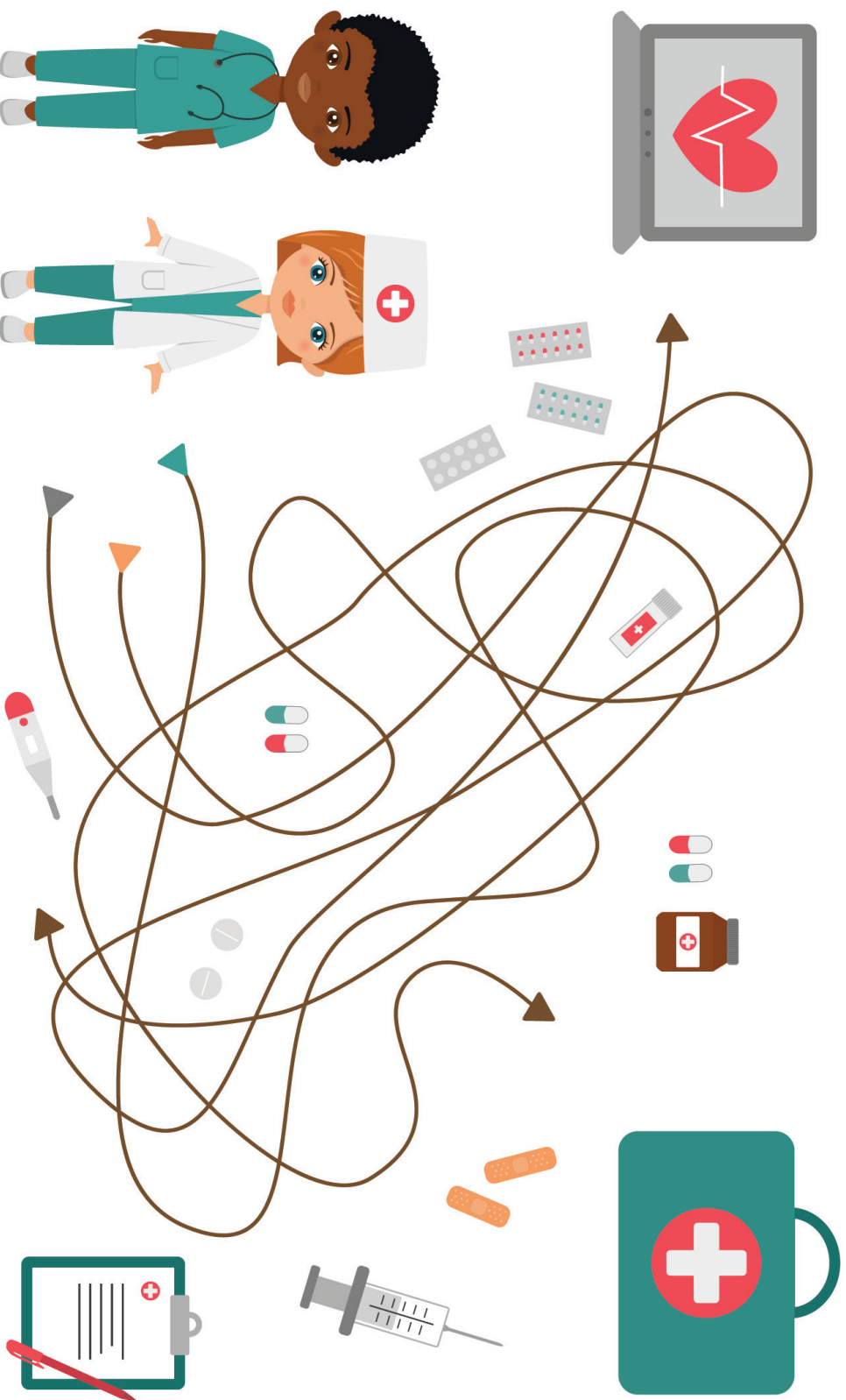
LEARNING
CARDS





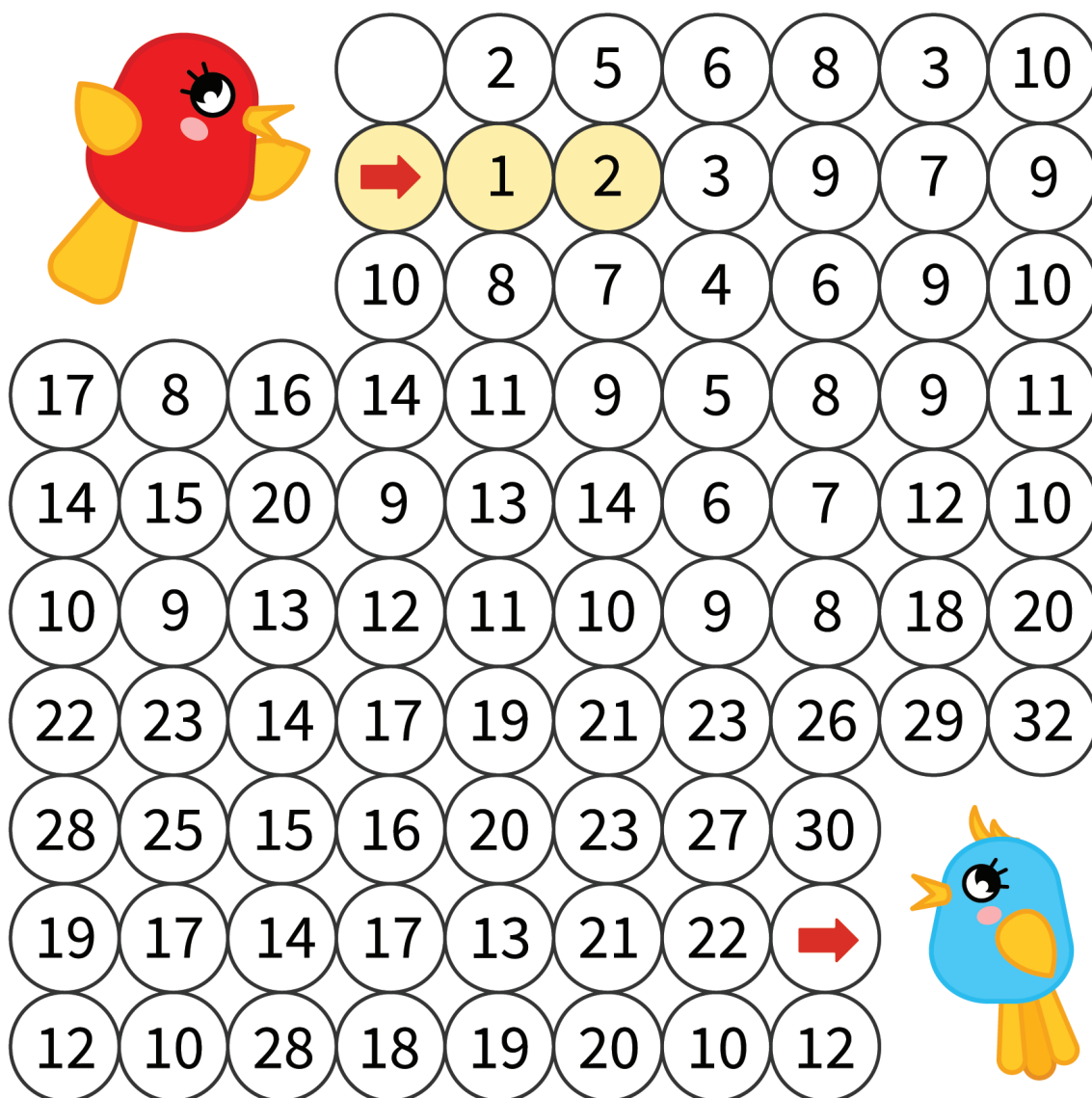
Help doctors find
the first aid box

Maze game

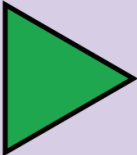





MATH MAZE


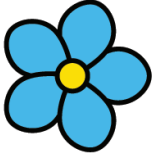
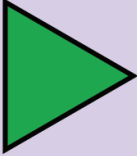


