

# STORYTIME SONGS

## Song/Movement: Ocean Song

To the tune of “Do Your Ears Hang Low.” Original lyrics from Jbrary. Lyrics and video from Jbrary. Video from Sidnie Srader of Jones Public Library, Dayton, TX: [https://youtu.be/DmMsGue\\_bXA](https://youtu.be/DmMsGue_bXA)

Oh the ocean is great and the ocean is grand (arms up)  
 There are lots of tall ships and very little land (palms facing and held up high)  
 And we sleep down deep in a hammock near the floor (rock both fists like a hammock)  
 And this is what we do when we go out the door (move arm like opening door)  
 Ride the waves going up, ride the waves going down (arms up and down) (x3)  
 And we turn around (roll forearms around)

## Movement/Spanish: Marinero

Great song for preschoolers. Sing several times, switching out English/Spanish words in either version. Video from Brenda Feaster of Friendswood Public Library, Friendswood, TX [starts at 2:32]. Link: <https://bit.ly/2SBbILN>

Marinero se fue a la mar y mar y mar / The sailor went to sea to sea to sea  
 (salute with hand to forehead; make waves with arm/hand)  
 Para ver que podía ver y ver y ver / To see what he could see  
 (make a visor with hand)  
 Y lo único que pudo pudo pudo / The only thing that he could he could he could  
 (make a visor with hand)  
 Fue el fondo de la mar y mar y mar / Was the bottom of the sea the sea the sea  
 (point down; make waves with arm/hand)

## Song: Sailboat in the Sea

To the tune of “Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star.”

Sailboat sailboat in the sea  
 Won't you come and carry me  
 Through the ocean, through the bay  
 To any place that's far away  
 Sailboat, sailboat in the sea  
 Won't you come and carry me

### TIP:

Remind caregivers to make eye contact with their babies while they sing and rhyme! The closer together they are, the better.

### REMINDER:

Go slow! If you overload your storytime with too many books and songs, you risk losing the attention of young children. Toddlers need lots of time to process and repeat what they learn.

## STORYTIME SONGS

**Song/Spanish: El Barquito Chiquitito**

Traditional Mexican nursery rhyme. Many different versions available. Version from Mama Lisa's World blog here: <https://bit.ly/3yFKhf3>

*Había una vez un barquito chiquitito (x2) / Once upon a time there was a tiny boat*

*Que no podía, que no sabía / That couldn't, that didn't know how to*

*Que no podía navegar / That couldn't sail*

*Pasaron, una, dos, tres, cuatro, cinco, seis, siete semanas / One, two, three, four, five, six, seven weeks passed by*

*Y aquel barquito, y aquel barquito, y aquel barquito navegó/ And that tiny boat sailed*

*Y si esta historia no les parece larga / And if this story seems short*

*¡La volveremos, la volveremos, la volveremos a empezar! / We'll start it over again!*

**Song/Fingerplay: Wavy Sea**

Classic nursery rhyme from Australia. Video from Sidnie Srader of Jones Public Library, Dayton, TX: <https://youtu.be/vdiXLYi7Kk8>

Here is the sea, the wavy sea	(hand makes wave motions)
Here is a boat	(horizontal palm pointing out)
And here is me	(raise thumb)
All of the fishes	
way down below	(put other hand below boat)
Wiggle their tails	(wiggle fingers)
And away they go!	(hand behind back)

**More submarine and boat songs!**

"The Submarine Song" by the Mik Maks is a great one for bubble play or a dance party. You can also make red, yellow, blue, and green fish for a flannel board. Available for sample or purchase here: <https://amzn.to/3yHI5DR>

"Submarine" by Bounce Patrol is another fun dance party song that names various creatures (octopus, dolphin, shark, whale, seahorse, crab, stingray, eel): <https://bit.ly/3yGybSU>

"La barca" by Ceci Raspo is a fun tongue-twister that plays with vowel sounds. Available for sample or purchase here: <https://bit.ly/3yBQqZP>

## STORYTIME SONGS

**Rhyme/Flannel Board/Spanish: Los Salmoncitos**

Cinco salmoncitos saltaban en el agua / Five little salmon jumping in the water

Cuando vino un oso y a uno atrapó! / Here comes a bear and he took one.

