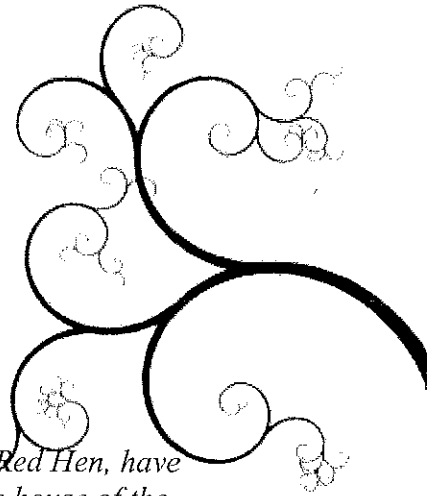


Storytimes that Sizzle

Spicing Things Up When You're Feeling Burned Out
Storytime Skills Workshop 2013



Books

Interactive Books

*Tons of books lend themselves to interactivity. You can act out the *Little Red Hen*, have kids "feed" the lady who swallowed a fly, or have the kids blow down the house of the various pigs. Here are some of our favorites.*

Can You Make a Scary Face? by Jan Thomas

Hand, Hand, Fingers, Thumb by Al Perkins

Have kids drum along to the rhythm of the story. Use rhythm sticks, oatmeal can drums, or just clap.

Huff & Puff by Claudia Rueda

Pete the Cat by Eric Litwin

Download song from <http://www.harpercollinschildrens.com/feature/petethecat/>

Read the book and sing/bop along.

Punk Farm by Jarett Krosoczka

Download the song from <http://www.punkfarm.com/song.html>

Hand out instruments and have the kids join the band.

Dog's Colorful Day by Emma Dodd

Make a white dog out of felt. Hand out colored pieces of felt and have the kids put it on the felt dog. For a larger group, put the pieces on yourself.

(here's one pattern: <http://dulemba.com/Blogstuff/ColoringPageTuesdays/Bernie-big.jpg>)

Multiple copies of Board Books

In our storytimes, we usually read the book in unison. But you can have one-on-one reading time where they go at their own pace or read different board books. It's an easy way to get the littlest ones involved.

The Going to Bed Book by Sandra Boynton

Karen Katz lift-the-flap books

Blue Hat, Green Hat by Sandra Boynton

Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? by Bill Martin Jr.

What's Up, Duck? A Book of Opposites by Tad Hills

Baby Goes Beep by Rebecca O'Connell

Quiet Loud by Leslie Patricelli

Instruments

Bells (many of these can be used with the Shaker songs as well)

- “If You’re Happy and You Know It” on *Let’s Play* by Raffi
- “Silly Dance Contest” on *Jim Gill sings the Sneezing Song* by Jim Gill
- “The Freeze” on *Dancing Feet* by Carole Peterson
- “Rock and Roll Freeze Dance” on *So Big* by Hap Palmer
- “The Freeze” on *Kids in Motion* by Greg and Steve
- “When Ducks Get Up in the Morning” on *Little Songs for Little Me* by Nancy Stewart
- Nursery rhymes -- Ride a White Horse; Mary Mary Quite Contrary (say the rhymes and ring the bells)
- Read a book like *Jingle Bells* by Maryann Kovalski and sing and use the bells as the story calls for them.
- “Bell Horses” on *I Love to Hear the Sounds* by Kathy Reid-Naiman
- “Ring Them on the Floor” on *I Love to Hear the Sounds* by Kathy Reid-Naiman
- “I’ve Been Working on the Railroad” on *More Singable Songs* by Raffi
- “Ring Those Bells” on *H.U.M.* by Carole Peterson
- “Jingle Bells and Stop” on *Season Sings!* by Miss Carole

Shakers (interchangeable with some parachute songs)

- “The Lion Sleeps Tonight”; “I Know a Chicken” on *Whaddaya Think of That* by Laurie Berkner
- “Shake My Sillies Out” on *More Singable Songs* by Raffi
- “Milkshake”; “If All of the Raindrops” on *Songs for Wiggleworms*
- “Alabama, Mississippi” on *Jim Gill Sings the Sneezing Song* by Jim Gill
- “We’re Going To Kentucky” on *Songs and Games for Toddlers* by Bob McGrath
- “Fruit Salad Salsa”; “Shakin’ Down the Sugar” on *Victor Vito* by Laurie Berkner
- “Shakin Like a Leafy Tree” on *Racing to the Rainbow* by The Wiggles
- “Shaky, Shaky” on *Yummy Yummy* by The Wiggles
- “Shimmy Shake” on *Ready...Set...Move!* by Greg & Steve
- “Shakin’ It” by Parachute Express
- Any nursery rhymes with a beat – Hey Diddle Diddle, Humpty Dumpty, etc.
- “Shake With You” by Mr. Eric and Mr. Michael on *Bouncy Blue*
- “I Can Shake My Shaker Egg”; “Hip Hop Body Rock” by Mr. Eric & Mr. Michael on *Rockin’ Red*
- “Shake Your Egg & Follow Me” on nancymusic.com by Nancy Stewart
- “Rockin’ Robin” on *Songs for Wiggleworms*