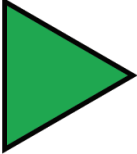


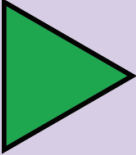


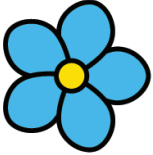



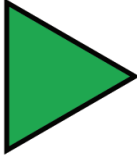
+1

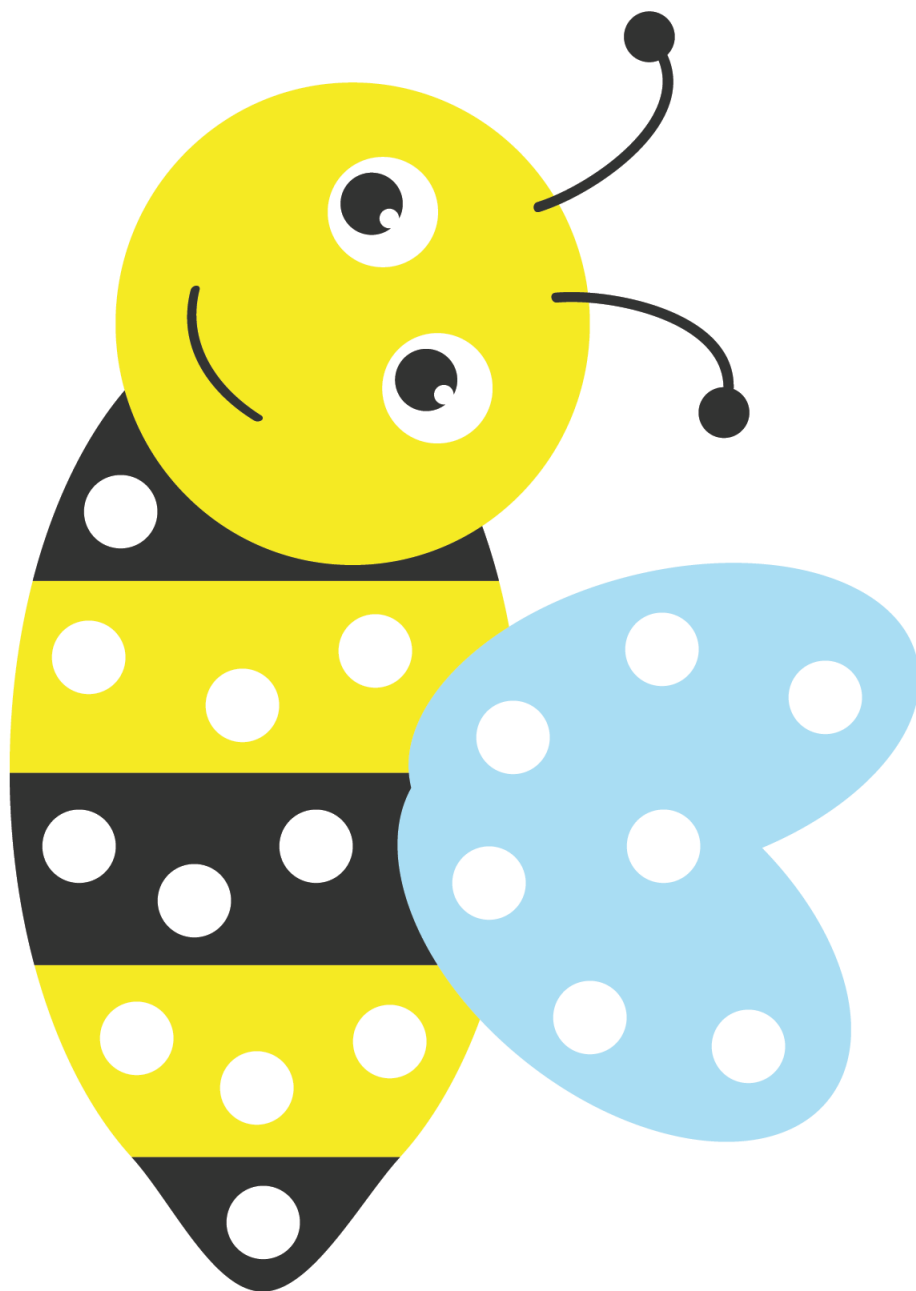


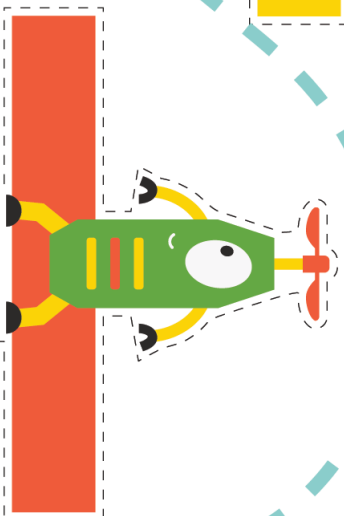
