

Learning Time – session plans



Playtime with Ted

By *Sophy Henn*

Ted loves to play and pretend. Using his imagination, Ted isn't sitting in a box, he is racing in his car- broom-broom or zooming in his rocket to the moon.

Sturdy lift the flap pages seamlessly expand the colourful illustrations of Ted playing with his box. Explore with Ted just how many things one box can transform into with just a little creativity. Let your imagination go wild!



Key Message for Parents | Children Learn through being engaged and doing

Children are active learners. They love to explore and play. Play is the most powerful way children learn. By providing plenty of opportunities for play children will develop skills in creating, talking, problem solving and imagining.

Playing with boxes and other everyday objects provides opportunity for imagination and creativity to flourish.

Lift-the-flap books are a fantastic way to engage children as they promote interaction. Children enjoy peeking under the flap to find the answer or make a new discovery.

Learning Outcomes | Outcome 4: Children Are Confident and Involved Learners

In the early years, through play, children will develop dispositions for learning such as curiosity, cooperation, confidence, creativity, commitment, enthusiasm, persistence, imagination and reflexivity.

As educators we can assist children by:

- Providing learning environments that are flexible and open ended
- Providing opportunities for children to revisit their ideas and extend their thinking
- Providing age and developmentally appropriate materials and resources that engage children in play experiences. Items such as books, building blocks, craft materials, nature objects, large boxes are perfect to expand imagination and invite children into creative play

Find booklists, tip sheets, nursery rhymes and activity and learning time sheets @

thelittlebigbookclub.com.au     



Themes within this story

- Play, Imagination, Interactive stories

Welcome

Ask carers to write nametags for themselves and their children.

Welcome everyone, introduce yourself, remind adults to turn their mobile phones off and that there will be time for adults to chat after the story and songs.

Welcome Song (or your preferred song)

Have the words available as a handout or written on a board or butcher's paper for the adults to read and join in.

Good Morning

Good morning to you

Good morning to you

Good morning everybody

and welcome to you!



Song

Take You Riding In My Car

Take you riding in my car, car

(pretend you are steering and driving)

Take you riding in my car, car

Take you riding in my car, car

I'll take you riding in my car.

Horn it goes beep, beep

(pretend you are touching a horn – beep beep!)

Horn it goes beep, beep

Beep, beep, beep, beep, beep, beep

I'll take you riding in my car.

Engine it goes brum, brum

Engine it goes brum, brum

Brum, brum, chuga, chugga, brum, brum

I'll take you riding in my car.

Windscreen wipers goes swish swish

(swish arms from side to side)

Windscreen wipers goes swish swish

Swish swish swish swish

I'll take you riding in my car

Take you riding in my car car

Take you riding in my car car

Take you riding in my car car

I'll take you riding in my car



Before Reading

Talk about the cover including the title, the authors name. Explain that the person, Sophie Henn, is the author and the illustrator. An author writes the words in the story and an illustrator is creates the pictures. Todays' book is called Playtime with Ted. Ask children, "What games do you like to play? Do you play inside or outside?" Take time to listen to and discuss ideas.

Ted is sitting in a box on the cover. Has anyone played with a plain box before? What type of games did you play? What could you make out of a box? List the suggestions on a whiteboard in one column. Make the other column for the things Ted does with the box. (Note - You will use this list after reading the story). You might like to have a sample of images to stick on the board too. For example – an image of a boat, rocket ship, car, cave etc.

During Reading

When you are reading to a group ask for suggestions of what they think Ted will make the box be before opening the flap.

If the group is small involve the children by asking a child to come up and open the flap. You could take turns with 5 children coming up to open a flap. This process will take time – be patient. It helps children learn and practice skills such as, taking turns and being patient. Inviting children to stand up in front of the group also helps to build their confidence and participation.

After you have opened the flap and read the words get the group to make the vehicle noises together. Talk about the use of the speech bubble in the illustrations.