Cuatro salmoncitos saltaban en el agua / Four little salmon jumping in the water

Cuando vino una foca y a uno se comió! / Here comes a seal and she took one.

Tres salmoncitos saltaban en el agua / Three little salmon jumping in the water

Cuando vino una ballena y a uno se tragó! / Here comes a whale and she took one.

Dos salmoncitos saltaban en el agua / Two little salmon jumping in the water

Cuando vino un águila calva y a un agarró! / Here comes an eagle and she took one.

Un salmoncito saltaba en el agua / One little salmon jumping in the water

Cuando vino un pescador y pronto lo pescó! / Here comes a fisherman who fished the last one!

**Song/Movement: We're Sailing on the Sea**

A great movement song for babies and toddlers. First talk about the things you might see while sailing on the sea. Replace words in English with Spanish words, as desired. This can also be made into a scarf song by modifying the third line to "Float up and down and all around." To the tune of "The Farmer in the Dell."

We're sailing on the sea (rock side to side)

We're sailing on the sea

I hope we see some fish (pescados) out there (make visor with hand)

We're sailing on the sea.

Verses:

I hope we see some sharks (*tiburones*) out there...

I hope we see some swimmers (*nadadores*) out there...

I hope we see some boats (*botes*) out there...

## STORYTIME SONGS

**Fingerplay: The Day I Went to Sea**

Traditional English nursery rhyme.

When I was one	(hold up one finger)
I sucked my thumb	(mock sucking thumb)
The day I went to sea	
I jumped aboard a pirate ship	(jump)
And the captain said to me	(point to self)
We're going this way	(lean and sway while pointing right)
And that way	(lean and sway while pointing left)
And forward	(rock/walk forward)
And backward	(rock/walk backward)
Across the deep blue sea	(spin in circle)

Verses:

When I was two, I tied my shoe...

When I was three, I scraped my knee...

When I was four, I shut the door...

When I was five, I danced a jive (or learned to dive) ...

**Song/Movement: Row Row Row Your Boat/Rema Tu Barco**

Have children form a circle with a stretchy band and place both hands on the band. "Row" by pulling back on the band in time with the band. An extra large stretchy band from Bear Paw Creek works well. For the animal version, use Spanish words for ocean animals and show animal puppets or pictures one at a time. Jbrary version has extra verses: <https://bit.ly/3fMrx4Z>  
Spanish Mama: <https://bit.ly/3wDJ3zi>

*Rema, rema, rema en tu barca*

*Suave río abajo*

*Alegre, alegre, alegre, alegre (or feliz), la vida es un sueño*

Animal version:

Row, row, row your boat all around the town.

If you see a \_\_\_\_\_, make a \_\_\_\_\_ sound.

## STORYTIME SONGS

**Song/Flannel Board: Boat Ride Flannel Board**

Flannel board pieces: Five fish, four seahorses, three turtles, two dolphins, and one shark. Lyrics from Deborah Dutcher of New Hampshire State Library, Concord, NH.

Five little fish swimming in the sea,  
They were tired and jumped in the boat with me.  
Four little seahorses swimming in the sea,  
They were tired and jumped in the boat with me.  
Three little turtles swimming in the sea,  
They were tired and jumped in the boat with me.  
Two little dolphins swimming in the sea,  
They were tired and jumped in the boat with me.  
One little shark swimming in the sea,  
He was tired and jumped in the boat with me.