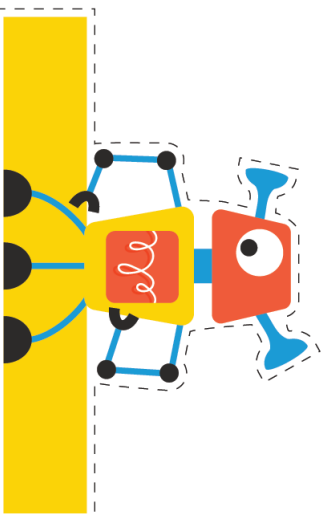
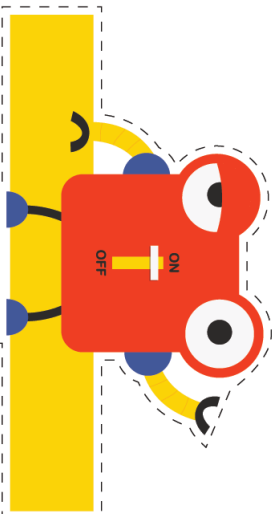
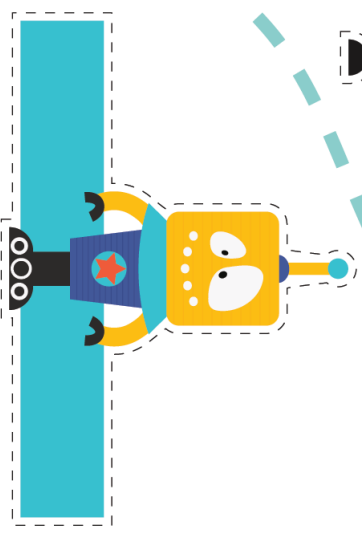
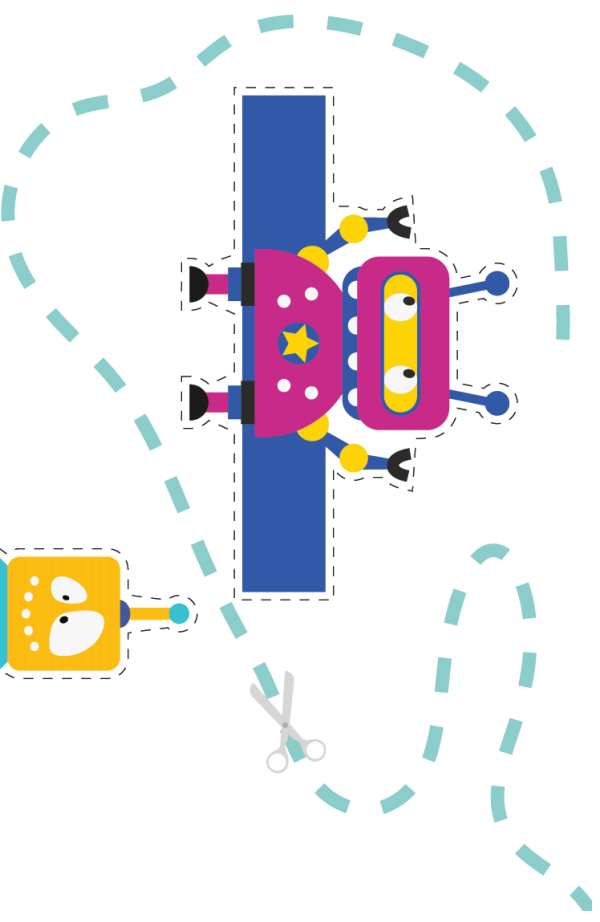
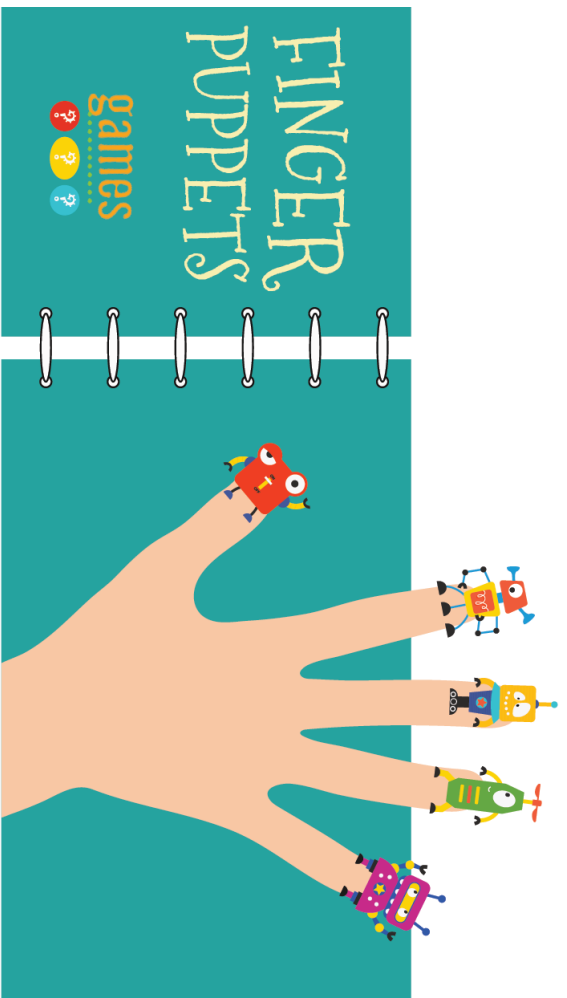
SUDOKU FOR KIDS

ANSWER

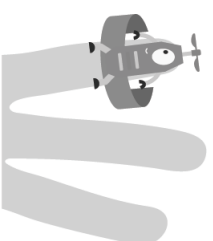
			
			
			
			