After Reading

Have a look at the list of things a box could be that was made by the children at the beginning of the story. Re read the story and list the things Ted pretends the box is in the other column. See how many things matched. You could draw a line to connect the matching words.

What other things could Ted have imagined the box to be? Encourage wide and creative ideas!

Activity Time

Rocket

Ted finished his adventures with a trip to the moon in his rocket. Today we are going to make our own little rockets and launch them into space. This activity while being fun will also help your child's oral motor development. When children try to blow through a straw (or blow bubbles) it strengthens the muscles in the jaw. Strong muscles will help with sound production as your child learns to talk.

What you need:

- Rocket template
- Cardboard
- Straws
- Sticky tape
- Crayons/ pencils
- Scissors





What to do:

1. Copy the template onto cardboard
2. Colour and decorate the rocket
3. Cut out the rocket
4. Make a cylinder shape with the rectangle template by rolling it up – make sure the cylinder is wide enough to fit the straw inside
5. Fold over one end of the cylinder and seal with sticky tape
6. Attach the cylinder to the back of the rocket with sticky tape- open end facing down
7. Slide the straw inside the cylinder
8. Blow into the straw and watch your rocket zoom

Tip- the flatter the straw the easier it is to blow through

Extension Ideas:

- Collect some large boxes and let children sit in the box pretending to be all the vehicles in the story.
- Talk about other forms of transportation and vehicles – eg; buses, airplanes, boat, trucks

STEM

Mathematics

Early mathematics skills can be incorporated into simple play activities to introduce children to concepts such as measuring.

Using the rocket we built earlier we are going to measure how far a rocket can zoom.

1. Set up a start line with some masking tape on the ground
2. Children stand on the line and launch their rockets by blowing through the straw
3. Once the rocket has landed on the ground children can measure the distance from the start line to their rocket. Measurement units can include children's feet and a ruler. Talk about using a standard unit of measure (ie a ruler). Inviting children to measure by taking steps will be different depending on how far each child can step. Record how far each rocket has flown.

Engineering

Engineering involves skills such as building and constructing.

- Provide a range of different size boxes and let the children build and construct whatever they like.
- Can they build a tall tower- how high can it go before it falls down? What could they use to hold the tower together (ie sticky tape). Does the size of the boxes make a difference to how you build the tower?
- Some ideas for extra building materials are pop sticks, plastic lids and cardboard cylinders.
- This activity can foster team work as children work together to lift bigger boxes.



Goodbye

Conclude the session with some suggestions of books that parents might want to share with their children. The Little Big Book Club suggests the following books to support learning in this area. If your library has copies, make them available for families to borrow or include them in your story time session.

Activity Time for this book is available to download for FREE from our website. This is a great resource to share with families, you are welcome to print and distribute as necessary.

For more stories to share, we recommend the following titles:

- **Play** by Jez Alborough
- **Row, Row, Row Your Boat** Illustrated by Matt Shanks
- **We're Going on a Bear Hunt** by Michael Rosen and Helen Oxenbury

Goodbye Song

Depending on the size of your group, you may wish to insert each child's name in the place of 'you' as it develops a more personal relationship between yourself, the child and the family.

Sung to the tune of (Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush) or your preferred choice.

