

Color My World

Presenter Tip Sheet

About This Storytime

During the first two years of life, a baby's eyes are very actively "wiring" for color shades and hues. Color words are also a vital part of our vocabulary because we use them so much to describe the things around us. In today's storytime, children explore basic colors in story, song, and rhyme.

Books

For books to share in this storytime, pick three from the list below, or choose other board books or picture books in your collection that reflect the theme and are developmentally appropriate for babies and young toddlers. Always share your longest book first. For your second, choose a participatory book that engages the child or both the caregiver and child. For the third and last story, share a book told through the use of a flannel board or magnetic board, or use a prop or other visual. The examples provided in the storytime program fit these guidelines. If most children are restless and you feel the program is too long for that day, skip the last story and concentrate on the rhymes and songs.

Book Suggestions:

- *Baby's Colors*, by Karen Katz (Little Simon, 2010)
- *Bright Baby Colors*, by Roger Priddy (Priddy Books, 2004)
- *Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?* by Bill Martin and Eric Carle (Henry Holt, 1992)
- *Colors*, by Orla Kiely (Henry Holt, 2012)
- *Flaptastic Colors*, by Charlie Gardner (DK Preschool, 2009)
- *I Love Colors!* by Margaret Miller (Little Simon, 2009)
- *My Colors*, by Rebecca Emberley (Little, Brown, 2000)
- *My Very First Book of Colors*, by Eric Carle (Philomel, 2005)
- *One Blue Fish*, by Charles Reasoner (Little Simon, 2010)
- *Pantone: Colors*, by Pantone (Abrams Appleseed, 2012)
- *Rainbow Colors Peek-a-Boo!* by DK Publishing (DK Preschool, 2008)
- *Slide and Find Colors*, by Roger Priddy (Priddy Books, 2008)

- *What Color Is Your Apple?* by Begin Smart Books (Begin Smart Books, 2010)
- *What Color Is Your Underwear?* by Sam Lloyd (Cartwheel, 2004)

Songs

This storytime includes five songs, and one of the rhymes can be presented as a sixth song. The same opening and closing songs should be used each week if you are holding a series of storytime programs. Always provide movements or motions to accompany each song, but keep these simple, such as the caregiver rocking the baby back and forth, bouncing the baby in time to the music, or clapping the baby's hands. Using recorded music during the storytime is fine, although it's best to sing the songs with a live voice, or sing along with simple recordings, so that very young children can hear the words and the sounds making up each word. Recorded music is often sung too fast for this purpose. For your reference or to play during storytime, The Very Ready Reading Program includes a CD of songs recorded at an appropriate tempo. Track numbers for each recording are provided in the songlist below and on the storytime program card.

Songs for This Storytime:

- Opening Song: "If You're Happy to Be Here" (sung to the tune of "If You're Happy and You Know It") 🎧 22 🎵 23
- "Bumping Up and Down in My Little Red Wagon" (song or rhyme) 🎧 8
- "Color Song" (sung to the tune of "The More We Get Together") 🎧 10
- "I Am Looking" (sung to the tune of "Frere Jacques/Are You Sleeping?") 🎧 20
- "A-Tisket, A-Tasket" 🎧 1
- Closing Song: "The More We Get Together" 🎧 28 🎵 29

Rhymes

This storytime includes three rhymes, with movements to accompany them. Caregivers perform the movements with the child, depending on the child's ability. For babies, the caregiver can move the child's hands, fingers, and body, or otherwise help the baby execute the movements. Young toddlers may be able

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to do the movements themselves or may need a little help. Keep in mind that children up to 24 months of age have not developed fine motor skills to the same degree as older toddlers and preschoolers; open and close motions are better than, say, putting one finger down at a time. The Very Ready Reading Program storytimes include different types of movement rhymes for variety, such as bounce/lift, finger/hand, and toe/foot rhymes.

Rhymes for This Storytime:

- “Bumping Up and Down in My Little Red Wagon” (bounce)
- “Two Little Blackbirds” (hand)
- “Way Up High in the Apple Tree” (finger/hand)

Activities

This storytime includes an optional theme-related activity, to be completed after the closing song. Below are three to choose from, including at least one that is suitable for the youngest babies. The activity you choose might depend on the size or predominant age of your audience, the amount of time you have to prepare, your space or environment, and the materials needed. The activities are designed with safety and the very limited attention spans of babies and young toddlers in mind. However, always keep in mind and remind caregivers: **Any time an activity involves materials such as paint, sand, string, or small pieces, close adult supervision is required.** Although each activity has a learning aspect, the emphasis should be on fun!

Activity Suggestions:

Sun Catcher. Give each adult two small squares of clear contact paper. Provide scissors and rolls of cellophane for them to cut small shapes of different colors of cellophane. When they remove the backing of the contact paper, cellophane pieces can be placed on top, and then covered with another piece of clear contact paper. Ask children to pick out colors, name shapes to cut out, place pieces on contact paper, and help or make choices as appropriate. Take the sun catcher home and attach it to a window so that on a sunny day, brilliant colors will appear.

Moving Color. Fill several empty small water bottles with water and add a few drops of food coloring, so that you have bottles with several different colors. Seal the bottles. Place them all in the middle of the floor, and let babies examine them and roll the water bottles around, watching the colors move and swirl.

Colored Beanbags. Provide beanbags in bright, solid colors—enough of every color for every child. Play music. Have children pick up and move with or shake beanbags to the music when the librarian calls out a color. While holding the baby and moving to the music, caregivers can pick up the colored beanbag for the baby to touch, grasp, and even throw.

Early Literacy Tips

Promote the **7 Days • 7 Ways** principles with parents and caregivers by emphasizing the three early literacy tips found in the yellow boxes in the storytime program.