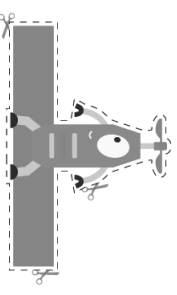


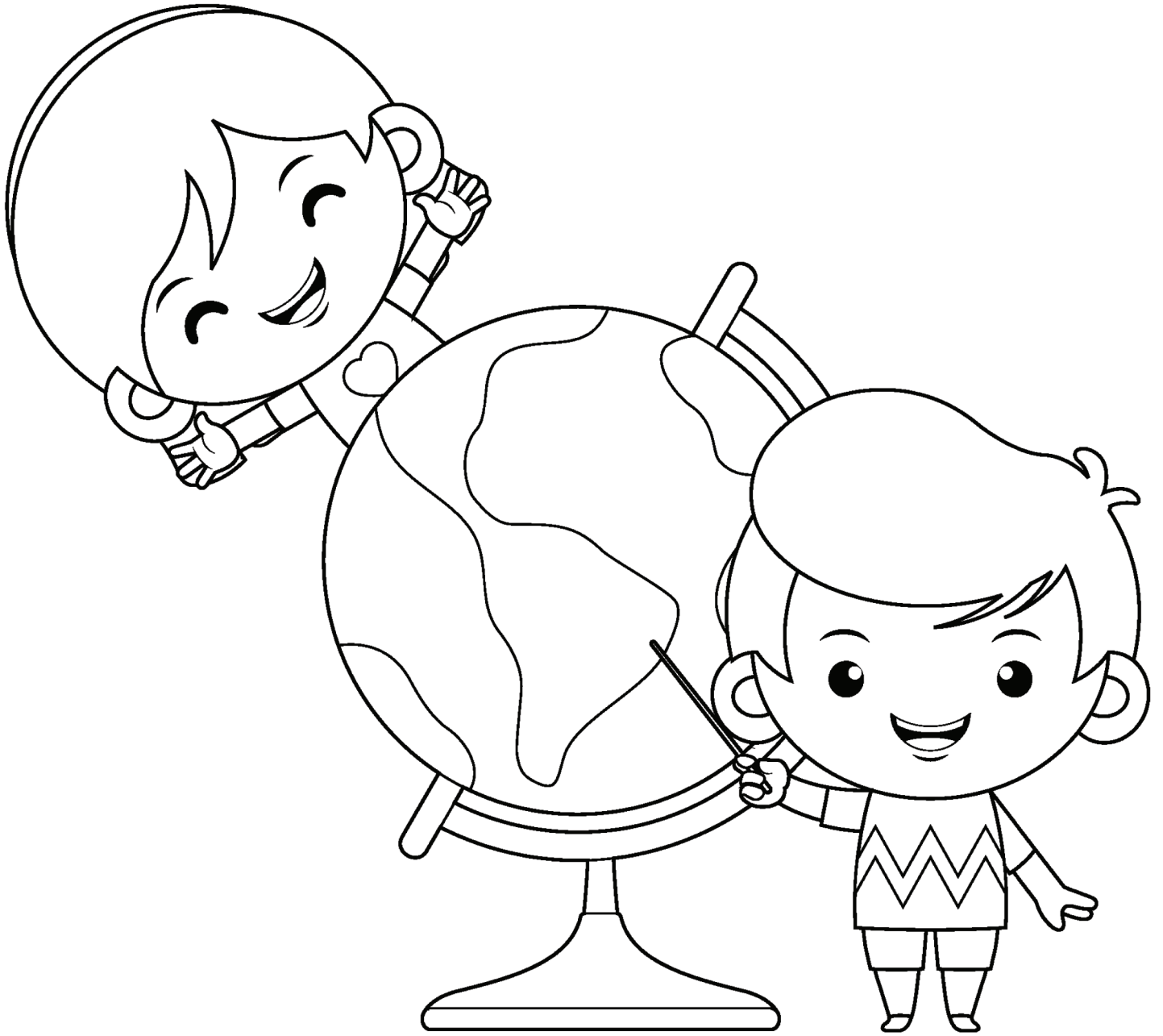
tips

Cut out the puppet
with scissors



Wrap it around
your finger and
fasten the open
ends with glue





¿Qué letras faltan?



___ A ___



___ C ___ A



___ E R ___



___ Ó N



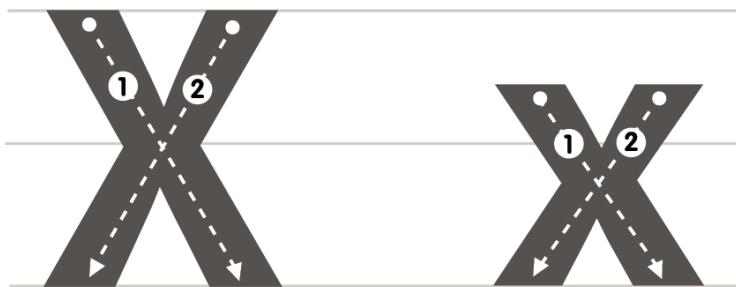
___ H ___ T ___



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RESPONDER: GATO, CHICA, PERRO, RATÓN, HÄMSTER, PAPAGAYO

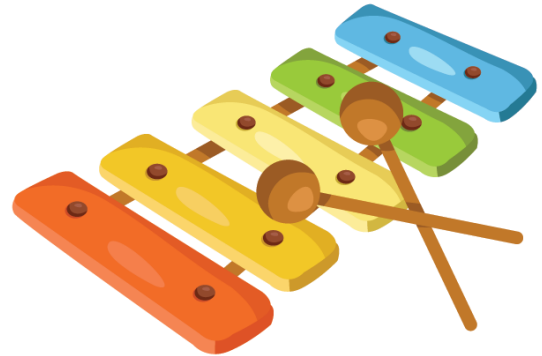
Worksheet use a dot marker to color each 'X' or 'x'



Uppercase

Lowercase

is for Xylophone



X	K	Q	W	T	X	v	G
R	x	D	x	P	u	X	s
W	G	O	K	x	F	B	r
B	h	X	T	M	D	U	v

BOOK LIST BY AUTHOR—ALL PROGRAMS

Books with * are available in an accessible format from the National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (NLS) and their regional libraries across the United States and territories.

EARLY LITERACY

Babies—English

- Ajmera, Maya. *Global Baby Playtime*, 2021.
- Barker, Tamara and illustrated by Violet Lemay. *Babies Around the World: Dancing*, 2019.
- Busby, Ailie. *The ABCs of Musical Instruments*, 2020.
- Capucilli, Alyssa Satin and illustrated by Pat Schories. *Hello, Biscuit! Hello, Friends!* 2021.
- Colman, Michelle Sinclair and Paul Schmid. *You See, I See: In the City*, 2018.
- Duopress Labs and illustrated by Jannie Ho. *Hello, My World*, 2020.
- Duopress Labs and illustrated by Julissa Mora. *Hello, Garden Bugs*, 2017.
- Frank, J.B. and Ela Smietanka. *Count on Me 123*, 2021.
- Hegarty, Patricia and illustrated by Summer Macon. *ABCs of Kindness*, 2019.
- Kimmelman, Leslie and illustrated by Barbara Bakos. *Here Come the Helpers*, 2018.
- Lambert, Johnny. *Bear and Bird Learn to Share*, 2021.
- Lambert, Johnny. *Bear and Bird Lend a Helping Hand*, 2022.
- Lin, Grace. *The Last Marshmallow*, 2020.
- Lin, Grace. *Up to My Knees!* 2020.
- Lionni, Lio. *Where Are Swimmy's Friends?* 2021.
- Macdonald, Maryann and illustrated by Rahele Jomepour Bell. *Playdate*, 2019.
- McKellar, Danica and illustrated by Alicia Padrón. *Bathtime Mathtime: Shapes*, 2019.

- O'Connell, Rebecca and illustrated by Ken Wilson-Max. *The Baby Goes Beep*, 2020.
- Ordóñez, Miguel. *Get Together*, 2021.
- Pixton, Amy and Ekaterina Trukhan. *Let's Be Kind*, 2020.
- Rinker, Sherri Duskey and illustrated by Ethan Long. *Bulldozer's Shapes*, 2019.
- Spanyol, Jessica. *Rosa Loves Cars*, 2018.
- Spiro, Ruth and Irene Chan. *Baby Loves Coding!* 2018.