**Song/Spanish: Zoom Down the Highway**

Spanish translation of “Zoom Down the Highway.” Great for a transportation theme! Melody from Jbrary: <https://bit.ly/3hXzAyz>

*Zoom por la calle (3x) / Zoom down the highway*  
*¡Rápido! / Quickly!*  
*El puente sube (3x) / The drawbridge goes up*  
*El barco va a pasar / The boat is going to pass*  
*El puente baja (3x) / The drawbridge goes down*  
*¡El barco ya pasó! / The boat has passed!*  
*Zoom por la calle (3x) / Zoom down the highway x3*  
*¡Rápido! / Quickly!*

**Song: A Sailor Went To Sea**

To the tune of “Hello, Operator” / “Miss Suzy Had a Steamboat.” Good song to pair with the simple binocular craft. You can name any ocean creatures in the last line of each verse. Use puppets or have the kids act out what you see in the sea (i.e. a dolphin swimming, a big shark chomping, a seahorse floating, etc.)

A sailor went to sea, sea, sea  
A sailor went to sea, sea, sea,  
To see what he could see, see, see.  
But all that he could see, see, see,  
Was the bottom of the deep blue sea, sea, sea. (x2)

**TIP:**

Remind caregivers that children do not care if they are a “good” singer or not! Singing with children is a fun way to bond, and it also helps children to develop their speaking, listening, and pre-reading skills.

## STORYTIME SONGS

**Song/Fingerplay/Movement: I'm a Little Fishy (or Diver)**

Simple songs to fit either a fish or diving theme. To the tune of "I'm a Little Teapot."

I'm a little fishy	(vertical hand, fingers forward, thumb up)
Watch me swim	(move hand back and forth)
Here is my tail	(wriggle fingers on fish hand)
And here is my fin	(wriggle thumb)
When I want to have fun	
With my friends	
I swish my tail and dive right in	(wriggle fingers and dive)

Diver version:

I'm a little diver,	(point to self)
Watch me swim	(make swimming motion)
Here is my mask	(cup hands around eyes)
And here are my fins	(point to and lift feet)
When I want to have fun	
With my friends	
I point my arms and dive right in!	(hands up like making a dive)

**Song/Flannel Board/Movement:  
Did You Ever See a Diver (or Sailboat)?**

Make simple diver puppets (diver silhouettes on popsicle sticks) that children can move to the motions in the song. You can also modify the lyrics for a sailboat theme with Spanish words and/or movement (or give kids spy-glass tubes made out of paper towel rolls). To the tune of "Did You Ever See a Lassie?"

Did you ever see a diver, a diver, a diver,  
 Did you ever see a diver, swim this way and that?  
 Swim this way and that way, and that way and this way?  
 Did you ever see a diver, swim this way and that?

Verses:

...swim up ways and down ways  
 ...swim s—l—o—w—l—y and quickly

## STORYTIME SONGS

**Sailboat/Spanish version:**

Have you ever seen a sailboat, a sailboat, a sailboat / ¿Has visto un valero...?  
(hands over eyes, looking back and forth)

Have you ever seen a sailboat that's waving its sail? / ...que agita su vela  
(wave arms high)

Wave this way and that way and this way and that way / Que se balanceaba ...  
(wave arms side to side)

Have you ever seen a sailboat that's waving its sail? / ¿Has visto un velero que  
agita su vela?

**Song/Fingerplay: Little Diver**

Adapted from "Five Little Fishes" for a diver theme.

I'm a little diver swimming in the sea (pretend to swim)  
looking for a shark (cup hands around eyes)  
Where can he be? (hands up in a questioning pose)

1-2-3  
(count slowly with fingers)

I spy an octopus (wiggle like an octopus)  
Swim away..... (swim slowly)  
Didn't catch me! (point to self)

Verses:

I spy a fish... (hands together and swim)  
I spy a crab... (pinch together thumbs and fingers)  
I spy a starfish... (stretch arms and legs)  
I spy a clam... (open and close hands)  
I spy a shark! Oh, no! (chomp with arms / wipe brow)