Rhythm Sticks

- “I’ve Been Working on the Railroad” on *Buzz Buzz* by Laurie Berkner
- “I’m Passing Out the Sticks/Tap and Stop” on *Tickles and Tunes* by Kathy Reid-Naiman
- “Lady with the Alligator Purse” on *Silly Sing Along* by Johnette Downing (You can use this song at the same time as reading the book by Nadine Bernard Westcott)
- Hand, hand, fingers thumb* by Al Perkins. Read and tap out the rhythm.
- Crocodile Beat* by Gail Jorgensen. Read and tap out the rhythm.
- “Tapping on My Sticks” on *I Love to Hear the Sounds* by Kathy Reid-Naiman
- “I Have a Little Hammer” on *I Love to Hear the Sounds* by Kathy Reid-Naiman

Drums (interchangeable w/Rhythm Sticks)

- “Drumming Medley” on *Stinky Cake* by Carole Peterson (I shortened this using Audacity)
- “My Grandfather Clock” on *Songs and Games for Toddlers* by Bob McGrath
- “Baby Duck”; “I am a Fine Musician” on *Sticky Bubble Gum* by Carole Peterson
- “Popcorn” on *Snacktime* by Barenaked Ladies
- “Old McDonald Had a Band” on *I Love to Hear the Sounds* by Kathy Reid-Naiman

Music

Parent/Child Rhymes and songs

- Row, Row, Row Your Boat (traditional)
- “Rocketship Run” on *Rocketship Run* by Laurie Berkner
- “Little Red Wagon” on *Wiggieworms Love You* by Old Town School Recordings
- Traditional tickle and bouncing rhymes. See *Baby Rhyming Time* by Linda Ernst.
- “Tickle Tickle (Fur Elise)” by Mr. Eric Mr. Michael on *Yummy Yellow*

Movement songs

- “The Sit Down, Stand Up, Sit Down Song” on *I Like to Read* by Rick Goldin
- “Put Your Hands Up in the Air” on *So Big* by Hap Palmer
- “My Ups and Downs” (good stretching song) on *Jim Gill Sings Do Re Me* by Jim Gill
- “Can’t Wait To Celebrate” on *Jim Gill’s Irrational Anthem* by Jim Gill (good opener)
- “Face the Facts” on *Jim Gill Sings Moving Rhymes* by Jim Gill
- “Clap Your Hands” on *No!* by They Might Be Giants
- “Clap Your Hands” on *Wiggieworms Love You* by Old Town School Recordings (good opening song too)
- “I Feel Crazy So I Jump in the Soup” on *Victor Vito* by Laurie Berkner
- “Shoo Fly” on *Dancing Feet* by Carole Peterson
- “The Elevator Song” and “You Ought to See My Baby” on *Baby-O* by Marylee Sunseri
- “Baby’s Getting Up” and “Bounce Your Baby” on *This is Fun!* By Caspar Babypants
- “Hokey Pokey” “Mexican Hat Dance” on *Outrageous Orange* by Mr. Eric and Mr. Michael
- “Very Very Tall” on *Wiggieworms Love You*
- “Twist and Shout” by Rob Newhouse on *Songs for Wiggieworms* (great with shakers)
- “Jumping and Counting” by Jim Gill on *Jim Gill’s Irrational Anthem*
- “The Airplane Song” by Laurie Berkner on *Whaddaya Think of That?*
- “Turn-A-Round” by Hap Palmer on *Getting To Know Myself*
- “Dance, Freeze, Melt” by Mr. Eric & Mr. Michael on *Rockin’ Red*
- “Moving in a Circle” by Mr. Eric & Mr. Michael on *Rockin’ Red*
- “We Will Stomp” by Mr. Eric & Mr. Michael on *Yummy Yellow*
- “Mack Chicken Dance” by Greg and Steve on *Big Fun*
- “Hat and Jacket, Pants and Boots” by Miss Carole on *Season Sings*
- “Jump in the Puddles” by Miss Carole on *Season Sings*
- “Bats Are Sleeping” by Miss Carole on *Season Sings*

Action Songs (that you do sitting down)

- “Drivin’ In My Car” on *Ralph’s World* by Ralph Covert
- “Row, Row, Your Boat” by Rob Newhouse on *Songs for Wiggleworms*
- “Skinnamarink” by Carole Peterson on *Stinky Cake*
- “Couch Potato Pokey” by Dr. Jean on *Is Everybody Happy?*
- “Everybody Have a Seat” by Miss Carole on *Season Sings* (a fun opening song)

Around-the-Room songs

- “We are the Dinosaurs” on *Whaddaya Think of That* by Laurie Berkner
- “Looby Loo”; “Walkin’ Shoes” on *Tiny Tunes* by Carole Peterson
- “The Tempo Marches On” and “Nothing Wrong Song” on *Jim Gill Sings Do Re Me* by Jim Gill
- “The Goldfish” on *Victor Vito* by Laurie Berkner
- “Shoofly” on *Tickles and Tunes* by Kathy Reid Naiman
- “Hokey Pokey” (traditional)
- “Riding on a Pony” on *Kids Make Music Babies Make Music Too!* by Lynn Kleiner
- “Walk” on *Yummy Yummy* by the Wiggles
- “The Ants Go Marching” (traditional)
- “We Will Stomp” on *Yummy Yellow* by Mr. Eric & Mr. Michael
- “Moving in a Circle” on *Rockin’ Red* by Mr. Eric & Mr. Michael
- “We are the Fishies” by Aaron Nigel Smith on *Everyone Loves to Dance!*
- “Run Baby Run” by Caspar Babypants on *More Please*