Babies—Spanish or Bilingual

- Arena, Jen and illustrated by Erika Meza. *Salsa Lullaby*, 2019. English with Spanish words.
- Beaumont, Karen and illustrated by David Catrow. *!Me gusto cómo soy! / I Like Myself!* 2018. Bilingual.
- Beer, Sophie. *Un mundo muy amable / Kindness Makes Us Strong*. 2022. Bilingual.
- Caracolino. *Carteras y carteros*, 2020. Spanish.
- Dellow, Sarah and illustrated by Annie Kubler. *A la rueda rueda en el jardín / Round and Round the Garden*, 2021. Bilingual.
- Dominguez, Angela. *I Love You, Baby Burrito*, 2021. English with Spanish words.
- Herrera, Juan Felipe and illustrated by Blanca Gómez. *Cerca / Close*, 2019. Bilingual.
- Lobo, Julia and illustrated by Nicola Slater. *¿Tú serás mi rayito de sol? / Will You Be My Sunshine?* 2020. Bilingual.
- Rodriguez, Patty, Ariana Stein, and illustrated by Ana Godinez. *Vámonos a Bogotá / Let's Go to Bogotá*, 2021. Bilingual.
- Rodriguez, Patty, Ariana Stein, and illustrated by Citlali Reyes. *Singing Cantando De Colores: A*

Bilingual Book of Harmony, 2019. Bilingual.

Salguero, Andrés and illustrated by Sara Palacios *Ten Little Birds / Diez pajaritos*, 2021. Bilingual.

Salguero, Andrés and illustrated by Sara Palacios. *Hello Friend, Hola Amigo*, 2020. Bilingual.

Straber, Susanne. *El zorro conduce / Fox Drives*, 2022. Spanish or English.

Swift, Ginger and illustrated by Katya Longhi *La abejita amarilla / Little Yellow Bee*, 2020. Spanish or English.

Taylor, Marisa J. and illustrated by Vanessa Balleza. *Happy Within / Feliz por dentro*, 2020. Bilingual.

Toddlers—English

Alber, Diane. *A Little Spot of Kindness!* 2019.

Allepuz, Anuska. *That Fruit is Mine*, 2018.

Ardagh, Philip. *Bunnies on the Bus*, 2019.

Brydon, Alli and illustrated by Wazza Pink. *Love Around the World: Family and Friendship Around the Globe*, 2020.

Cenko, Doug. *My Mama Is a Mechanic*, 2019.

Cenko, Doug. *My Papa Is a Princess*, 2018.

Cole, Henry. *Try a Little Kindness*, 2018.

Crespo, Ana and Giovana Medeiros. *Lía and Luis: Who Has More?* 2020.

Damluji, Mona and Innosanto Nagara. *Together*, 2021.

*Doerrfeld, Cori. *The Rabbit Listened*, 2018. (DBC12557)

Durant, Alan and Dale Blankenaar. *Quill Soup: A Stone Soup Story*, 2020.

Featherstone, Ann et al. *A World of Kindness*, 2018.

Harris, C.M. and illustrated by Eric Everett. *What If We Were All the Same!* 2019.

Heidbreder, Robert and illustrated by Dušan Petričić. *ROAR-chestra! A Wild Story of Musical Words*. 2021.

Hische, Jessica. *Tomorrow I'll Be Kind*, 2020.

Krensky, Stephen and Sara Gillingham *I Like to Share!* 2021.

Lamba, Maria, Baldev Lamba, and illustrated by Sonia Sanchez. *Green Green*, 2022.

Lee, Sherry J. and illustrated by Charlene Chua. *Going Up!*, 2020.

López-Alt, J. Kenji and illustrated by Gianna Ruggiero. *Every Night Is Pizza Night*, 2020.

*Maillard, Kevin Noble and illustrated by Juana Martinez-Neal. *Fry Bread*, 2019. (DB 98387)

Marcero, Deborah. *In a Jar*, 2020.

McKellar, Danica and illustrated Alicia Padrón. *Bathtime Mathtime*, 2018.

Montague, Brad. *The Circles All Around Us*, 2021.

Nelson, Kadir. *If You Plant a Seed*, 2015.

Nevin, Judy Carey and illustrated by Susie Hammer. *All Kinds of Kindness*, 2020.

Parr, Todd. *The Kindness Book*, 2019.

Paul, Ann Whitford and illustrated by David Walker. *If Animals Tried to Be Kind*, 2021.

Rogers, Fred and Luke Flowers. *Won't You Be My Neighbor?*, 2020.

Smith, Monique Gray and illustrated by Nicole Neidhardt. *When We Are Kind*, 2020.

Spinelli, Eileen and illustrated by Ekaterina Trukhan. *We're Better Together*, 2021.

Spiro, Ruth and illustrated by Irene Chan. *Baby Loves Scientists: You Can Be Anything!* 2019.

Tankard, Jeremy. *Sleepy Bird*, 2018.

Thomas, Jan. *My Friends Make Me Happy*, 2018.

van Gageldonk, Mack. *A Great Day for a Hug*, 2021.

Waring, Zoe. *No Hugs for Porcupine*, 2017.

Watkins, Rowboat. *Mabel: A Mermaid Fable*, 2020.

Wohnoutka, Mike. *Croc & Turtle! The Bestest Friends Ever*, 2019

Yolder, Jane and Mark Teague. *How Do Dinosaurs Show Good Manners?* 2021.

Young, Jessica and illustrated by Daniel

Wiseman. *Play This Book*, 2018.

Toddlers—Spanish or Bilingual

Adams, Emma. *A los unicornios no les gustan los arcoíris / Unicorns Don't Love Rainbows*, 2021. Spanish or English.

Blabey, Aaron. *I Need a Hug / Necesito un abrazo*, 2019. Bilingual.

Colato Laínez, René and illustrated by Nomar Perez. *Let's Be Friends / Seamos Amigos*, 2021. Bilingual.

Diaz, Lucky and illustrated by Micah Player. *Paletero Man*, 2021. English with Spanish words.

Drago, Flavia Z. *Leila, the Perfect Witch / Leila, la brujita perfecta*, 2022. Spanish or English.

Elya, Susan Middleton and illustrated by Miguel Ordóñez. *The Three Billy Goats Buenos*, 2020. English with Spanish words.

Engle, Margarita and illustrated by Sara Palacios. *Un pregón de frutas / A Song of Frutas*, 2021. Spanish or English.

Fragoso, José. *My Voice / Mi voz*, 2018. Bilingual.