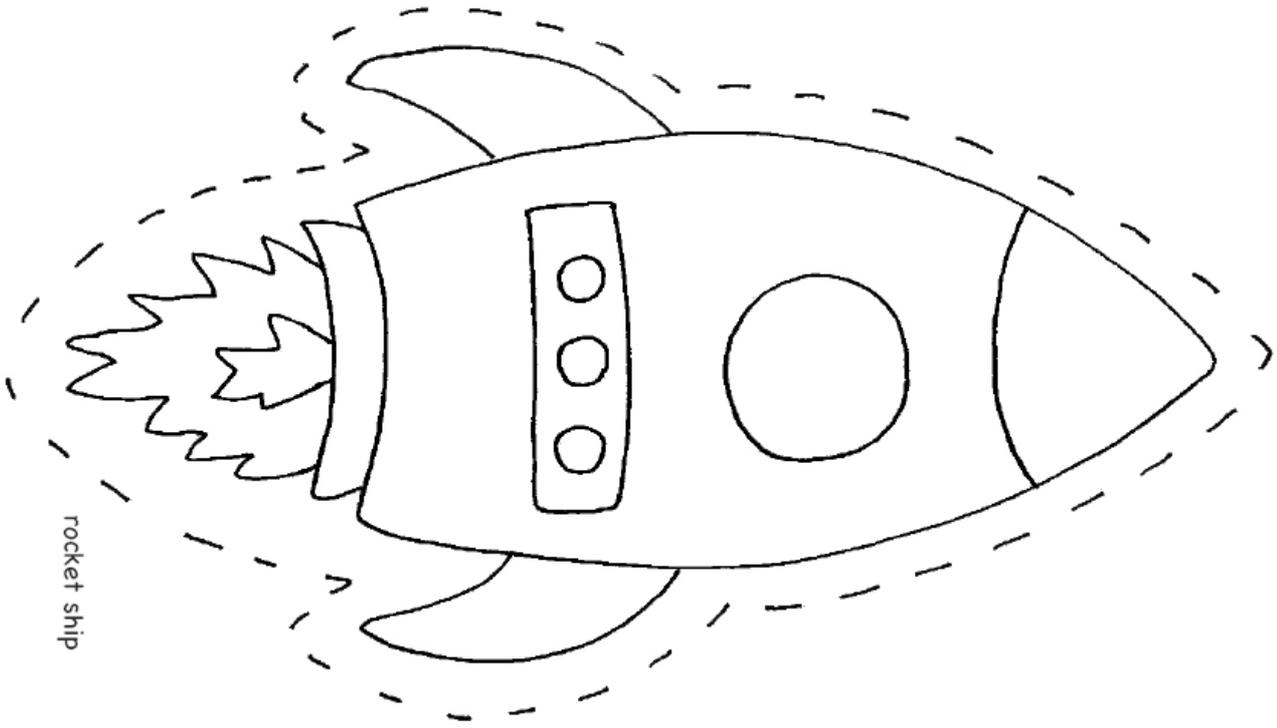
Goodbye

This is the way we say goodbye (use a waving action)

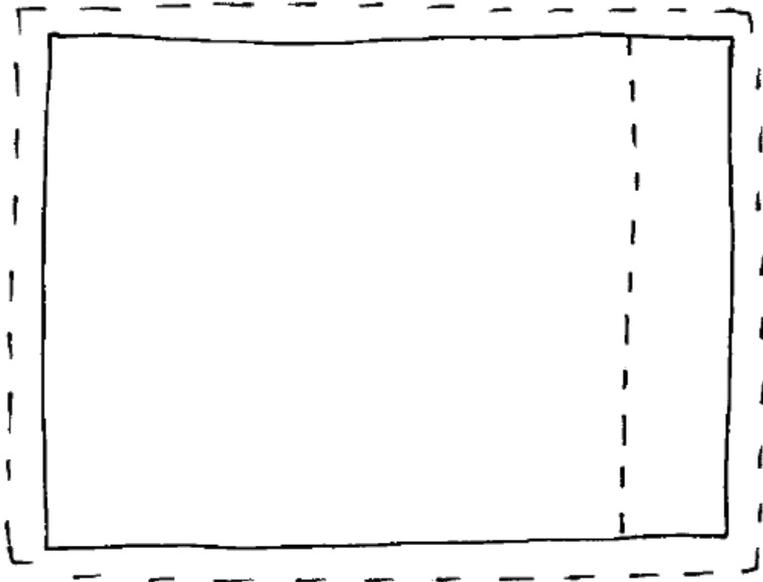
Say goodbye, say goodbye

This is the way we say goodbye

To all our library friends (or) (to our friend.....)!



rocket ship



cut out and roll to form a cylinder (large enough to fit a straw.)
fold down top and tape to back of rocket