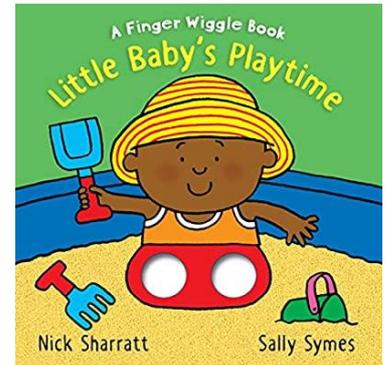


LEARNING TIME

Little Baby's Playtime- A finger wiggle book By Nick Sharratt and Sally Symes

All these little babies have lots of playing to do- digging in the sand, riding in a sling and playing peekaboo. A fun filled interactive board book with 2 holes so you can poke your fingers through to make some wiggly legs. The bright, bold illustrations depict babies from many backgrounds who are all having fun playing. The rhyming text also has lots of sound words making it so easy to play and have fun with your baby.



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

Children are active learners, even from the youngest age. The most powerful way babies learn is through play. When parents/adults play with their baby it makes them feel loved and safe which allows them to be engaged and learn new things

Some ideas to share with parents/carers are:

- You are your baby's favourite play thing! But by having something like a book to focus on you will have a wonderful object to help you talk, play, sing, read and interact together.
- Interactive board books are fantastic for engaging babies. The 'play' element in this book encourages lots of interaction between adult and baby. Tickling, making sounds and having fun with the story with engage your baby and strengthen your bond.
- Pick toys with different textures like smooth, soft and spikey balls Talk about how each ball feels and help your baby to touch and feel

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

Educators can support children to be confident and involved by;

- Allowing babies to explore and have hands on experimentation. Keep toys and books within reach of babies. Notice which objects or books each baby is drawn to.
- Providing sensory experiences with natural and processed materials which foster curiosity, investigation and engagement.
- Praising each baby when they accomplish a new skill.

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.

Welcome song - Come Along

Come along and sing with me, sing with me

Come along and sing with me, it's time for story time!

Repeat and replace 'sing' with bounce, rock, clap etc.

Come along and bounce with me, bounce with me, bounce with me

Come along and bounce with me, it's time for story time!

Song

Here are baby's fingers

Here are baby's fingers

Here are baby's toes

Here is baby's belly button

Round and round it goes

Here are baby's arms

Here are baby's legs

Here is baby's belly button

Round and round it goes

Touch each body part as you go and end with a tickling action round and round on the tummy

A yellow circle containing text.

Encourage parents to sing facing their baby so that baby can watch their mouth move as they sing and talk – this helps babies learn to speak themselves.

Before Reading

Before your session starts it's important to have all the equipment and resources you need within reach. Set up your space with cushions or comfy seats. Make sure there is enough space for families to spread out. As this book is so interactive multiple copies will allow each family to enjoy the story directly with their baby. Provide some scarves to play peekaboo after the story is read.

Start the session by showing the book and demonstrating how to poke your fingers through the holes and make them wiggle. Allow some time for families to play with the book and master the finger wiggling. Explain how this style of book is a great way to engage your baby, be together and have fun.

As you start to read the cover, encourage parents to point out the words by running their fingers underneath. Describe each of the objects on the cover- it's a blue spade and a green bucket.

During Reading

Encourage parents to sit closely with their baby so they can see the pictures. Wiggle your fingers to make the legs move on each page. Do this every time you read the phrase "wiggle wiggle"

Use lots of expression and enthusiasm when reading as this will engage babies.

On the peekaboo page encourage parents to hide behind the book and come out on the "Boo"!

After Reading

Play some games of peekaboo with scarves. There are lots of fun peekaboo songs you can sing. Peekaboo is such a fun game to play and a great learning activity for babies. Peekaboo can;

- Develop social skills like turn taking and making eye contact
- Increase child /parent bonding
- Develop understanding of object permanence

Song

Peek a boo

Peek a boo, peek a boo	<i>(Hide behind hands or a scarf and peek out)</i>
I see you, I see you	<i>(gently touch baby's chest)</i>
I see your button nose	<i>(touch baby's nose)</i>
I see your tiny toes	<i>(wiggle baby's toes)</i>
I see you, Peek a boo	

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sIAhsfcbgXg&list=PLcw3Y8sV0xptiwjCuPS-UxXaR_7Vei8y5&index=26&t=0s

Extension Ideas

Have some play stations set up so that parents try new ways to play and interact with their baby. Some ideas include;

- Make a peekaboo board. Use felt to cover pictures of people or objects. Parents can demonstrate how to lift the felt to reveal the picture. Allow older babies to try for themselves. Talk about what the picture is when it is revealed. For very young babies use black and white pictures.
- For babies who are sitting up unassisted have some balls that parents can roll to their baby. Some older babies may even roll the ball back. Ask parents to talk out loud about what's happening "My turn to roll the ball to you. Now your turn."
- Have a large container with sand and some spades and buckets. Ensure you have a drop sheet or a vacuum handy! Describe what the sand feels like.
- A tub of shakers and bells are great for babies to explore cause and effect. Talk or sing while shaking the objects.
- Have a basket of other interactive books for families to explore- lift the flap or books with sliders or touch and feel books are perfect for little hands to explore.

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.

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

- **Here come the kittens. A touch and feel board book** by *Hilli Kushnir*
- **Buzzy bear ambulance rescue** by *Benji Davies*
- **Once upon my legs** by *Mike Dumbleton and Sarah Boese*

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.

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.....)!