

Shake Me: Red *Illustrated by Natalie Marshal*



Whoosh! Up goes the girl in the hot air balloon! This book is a part of the 'Shake Me' series and it is designed to encourage visual development through high contrast images, *Shake Me Red* rattle book will engage babies as they learn through play.

Key Message for Parents | The First Five Years Last a Lifetime

All babies' brains are similar at birth, containing billions of brain cells. Positive early experiences help the connections in their brain that make learning possible, multiply and become stronger. Babies and children need positive relationships, rich learning opportunities and safe environments in order to develop to their potential, it is never a wasted moment for caregivers to sit and play with their baby.

Some ideas of activities to share with parents are:

- Sing nursery rhymes that have numbers, counting and lots of repetition such as *Round and Round the Garden*, *Hickory Dickory Dock*, and *Five Little Ducks*
- Read books that are illustrated with familiar objects and colours to enhance babies' vocabulary
- Spend time chatting with your baby face to face – your baby will love to watch your face as you speak.

Australian Early Years Learning Framework

Outcome 1: Children have a strong sense of identity

As educators we can help young children feel safe, secure and supported by:

- Providing play activities which foster curiosity and engagement
- Spending time interacting and conversing with each child, giving them essential eye contact and waiting for their response
- Building on the knowledge, languages and understandings that children bring to story time or group time. Include families into routines, and create a welcoming environment for all.

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

thelittlebigbookclub.com.au     



Welcome

Ask carers to write nametags for themselves and their babies. 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

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.

Songs

Some tips for parents:

- encourage parents to sing while facing their baby
- while singing point out different colours

The Colour Song

If your clothes have any red, any red

If your clothes have any red, any red

If your clothes have any red, touch your finger to your head

If your clothes have any red, any red.

More verses:

- Blue – touch your finger to your shoe
- Yellow – smile like a happy fellow
- Brown – turn your smile to a frown
- White – give a hug with all your might





Before Reading

Choose some finger rhymes to sing together. Encourage parents / carers to have their child on their laps facing towards them so interactions can be intimate and bonding between parents and children can take place.

- Round and Round the Garden
- Open Shut Them
- Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star

Hand out some red ribbons, streamers or scarves so that families can play with them in a variety of ways.

- You could sing 'This is the way we wave our ribbons, before we read our book' (like the Goodbye Song).
- Shake ribbons like a rattle
- Experiment with how ribbons/streamers feel by wrapping their ribbons, streamers or scarves around different body parts.

While the interest and enjoyment is there, continue on. Songs, rhymes and conversation introduce children to language in meaningful ways.

During Reading

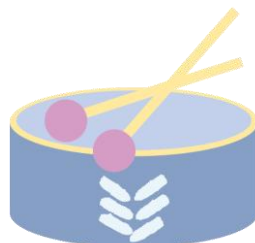
Have enough copies of the book for each person and encourage parents to turn their baby towards them on their lap.

You could have a doll or teddy yourself to role model the way you would like them to look at the book together, showing them the illustrations and gently pointing to them as you talk about the everyday things on each page and finding the red things together.

Make suggestions for your families; encourage baby to feel the book, shake the book, try to open and close the book, and turn the pages. Tell them not to worry if baby tries to taste the book! Repeat this process as many times as baby is engaged.

After Reading

Have a variety of shakers available for all participants and sing some favourite songs while shaking in time to the music. Parents and carers can move around the Story Time space with their child whilst the music is playing.





Activity time

Balloon Play

What you need:

- Balloons
- A large carpeted space

What to do:

1. Blow up a variety of coloured balloons
2. Encourage each family to play together, gently throwing the balloons in the air and trying to catch them (with babies that are not moving around yet, just move the balloon in front of their face, above their head, down low on the floor, etc and encourage baby to follow with their eyes. Young children could also use their sense of touch but be aware of balloons that might pop and scare baby)
3. Crawling babies could follow the balloons around the room as they are moved by carers
4. Older children could use their mouths to blow the balloons around the space
5. Older children might like to sort the balloons into colours or be asked to find the red balloon, etc.



Extension Ideas:

Water play with balloons

Fill some large containers with water and add balloons. Put the containers on the floor or on small tables and encourage carers to play with their baby while singing and talking to them about what they are doing.

Boat and Truck Play

Have a range of push along trucks and boats that the children can play with. Coloured blocks could be added to build houses or garages or boat sheds.

STEM FOCUS

From birth children are inquisitive. You can nurture early science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) concepts and skills through daily routines and play and exploration activities that you provide for the babies and children in your program. By talking, reading, singing, playing, signing, or using other ways to communicate – whatever works best for your infants and toddlers – you can help them purposefully develop STEM skills. For example, count a baby's toes, talk about colours on their clothes, describe the changing leaves with children, or talk with a toddler as you play with the musical instruments together!

Young children are enquirers and observers when they wonder why and how things work (even when they can't talk yet) and when they watch closely the things around them.



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:

- **On the Move** *illustrated by Mojca Dolinar*
- **Colours with Splosh** *by David Melling*
- **See Me Move** *by Sascha Hutchinson and Heidi Linehan*
- **Ten Little Fingers and Ten Little Toes** *by Mem Fox and Helen Oxenbury*

Goodbye Song

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.....)!

