

Storytime Plan

Pajama Party - Bedtime Stories

Ages: 4-5

Featured Early Literacy Skills: This kit is a bit different from most of the ECL kits: it does not focus on one particular early literacy skill, but instead incorporates several (as do most storytime programs). Specific asides to parents are not included, but there are opportunities to call attention to the skills if caregivers are present. Look for ways to build the skills of Print Motivation (making reading fun by using funny voices or expressions); Print Awareness (opportunities to run a finger under the print in books - especially when introducing the title); Vocabulary (being aware of unusual words used in books and rhymes that you may need to explain); Narrative Skills (asking the children questions); Phonological Awareness (rhymes and songs); and Letter Knowledge (point out any large letters in books or prominent sounds in rhymes).

Preparation: You may wish to enlarge rhymes and songs so that any caregivers present can join in. Nametags are a good way to enhance "Print Awareness" at all storytimes. You might spread a large blanket for the children to sit on and pretend it is the bed for the opening song. Make copies of the take-home sheet. You might want to add information about other programs, library hours, or information about getting a library card on the back of the take-home sheet.

Program Plan

Opening Rhyme or Song

(Sing as children are settling in. Based on the song "Ten in the Bed." We are reversing the song here at the beginning of storytime. If you aren't familiar with the song, see http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a2bxC_TovZ4 for an example. Encourage the children to join in - especially when you sing "come over.):

There was one in a bed all alone, so he/she said
Come over, come over
So another came over
And crawled right in
There were two in the bed and the first one said
Come over, come over
So another came over
And crawled right in

There were three in the bed and the second one said
Come over, come over
So another came over
And crawled right in . . . [etc.]

Welcoming Statement:

"Welcome to storytime! Tonight we are going to have some fun with bedtime stories and rhymes. So everyone snuggle up with their blankets and pillows and let's pretend that we're in a big bed and it's very dark outside."

Story Rhyme:

(This is an old lullaby poem written by Eugene Field. For fun, take a look at the old Disney *Silly Symphony* version at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OqUOExwzrIU&feature=related>. Encourage the children to join in for the line "Said Winken, Blinken, and Nod" by pointing to the flannel board pieces. For the last verse, point instead to your eyes and head.)

"This is an old lullaby that mothers used to sing to their babies. It's called 'Winken, Blinken, and Nod.' Join me in saying their names when I point to them."

Winken, Blinken, and Nod one night
Sailed off in a wooden shoe --
Sailed off on a river of crystal light,
Into a sea of dew.
"Where are you going, and what do you wish?"
The old moon asked the three.
"We have come to fish for the herring fish
That live in the beautiful sea;
Nets of silver and gold have we!"

Said Winken,
Blinken,
And Nod.

The old moon laughed and sang a song,
As they rocked in the wooden shoe,
And the wind that sped them all night long
Ruffled the waves of dew.

The little stars were the herring fish
That lived in the beautiful sea --
"Now cast your nets wherever you wish --
Never afraid are we";
So cried the stars to the fishermen three:

Said Winken,
Blinken,
And Nod.

All night long their nets they threw
To the stars in the twinkling foam --
Then down from the skies came the wooden shoe
Bringing the fishermen home;
'Twas all so pretty a sail it seemed
As if it could not be,
And some folks thought 'twas a dream they'd dreamed
Of sailing that beautiful sea --
But I shall name you the fishermen three:

Said Winken,
Blinken,
And Nod.

Winken and Blinken are two little eyes,
And Nod is a little head,
And the wooden shoes that sailed the skies
Is the wee one's tiny bed.
So shut your eyes while mother sings
Of wonderful sights that be,
And you shall see the beautiful things

As you rock in the misty sea,
Where the old shoe rocked the fishermen three:

Said Winken,
Blinken,
And Nod.

Quieting Rhyme: (Put up flannelboard of the moon from "Winken, Blinken and Nod.")

"Do you ever look for the man in the moon like Winken, Blinken and Nod? Well, I just did and . . ."

The man in the moon
looked out of the moon
and this he said to me
It's time for all children at storytime
to **sit still** for a sto-ry.

Book:

Choose a classic bedtime story such as *Guess How Much I Love You* by Sam McBratney or *Goodnight Moon* by Margaret Wise Brown.

Activity and Discussion:

Ask the children to tell you a bit about their favorite bedtime stories. Use this discussion to introduce the topic of your next book.