Gundersheimer, Ben and illustrated by Marcos Almada Rivero. *Señorita Mariposa*, 2019. Bilingual.

Guy, Ginger Foglesong and illustrated by René King Moreno. *Días y días / Days and Days*, 2019. Bilingual.

Hofmann-Maniyar, Ariene and illustrated by Yanitzia Canetti. *Nieve en la jungle / Snow in the Jungle*, 2021. Bilingual.

Isadora, Rachel. *Say Hello!* 2017. English with Spanish words.

Jaramillo, Susie. *Pin Pon*, 2020. Bilingual.

Kurman, Hollis and illustrated by Barroux. *A contar amabilidad / Counting Kindness*, 2021. Bilingual.

*Mora, Oge. *¡Gracias, Omu! / Thank You, Omu!*, 2020. Bilingual. (BR 22570)

Orozco, José-Luis and illustrated by Sara Palacios. *Canta conmigo / Sing with Me*, 2020. Bilingual.

Peacock, Lou. *Coque escoge / Charlie Chooses*, 2021. Spanish or English.

Reynoso, Naibe and illustrated by Ana Varela. *How to Fold a Taco / Cómo doblar un taco*, 2020. Bilingual.

Reynoso, Naibe and illustrated by Jone Leal. *Be Bold! Be Brave! Sé audaz, Sé Valiente!* 2019. Bilingual.

Rodriguez, Patty, Ariana Stein, and illustrated by Citlali Reyes. *The Life of-La Vida de Ritchie*, 2019. Bilingual.

Smith, Monique Gray and illustrated by Julie Flett. *My Heart Fills with Happiness / Mi corazón se llena de alegría*, 2020. Bilingual.

Spanyol, Jessica. *Rosa's Big Bridge Experiment / Rose y el experimento del gran puente*, 2020. Bilingual.

Weill, Cynthia and Bryant Boucher. *Let's Work!: Mexican Folk Art Trabajos in English and Spanish*, 2019. Bilingual.

Zanella, Sandy and illustrated by Diana Guerrero. *Happy Yogis: Un libro divertido de yoga para los niños con afirmaciones positivas / Happy Yogis: A fun kids yoga book with positive affirmations*, 2021. Bilingual.

Preschoolers—English

Alary, Laura and illustrated by Kass Reich. *What Grew in Larry's Garden*, 2020.

Armier, Toni and illustrated by Anna Jones. *Hello! Hometown Heroes*, 2021.

Aronson, Katelyn and Eve Farb. *Clovis Keeps His Cool*, 2021.

Atwater, Allysun and illustrated by Stevie Lewis. *I Am Thinking My Life*, 2022.

Aurora, Uncle Ian and illustrated by Natalia Moore. *Cheer*, 2020.

Blackburne, Livia and Julia Kuo. *I Dream of Popo*, 2021.

Bright, Rachel and illustrated by Jim Field *The Squirrels Who Squabbled*, 2019.

*Byers, Grace and illustrated by Keturah A. Bobo. *I Am Enough*, 2018. (DB 99697, BR 23191)

- Chan, Ruth. *Thank You, Neighbor!*, 2021.
- Doerrfeld, Cori. *Goodbye, Friend! Hello, Friend*, 2019.
- Erskine, Kathryn. *All of Us*, 2021.
- Fan, Terry and Eric Fan. *It Fell From the Sky*, 2021.
- Ferry, Beth and Tom Lightenheld. *Best Friends Forever (Stick and Stone #3)*, 2018.
- *Floca, Brian. *Keeping the City Going*, 2021. (BR 23899)
- Funk, Josh and Sarah Palacios. *How to Code a Sandcastle* 2018.
- Gaines, Joanna and illustrated Julianna Swaney. *The World Needs Who You Were Made to Be*, 2020.
- *Gorman, Amanda and illustrated by Loren Long. *Change Sings: A Children's Anthem*, 2021. (DB 105158)
- Greene, Rhonda Gowler and illustrated by James Rey Sanchez. *This Magical, Musical Night*, 2021.
- *Hillery, Tony and illustrated by Jessie Hartland. *Harlem Grown: How One Big Idea Transformed a Neighborhood*, 2020. (BR 23748)
- Ho, Joanna and illustrated by Dung Ho. *Eyes That Kiss at the Corners*, 2021.
- Jagannath Knight, Amitha and illustrated by Sandhya Prabhat. *Usha and the Big Digger*, 2021.
- Kerascoët. *I Walk with Vanessa*, 2018.
- Kim, Anna. *Danbi Leads the School Parade*, 2020.
- Lê, Minh and illustrated by Dan Santat. *Drawn Together*, 2018.
- Lettice, Jenna and Colleen Madden. *The 12 Days of Kindness*, 2021.
- Magsamen, Sandra and illustrated by Melisa Fernández Nitsche. *I Wish, Wish, Wish For You*, 2022.
- McCardie, Amanda and Colleen Carmour. *Let's Play!: A Book About Making Friends*, 2021.
- McGinty, Alice B. and illustrated by Tomoko Suzuki. *Pancakes to Parathas: Breakfast Around the World*, 2019.
- McGregor, Anna. *Anemone Is Not the Enemy*, 2021.
- Meddour, Wendy and illustrated by Daniel Egnéus. *Luna and Pebble*, 2019.
- Miler, Jen Hill and illustrated by Jen Hill. *Be Kind*, 2018.
- Myers, Matt. *Hum and Swish*, 2019.
- *Nyong'o, Lupita and illustrated by Vashti Harrison. *Sulwe*, 2019. (DB 102284, BR 23186)
- *Penfold, Alexandra and illustrated by Suzanne Kaufman. *All Are Welcome*, 2018. (BR 22678)
- Reidy, Jean and illustrated by Joey Chou. *Group Hug*, 2021.
- Rex, Adam and illustrated by Laura Park. *Unstoppable* 2020.
- Singer, Marilyn and illustrated by Leah Nixon. *Best Day Ever*, 2021.
- Smith, Kim. *Boxitects*, 2020.
- Tanco, Miguel. *Count on Me*, 2019.
- Fliess, Sue and Petros Bouloubasis. *Goldilocks and the Three Engineers*, 2021.
- Snyder, Gabi. *Listen*, 2021.
- Sorrell, Traci and illustrated by Frané Lessac. *We Are Grateful: Otsaliheliga*, 2018.
- Swenson, Jamie A. and illustrated by Scott Magoon. *Chirp! Chipmunk Sings for Friend*, 2021.
- Tamaki, Jillian. *Our Little Kitchen*, 2020.
- Tate, Nikki and illustrated by Kathie Kath. *Home Base*, 2020.
- Teckentrup, Britta. *We Are Together*, 2018.
- Tierney, Peggy Porter and illustrated by Marie Letourneau. *How to Change the World in 12 Easy Steps*, 2021.
- Ueno, Yoshi and illustrated by Emiko Fujishima. *The Big House and the Little House*, 2021.
- Waissbluth, Denyse and illustrated by Chelsea O'Byrne. *Teatime Around the World*, 2020.
- Willems, Mo an illustrated by Dan Santat. *Harold and Hog Pretend for Real! (Elephant and Piggie Like Reading #6)*, 2019.
- Wilson, Karma and Jane Chapman. *Bear Can't*

Wait, 2021.

