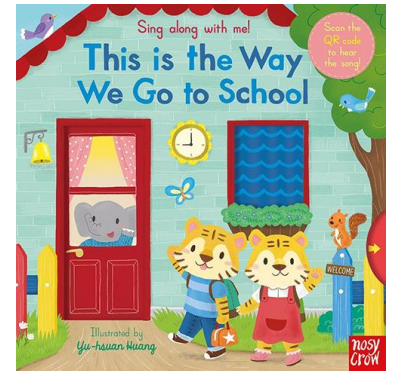


## This is the Way We Go to School By Yu-hsuan Huang

Join the tiger family as they get ready for school. With only a few simple tasks like get out of bed, eat your breakfast, and clean your teeth, you'll be ready to go to school in no time. The chunky sliders to push and pull are perfect to develop fine motor skills and strengthen hand muscles. Bright, clear and detailed illustrations mean there is so much to see and do as we get ready for school.



For an extra interactive element, you can download the free audio version and sing along to the catchy tune.

### Key Message for Parents | Children are active learners

They gain knowledge by exploring their surroundings in meaningful ways. Children learn best through play. Play allows and encourages children to be engaged. Through play children are able to be curious, imagine, pretend, talk, problem solve, reason and explain. Play is critical to a young child's social, emotional and intellectual development.

Some ways parents can engage their toddlers at home include;

- Talking, singing and reading together
- Providing a variety of simple play materials suitable for their stage of development.
- Providing a balance of both adult-led and independent play.
- Give lots of warm and gentle snuggles

### Australian Early Years Learning Framework | Outcome 4 : Children are confident and involved learners

We can help young children become confident learners by

- Providing play activities which foster curiosity and engagement
- Allowing time in the day for play, song and stories
- Giving praise and recognizing all achievements, big and small.
- Joining in children's play and modelling reasoning, predicting and language
- Encourage children to discuss their ideas and understandings

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

[thelittlebigbookclub.com.au](http://thelittlebigbookclub.com.au)     



## 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!*



## Songs

### I wake up my hands

*I wake up my hands with a clap, clap, clap.*

*Clap, clap, clap. Clap, clap, clap!*

*I wake up my hands with a clap, clap, clap*

*And wiggle my waggles away.*

Repeat with:

*I wake up my feet with a stomp, stomp, stomp.*

*I wake up my head with a nod, nod, nod.*

*I wake up my hips with a shake, shake, shake.*

*I wake up my belly with a beep, beep, beep.*

### Back to school

*Two little houses all closed up tight (make fists)*

*Open up the window and let in some light (open fists)*

*Ten little finger people tall and straight (show ten fingers)*

*Ready for school at half past eight (walk with fingers)*

## Before Reading

Start your session by welcoming all the children and singing a few songs to get everyone warmed up and those wriggles out.

Begin by asking a few questions:

- Who's goes to school?
- How do you feel?- excited, scared, nervous
- What things to we need to do to get ready to go to school?

Talk about school – Focus on the positive aspects eg: you meet you friends, learn new things and have fun.



Have a look at the cover with the group.

Talk about what is happening:

- Who's in the door window?
- What does the sign on the fence say? – Welcome- what does that mean?
- What time is on the clock?- 9am- school time!

Use the slider to reveal who's already inside the school- the teacher and one student.

### During Reading

Get the children to join in and do actions as you read.

- Get out of bed- stretch
- Eat breakfast- pretend to eat a bowl (cup hand) of cereal with a spoon
- Brush teeth- pretend to hold a toothbrush and move back and forth over your mouth.
- Go to school- walk fingers on arm
- Wave bye-bye- wave hands.

### After Reading

Scan the QR code and watch and sing along with the audio version.

The illustrations are clear and detailed proving lots of opportunity to go back through the book and talk and discover new things.

For example, on the first double page when the tigers are getting out of bed ask children to find other things in the room.

- How many books can you see?
- Where is the cat?
- Is it sunny or raining outside?

### Song – Ten Little Fingers

*I have ten little fingers*

*and they all belong to me.*

*I can make them do things,  
would you like to see?*

*I can shut them up tight  
or open them wide.*

*I can put them together  
or make them all hide.*

*I can make them jump high,  
I can make them jump low.*

*I can fold them quietly*



### Ideas - Activity time - Packing your backpack

Toddlers have a growing sense of independence and love to start to do things for themselves. Giving them some responsibility even at a young age helps to build up a routine and gives them a sense of achievement.

Getting ready for school can make a morning very busy. Planning and practice are the key to success. Follow a few simple steps and your toddler will know what to pack and how to pack their bag ready for school.

#### What you will need

- School Bag
- Lunch box
- Water bottle
- Spare clothes



#### Instructions

1. Involve your toddler in selecting their backpack. Go to the shops together and offer 2 choices.
2. Write their name/or attach a name tag to the backpack. Explain this is how everyone will know it's their backpack
3. Practice wearing the backpack. Make sure they can get it on and off on their own.
4. Practice unzipping and zipping it.
5. Practice putting their lunch box, water bottle and spare clothes into the backpack.
6. Practice opening and closing their lunch box and water bottle
7. Practice doing this with your toddler in the same way for several days. Then allow them to do it on their own with verbal queuing.
8. Soon they will be responsible for their school bag and supplies on their own!

### Goodbye

An 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.

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/centre has copies, make them available for families to borrow or include them in your story time session.

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

- *I am Too Absolutely Small for School* by Lauren Child
- *Starting School* by Jane Godwin & Anna Walker
- *Wombat Goes to School* by Jackie French & Bruce Whatley

### 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.

*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.....)!*