Book:

Choose from *The 108th Sheep* by Ayano Imai; *How Do Dinosaurs Say Good Night?* by Jane Yolen; *A Noisy Way to Bed* by Ian Whybrow; *Where Does the Brown Bear Go?* by Nicki Weiss; *Good Night, Sleep Tight!* by Claire Freedman; *Good Night Gorilla* by Peggy Rathmann; *Franklin in the Dark* by Paulette Bourgeois; *Sleepy Bears* or *Time for Bed* by Mem Fox; or pick one of your own favorites. *Goodnight Opus* by Berke Brethed is another good choice - especially if you tend to have a slightly older group.

Rhyme:

"Did you ever try counting sheep to fall asleep? Long ago shepherds who watched over the sheep had to keep counting them to make sure that none wandered away. They got tired of just counting 'one, two, three, four, five,' so they made up rhymes to count with. One of these rhymes that you might have heard goes 'eeny, meeny, miney, moe.' Say it along with me . . ."

Eeny, meeny, miney, moe,
Catch a [tiger*] by the toe.
If he hollers let him go,
Eeny, meeny, miney, moe.

"Now let's pretend we are counting sheep." [*Use the artwork for the sheep mobile to make several flannelboard sheep and repeat the rhyme substituting "fat sheep" for "tiger."*]

Closing Rhyme:

(Reverse the opening rhyme. You can begin with ten in the bed if you wish. You might put up the letter R and ask the children to listen for the sound of R as you say this rhyme. Exaggerate the R sound.)

There were five in a bed and the little one said
Roll over, roll over
So they all rolled over
And one fell out
There were four in the bed and the little one said
Roll over, roll over
So they all rolled over
And one fell out . . . [etc.]

One in a bed and the little one said,
"Alone at last."

Suggestions for crafts

Help the children make sheep for counting at bedtime. You might glue cotton balls on cut-out shapes or shapes traced on heavy paper.

If time permits, you might make a sheep mobile. Simply make several copies of the sheep pictures on heavy paper - or copy on regular copy paper and glue to construction paper. Add string and use drinking straws to hang the sheep from. The example at <http://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/mobiles/straws/> uses paper clips in place of string. If you want to do a more elaborate craft like this, you might invite the caregivers to come back to help before the end of storytime.

A coloring page is also provided.

Take Home Sheet

Bedtime Stories

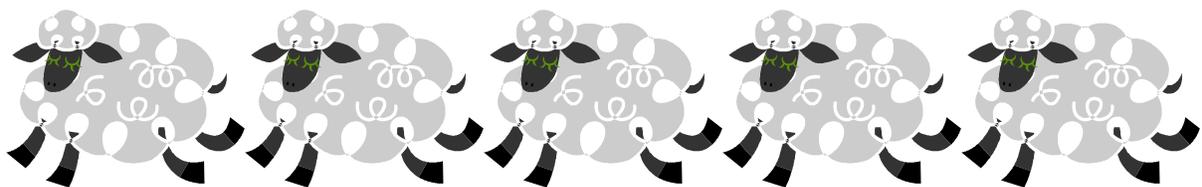
Reading aloud to your child at bedtime is still one of the best ways to end the day. Reading reduces stress for both parent and child; the individual attention is good for the child's emotional well-being; and storytime can provide those "teachable moments" when children can ask questions about whatever is on their minds.



Did you ever try counting sheep to fall asleep? Long ago shepherds who watched over the sheep had to keep counting them to make sure that none wandered away. They got tired of just counting 'one, two, three, four, five,' so they made up rhymes to count with. One of these rhymes that you might have heard goes 'eeny, meeny, miney, moe.'

Eeny, meeny, miney, moe,
Catch a [tiger] by the toe.
If he hollers let him go,
Eeny, meeny, miney, moe.

Think of fun things to substitute for "tiger" - such as "baby," "toddler," or "fat sheep."



Other Old English versions go "Ain, Tain, Tethera, Methera, Mimp, Ayta, Slayta, Laura, Dora, Dik" and "Yan, Tan, Tether, Methers, Pip."

Just for fun, practice these unique ways of counting - the odd rhymes will help your child build phonological awareness (awareness of the smaller sounds that make up words). This is an important pre-reading skill - and it's *fun* to play with words!