Prop Songs

- “Over in the Meadow” by Dr. Jean on *Dr. Jean Sings Silly Songs*
- “Dingle Dangle Scarecrow” by London Studio Orchestra on *Action Songs and Rhymes*
- “Itsy Bitsy”/Great Big Hairy Spider by Mr. Eric Mr. Michael on *Yummy Yellow*
- “Each Mitten has a Mate” by Miss Carole on *Season Sings!*
- “Leaves are Falling” by Miss Carole on *Season Sings!*
- “Alice the Camel” on *Humpty Who?*
- “Twinkle Twinkle Little Star” (traditional) Cut stars out of flannel. Hand them out and have the kids put them on the flannel board as you sing.
- “A Hunting We Will Go” song and printouts on nancymusic.com
- “She’ll Be Coming Around the Mountain” on *Whaddaya Think of That* by Laurie Berkner – folding prop idea for Mel’s Desk blog – melissa.depperfamily.net/blog/?p=3011
- “Flowers” by Miss Carole on *Season Sings*

Other Fun Stuff

Balls

“Roll the Ball to Me” on *Sticky Bubble Gum* by Carole Peterson

Play the song, rolling and bouncing the balls to the babies. As the second verse starts, bring out the rest of the toys to transition to free play time.

“Bounce a Bouncy Ball” on nancymusic.com

“Rolling Ball” by Mr. Eric and Mr. Michael on *Groovy Green*

“Great Big Ball” by Miss Carole on *Season Sings!*

Bonus activity: get a big box, basket, or other container and have toddlers take turns practicing throwing balls into the container. Bouncing balls on a parachute is fun too.

Bubbles

“Music Box Dancer” on *Racing to the Rainbow* by the Wiggles

“I’m Forever Blowing Bubbles” on *On Moonlight Bay* by Doris Day

“We are the Fishies” by Nigel Smith on *Everyone Loves to Dance*

Make lots of bubbles while the song plays. When the song is over, the bubbles end too.

Pom-Poms

“B-Banana” on *Stinky Cake* by Carole Peterson

“Monkey Talk” on *Little Ditties for Itty Bitties* by Michele Valeri

“Wheels on the Bus” (traditional)

“Gray Squirrel” on *Little Songs for Little Me* by Nancy Stewart

Teddy Bears (try doing some of these songs with stuffed bears and a parachute)

“Teddy Bear Playtime” on *So Big* by Hap Palmer

“Put Your Teddy Bear on Your Head” on *Little Songs for Little Me* by Nancy Stewart

“Dance With Your Teddy Bear” on *Jumpin’ and Jammin’* by Greg & Steve

“Teddy Bears Big Day Out” on *Racing to the Rainbow* by the Wiggles

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear (traditional)

Scarves (Interchangeable with Streamers or Wrist Ribbons)

Add scarves to any “around the room” song for extra fun.

The Second Line by Johnette Downing – this cd is designed for use with scarves

“Wheels on the Bus” (traditional)

“This is the Way We Wash Our Face” (to the tune of “Here We Go ‘Round the Mulberry Bush)

“Five in the Bed”– roll scarves for “roll over, roll over”, then make scarf fall

“Let’s go Fly a Kite” on the soundtrack for *Mary Poppins*

“Yankee Doodle/You’re a Grand Old Flag” on *H.U.M.* by Carole Peterson

“Take Me Out to the Ball Game” on *Musical Scarves & Activities* by Georgiana Stewart

“Bumblebee (Buzz Buzz)” on *Buzz Buzz* by Laurie Berkner

Peek-a-boo; “Pop Goes the Weasel” (traditional)

“Cannon in D Major” (lyrics include “Fly in the Sky With Me” on *Outrageous Orange* by Mr. Eric and Mr. Michael

“I Put My Scarf on My Head” by Sukey Molloy on *I Am Happy!*
“Blow the Wind” by Miss Carole on *Season Sings!*

Theme Extenders

For a squirrel storytime, scatter pinecones for the kids

For an apple storytime, write the alphabet on die cut apples, put them up on the walls, have the kids pick the apples and match the letters/put the alphabet in order.

Ukulele

I was particularly inspired by these two blog posts:

<http://www.alsc.ala.org/blog/2013/10/in-tune-with-my-patrons-a-small-success-story/>

<http://www.alsc.ala.org/blog/2012/09/music-and-libraries-a-natural-combination/>

The wonderful gal who e-mailed me “Tess’s Start Playing Ukulele Now Kit” and her storytime songbook is Tess Goldwasser. (tgoldwasser@stmalib.org)

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