*Yuskel, M.O. and Hatem Aly. *In My Mosque*, 2021. (DB 105040)

Zhang, Kat and Charlene Chua. *Amy Wu and the Warm Welcome*, 2022.

Preschoolers—Spanish or Bilingual

123 Andrés and Mónica Poala Rodriguez. *!Mi comunidad!/My community!*, 2021. Bilingual.

Acevedo, Desirée and illustrated by Silvia Álvarez. *El color de tu piel / The Color of Your Skin*, 2021. Spanish or English.

Aldamuy Denise, Anika and illustrated by Paola Escobar. *Sembrando historias: Pura Belpré: Bibliotecaria y narradora de cuentos / Planting Stories: The Life of Librarian and Storyteller Pura Belpré*, 2019. Spanish or English.

Bernier-Grand, Carmen T. and illustrated by Alyssa Bermudez. *We Laugh Alike / Juntos nos reímos*, 2021. Bilingual.

Black, Misty and illustrated by Ana Rankovic. *Caleb el Castor calma su ansiedad / Brave the Beaver Has the Worry Warts*, 2021. Spanish or English.

*Bloom, Suzanne. *Nuestro autobús / The Bus for Us*, 2020. Bilingual. (DBC14895)

*Campoy, F. Isabel. *Quizás algo hermoso: Como el arte transformó un barrio / Maybe Something Beautiful: How Art Transformed a Neighborhood*, 2016. Spanish or English. (DBC06779, English only)

*de la Peña, Matt and illustrated by Christian Robinson. *Milo imagina el mundo / Milo Imagines the World*, 2021. Spanish or English. (BR 23726, DB 102043, English only)

de Regil, Tania. *Un nuevo hogar / A New Home*, 2019. Spanish or English.

Durango, Julia and illustrated by Bianca Diaz. *La casa de algún día / The One Day House*, 2017. Spanish or English.

*Engle, Margarita and illustrated by Rafael López. *Manos que bailan / Dancing Hands*, 2019. Spanish or English. (DB 102522)

Hinder, Sarah Jane. *¡Hola, sol! / Hello Sun!*, 2019.

Spanish or English.

*Kondo, Marie and illustrated by Salina Yoon. *Kiki and Jax: La magia de la amistad / Kiki and Jax: The Life-Changing Magic of Friendship*, 2019. Spanish or English. (DB 97979, English only)

Kunkel, Angela Burke and illustrated by Paola Escobar. *Rescatando palabras: José Alberto Gutiérrez y la biblioteca que creó / Digging for Words: José Alberto Gutiérrez and the Library He Built*, 2020. Spanish or English.

López, Rafael. *We've Got the Whole World in Our Hands / Tenemos el mundo entero en las manos*, 2018. Bilingual.

Magro, Baltasar and illustrated by Dani Padrón. *El secreto de las hormigas / The Ants' Secret*, 2019. Spanish or English.

Martinez-Neal, Juana. *La selva de Zonia / Zonia's Rain Forest*, 2021. Spanish or English.

Méndez, Yamile Saied and illustrated by Kate Alizadeh. *¿Qué serás? / What Will You Be?* 2021. Spanish or English.

Nisnevich, Lissarette. *Eldie Makes New Friends! / ¡Eldie hace nuevos amigos!* 2021. Bilingual.

Ortiz, Raquel M. and illustrated by Roberta Collier-Morales. *Sofi Paints Her Dreams / Sofi pinta sus sueños*, 2019. Bilingual.

*Perez, Nomar. *De aquí como el coquí / Coquí in the City*, 2021. Spanish or English. (DB 106561)

*Raúl the Third and illustrated by Elaine Bay. *¡Vamos! Let's Cross the Bridge (World of ¡Vamos! #2)*, 2021. English with Spanish words. (DB 106734)

Recio, Sili and illustrated by Brianna McCarthy. *Si quisqueya fuera un color / If Dominican Were a Color*, 2020. Spanish or English.

Reynoso, Naibee and illustrated by Jone Leal. *Fearless Trailblazers, Pioneros Audaces: 11 Latinos Who Made U.S. History*, 2020. Bilingual.

Russler, Catherine and illustrated by Ely Ely. *Jaguas y mariposas / Jaguars and Butterflies*, 2020. Spanish or English.

Sanz, Ignacio and illustrated by Eva Poyato. *Mi vecino Paco / My Neighbor Frankie*, 2020. Spanish or English.

Simons, Natalia and illustrated by Alessia Frascchetta. *The Mexiglish Girl / La chica Mexiglish*, 2021. Bilingual.

*Sotomayor, Sonia and illustrated by Rafael López. *¡Solo pregunta! / Just Ask!* 2019. Spanish or English. (BR 22864, English only)

Valdivia, Paloma. *Nosotros Means Us: Un cuento bilingüe*, 2021. Bilingual.

Verde, Susan and illustrated by John Parra. *Oye, muro / Hey, Wall*, 2020. English or Spanish.

Walder, Lola and illustrated by Martina Peluso. *Juanita: La niña que contaba estrellas / Juanita: The Girl Who Counted the Stars*, 2021. Spanish or English.

PICTURE BOOK FICTION (CHILDREN 5+)

Adáñez, Antonia and illustrated by Mariona Cabassa. *Tú eres un cielo azul / You Are a Blue Sky*, 2021. Spanish or English.

Auld, Mary and illustrated by Elisa Paganelli. *How to Build an Orchestra*, 2020.

Berger, Samantha and illustrated by Sujean Rim. *I Love My Glam-ma*, 2019.

Boelts, Maribeth and illustrated by Noah Z. Jones. *Esos zapatos / Those Shoes*, 2018. Spanish or English.

Bowen, Leah, Holly Brochmann, and illustrated by Shirley Ng-Benitez. *A Feel Better Book for Little Sports*, 2021.

*Bowles, David and illustrated by Erika Meza. *My Two Border Towns*, 2021. (DB 106598)

Byrne, Richard. *The Case of the Missing Chalk Drawings*, 2018.

Contreras, Kathleen and illustrated by Gary Undercuffler. *Harvesting Friends / Cosechando amigos*, 2018. Bilingual

Dahl, Sophie and illustrated by Lauren O'Hara. *Madame Babobedah*, 2020.

