

TODDLERS

In English

Black Bird Yellow Sun (2018) by Steve Light. A delightful journey through a black bird's colorful world.

Do Cows Meow? (2012) by Salina Yoon. Simple rhythmic lines encourage children to join in on the animal sounds. Good for preschool as well.

Dragons Love Tacos (2012) by Adam Rubin and Daniel Salmieri. Kooky new classic about a taco party. For a silly food theme.

Duck and Goose Go to the Beach (2014) by Tad Hill (or any Duck and Goose book). A comic friendship adventure.

Farmyard Beat (2012) by Lindsey Craig and Marc Brown. A toe-tapping farmyard dance-a-thon about animals who just cannot sleep.

Five Fuzzy Chicks (2020) by Diana Murray and Sydney Hanson. Baby chicks on a farm have some hijinks before bed.

Old MacDonald Had a Baby (2019) by Emily Snape and K-Fai Steele. A two-dad family and a humorous cast of animals in this fun, contemporary take on the classic rhyme.

Otis (2009) by Loren Long. A fun-loving tractor saves a young calf.

Peep and Egg: I'm Not Hatching (2016) by Laura Gehl and Joyce Wan (or any Peep and Egg book). The book's refrain of "I'm not hatching" will be a winner at toddler storytime. Simple shapes and spot-on facial expressions.

Rosie's Walk (1968) by Pat Hutchins. A classic of slapstick toddler humor.

What Does an Anteater Eat? (2019) by Ross Collins. A silly story sure to elicit giggles from toddlers.

Bilingual/Spanish

La oruga muy hambrienta (2002) by Eric Carle. (Spanish; also available in English)

Little Quack/Cauquito (2003) by Lauren Thompson and Derek Anderson. A little duck out of water. (Bilingual)

Señor Pancho Had a Rancho (2014) by René Colato Laínez and Elwood Smith. A lively barnyard fiesta of animal sounds in Spanish and English. An abundance of onomatopoeia to encourage children to sing along. Good to pair with any alternative version of "Old MacDonald Had a Farm." (English with Spanish words)

STORYTIME TIP:

Toddlers are still learning how to use proper volume when speaking, so books that run the gamut of noise level (from whispers to screams, for example) are fun teaching tools.

EARLY LITERACY TIP:

Making animal sounds helps children connect meaning to the sounds they hear and practice the sounds they will use in their language.

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SING

Fingerplay: Five Eggs and a Hen

Five eggs and five eggs,	(hold up two hands)
That makes ten	
Sitting on top is the mother hen.	(fold one hand over the other)
Crackle, crackle, crackle,	(clap three times)
What do I see?	
Ten fluffy chickens,	(hold up 10 fingers)
As yellow as can be.	

Movement: ¡El Pollo!

Lots of fun movement in this song as children act out the parts of a chicken. Sing multiple times: At normal speed, in slow motion, and extra fast. See video from Story Blocks here: <https://bit.ly/2X9xSht>

Eeeeeeeeeeeel Pollo	(arms wide back to front; clap hands in front)
El pollo con una pata	(step forward with one foot)
El Pollo con la otra pata	(step forward with the other foot)
El pollo con el piquito	(nod head up and down)
El pollo con las alitas	(flap elbows like wings)
¡El Pollo con la colita!	(turn around and shake behind)

Song: La Gallina Turuleca

La gallina! Turuleca!
 Es un caso singular.
 La gallina! Turuleca!
 Está loca de verdad.
 La gallina turuleca
 Ha puesto un huevo, ha puesto dos, ha puesto tres.
 La gallina turuleca
 Ha puesto cuatro, ha puesto cinco, ha puesto seis.
 La gallina turuleca
 Ha puesto siete, ha puesto ocho, ha puesto nueve.
 Donde está esa gallinita,
 Déjala a la pobrecita, déjala que ponga diez.

PLAY / TAKE HOME

Feed the Animals Drop

Toddlers practice fine motor skills by feeding animal faces. To make each animal, glue a face to a lid and cut out a large hole for the mouth (see Printables for resizable farm animal faces). Make several animal containers to match your theme. Decorate the sides as desired, and set out pom-poms, popsicle

EARLY LITERACY TIP:

The first three years of a child's life have the fastest rate of brain development, and by age three, their brains are 80% developed! Keeping babies and toddlers engaged is important for lifelong literacy.

TIP:

For another fun farm animal song, see "Farm Animals Introduce Themselves" in *Animal Shenanigans* (2015) by Rob Reid. This song introduces simple rhymes that toddlers have success with right away.

Spanish/English

La gallina turuleca = the silly hen

STORYTIME TIP:

To orient Spanish-speaking caregivers, translate a few words and phrases from your storytime songs and display them on a felt board.

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sticks, or laminated food shapes for toddlers to feed into animal “mouths.” Modify to help preschoolers practice colors, numbers, letters, or rhymes.



Image(s) source: Alice Mackey of Marysville Public Library

Fingerprint Animal Art

Toddlers dab painted fingers on printed worksheets to make fingerprint animals (see Printables). You will need paint, hand wipes, and covered tables, or simply give caregivers worksheets to take home.

RESIZABLE DOWNLOAD

(SEE ONLINE MANUAL OR USB)

Round Farm Animal Faces