Dealey, Erin and illustrated by Luisa Uribe. *Dear Earth...From Your Friends in Room 5*, 2020.

Deenihan, Jamie L.B. and Lorraine Rocha. *When Grandma Gives You a Lemon Tree*, 2019.

Faruqi, Reema and illustrated by Mikela Prevost. *I Can Help*, 2021.

Friedman, Laurie and Zack Bush. *The Little Book of Friendship*, 2020.

Garcia, Emma. *Plinka Plinka Shake Shake*, 2019.

*Harrison, Hannah E. *Friends Stick Together*, 2018. (DBC16432)

Harvey, Jeanne and illustrated by Loveis Wise. *Ablaze with Color: A Story of Painter Alma Thomas*, 2022.

Heard, Georgia and illustrated by Aaron DeWitt. *Boom! Bellow! Bleat!: Animal Poems for Two or More Voices*, 2019.

*Ho, Joanna and Dung Ho. *Eyes that Kiss in the Corner*, 2021. (BR 23755)

Holliday, Jena. *A Spoonful of Faith*, 2022.

Irving, A.J. *Dance Like a Leaf / Baila como una hoja*, 2020. English or Spanish.

Laden, Nina and Melissa Castrillon. *Dear Little One*, 2021.

Loring-Fisher, Jo. *Wolf Girl*, 2022.

McGregor, Anna. *Anemone Is Not the Enemy*, 2021.

Meddour, Wendy and Daniel Egneus. *Grandpa's Top Threes*, 2019.

*Medina, Meg and illustrated by Sonia Sanchez. *Evelyn Del Rey Is Moving Away*, 2020. (DB 101476)

Miletsky, Jay and illustrated by Luis Peres. *The Masterpiece*, 2019.

Moahloli, Refiloe and illustrated by Zinelda McDonald. *I Am You: A Book About Ubuntu*, 2022.

Ortiz, Raquel M. and illustrated by Flor de Vita. *When Julia Danced Bomba / Cuando Julia bailaba bomba*, 2019. Bilingual.

Otoshi, Kathryn. *Lunch Every Day*, 2021.

Paul, Miranda and Baptiste Paul. *Peace*, 2021.

Paxton, Kirsty and illustrated by Megan Lotter. *The Chalk Giraffe*, 2020.

Pirrone, Francesca. *Little Book of Kindness*,

2020.

Ramos, NoNiequa and illustrated by Jacqueline Alcántara. *Your Mama*, 2021.

Robinson, Nikki Slade. *Anywhere Artist*, 2018.

Rockwell, Lizzy. *The All-Together Quilt*, 2020.

Rogers, Fred and illustrated by Luke Flowers. Mister Rogers Poetry Books series, 2019–20.

Rudd, Maggie C. and Kelly O'Neill. *Sometimes It's Hard to Be Nice*, 2021.

Seeger, Laura Vaccaro. *Red*, 2021.

*Sigwarth, Lydia M. *Dear Librarian*, 2021. (DB 104332)

Smith, Sadé and illustrated by Ken Daly. *Granny's Kitchen*, 2022.

Sotomayor, Sonya and illustrated by Angela Dominguez. *Just Help! How to Build a Better World*, 2022.

Sturgis, Brenda Reeves and Jo-Shin Lee. *Still a Family: A Story about Homelessness*, 2017.

Trimmer, Christian and Kaylani Juanita. *The Little Things*, 2021.

Underwood, Deborah and illustrated by Tim Hopgood. *Loving Kindness*, 2021.

Venable, Colleen A.F. and illustrated by Lian Cho. *The Oboe Goes Boom, Boom, Boom*, 2020.

Verde, Susan and illustrated by Jay Fleck. *Los tres cerditos yoguis y el lobo que perdió la respiración / Three Little Yogis and the Wolf Who Lost His Breath*, 2020. Spanish or English.

Verde, Susan and illustrated by John Parra. *Hey, Wall*, 2018.

Woodgate, Harry. *Grandad's Camper*, 2021.

Woodson, Jacqueline and illustrated by Rafael López. *The Year We Learned to Fly*, 2022.

Yang, Kalia Kao and illustrated by Khoa Le. *The Most Beautiful Thing*, 2020.

PICTURE BOOK NONFICTION (CHILDREN 5+)

Ajmera, Maya and John D. Ivanko. *Come Out and Play: A Global Journey*, 2020.

Angelou, Maya, Jean-Michel Basquiat, and

edited by Sara Jane Boyers. *Life Doesn't Frighten Me*, 25th Anniversary Ed., 2018.

Boughton, Sam. *The Extraordinary Gardener*, 2018.

Brown-Wood, JaNay and illustrated by Samara Hardy. *Miguel's Community Garden*, 2022.

Grindler, Sarah. *Forest Magic: A Guidebook for Little Woodland Explorers*, 2021.

Lappano, Jon-Erik and illustrated by Kellen Hatanaka. *Tokyo Digs a Garden*, 2016.

Liukas, Linda. *The Hello Ruby series*, 2015–18.

Marie, Lynne and illustrated by Parwinder Singh. *Let's Eat: Mealtime Around the World*, 2019.

Marley, Ziggy and illustrated by Ag Jatkowska. *Music Is in Everything*, 2022.

McGinty, Alice B. and illustrated by Shonto Begay. *The Water Lady: How Darlene Arviso Helps a Thirsty Navajo Nation*, 2021.

Paul, Miranda, Baptise Paul, and illustrated by Isabel Muñoz. *Around the World*, 2018.

Robbins, Dean and illustrated by Lucy Knisley. *Margaret and the Moon*, 2017.

Rodrigues, Patty, Ariana Stein, and illustrated by Citlali Reyes. *The Life of/La Vida de Jean-Michel Basquiat (Lil' Libros)*, 2021.

Rzezak, Joanna. *1001 Bees*, 2021.

Serres, Alain, illustrated by Aurélia Fronty, and translated by Shelley Tanaka. *I Have the Right to Save My Planet*, 2021.

*Steptoe, Javanka. *Radiant Child: The Story of Young Artist Jean-Michel Basquiat*, 2016. (BR 22012, DB 86753)

Ward, Jennifer. *Just You and Me: Remarkable Relationships in the Wild*, 2021.

EARLY READER FICTION

Atinuke and illustrated by Onyinye Iwu. *Too Small Tola*, 2021.

Burnell, Heather Aryis and illustrated by Hazel Quintanilla. *Unicorn and Yeti series*, 2019–22. Graphic novels.

Dean, Kimberly and James Dean. *Pete the Cat: Rocking Field Day (I Can Read Level 1)*, 2021.