

Vol. 18 No. 8

Opening the Gift

April 2014

Hammer Time!

Tools Rule! By Aaron Meshon

Job Site by Nathan Clement

I Love Tools! by Philemon Sturges

Tap Tap Bang Bang by Emma Garcia

Alphabet Under Construction by Denise Fleming

Old MacDonald Had a Woodshop by Lisa Shulman

We Need Construction Workers by Lisa Trumbauer

Nursery Rhyme: London Bridge Is Falling Down

Songs & Fingerplays to Share

CD: "Bean Bag Alphabet Rag" from *Can A Cherry Pie Wave Goodbye?* by Hap Palmer

Carpenter's Song

(tune: *The Mulberry Bush*)

This is the way we pound our nails,
Pound our nails, pound our nails,
This is the way we pound our nails,
So early in the morning.

This is the way we saw our wood,
Saw our wood, saw our wood.

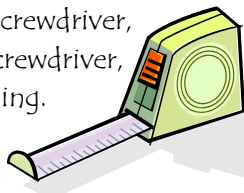
This is the way we saw our wood,
So early in the morning.

This is the way we twist a screwdriver,
Twist a screwdriver, twist a screwdriver,
This is the way we twist a screwdriver,
So early in the morning.

additional verses:

Stack the bricks
Stir the paint
Paint the walls

everythingpreschool.com



My House

I'm going to build a little house,
(fingers form roof)
With windows big and bright,
(index fingers and thumbs)

With chimney tall and curling smoke,
(hold arm in the air)
Drifting out of sight.
(wave hand upward)

In winter when the snowflakes fall,
(hands flutter down)

Or when I hear a storm,
(hand cupped to ear)

I'll go and sit in my little house,
(fingers form roof)
Where I'll be safe and warm.
(cross arms & hug)

earlyliterature.ecsd.net

A House For Me

The carpenter's hammer
Goes rap, rap rap.

(make fist of one hand and pound
against palm of other hand)

And his saw

Goes see, saw, see.

(move arm in sawing motion)

He hammers and hammers

And saws and saws

(alternate hammering and sawing motions)

To build a house for me.

(make a house outline and point to self)

Ring A Ring O' Roses by Flint Public Library

Five Little Nails

(hold up five fingers)

Five little nails

Standing straight and steady.

Here comes the carpenter,
With her hammer ready.

BAM! BAM! BAM!

(countdown to zero)

Finger Tales by Joan Hilyer Phelps



Your next visit will be: May _____

Next month's theme will be: "Up, Up, and Away!"

More Books to Share:

Tonka Power Reading: Construction Action by Victoria Hickle

Bang! Boom! Roar! A Busy Construction Crew by Nate Evans

You and Me and Home Sweet Home by George Ella Lyon

Build, Dogs, Build: a Tall Tail by James Horvath

My Dream Playground by Kate M. Becker

Monkey With a Tool Belt by Chris Monroe

Good Morning, Digger by Anne Rockwell

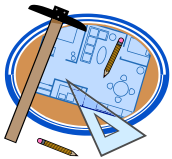
Building Our Home by Jonathan Bean



Activity Ideas:

Pounding Practice: Create a hammering station with pieces of Styrofoam, wooden golf tees and small hammers. Children pound away while working on their fine motor skills!

pinterest.com



Blueprints: Get actual blueprints and point out to the children that the lines on them show where doors, walls, windows, etc. will be. Point out that architects (vocabulary word!) use these when planning a new building. Provide the children with large pieces of blue paper, rulers, and white crayons or colored pencils. Let them design their own blueprints. stepbystepcc.com

Construction Zone Snacks: Is your crew ready to take a break? Serve up Wood Putty (hummus dip or peanut butter), Carpenter Pencils (carrot sticks), Spackle (onion dip) and Wood Chips (Fritos or Sun Chips). Don't forget the Water Jug!

excerpted from: birthdaysrus.com



Book of the Month:

A Moving Child is a Learning Child by Gill Connell and Cheryl McCarthy

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Just as kids' bodies need specific nutrients for good health, they also need a balanced diet of physical activity to help them reach their potential. Writing in an engaging, down-to-earth style, authors Gill Connell and Cheryl McCarthy connect the dots that link brain activity, motor and sensory development, movement, and early learning. They unveil the Kinetic Scale: a visual map of the active learning needs of infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and primary graders (from "snugglers" to "skedaddlers") that fits each child's individual timetable.

Teachers and caregivers will find a wealth of information, actionable tips, and games they can use to support children's healthy development—all presented in a lively, full-color format with demonstrative diagrams and photos. A final section offers easy-to-implement "Smart Steps at Play" activities geared to the Kinetic Scale.

Road to Reading Tip:



Research Says: "Music stimulates all the senses, training your child's brain to organize and conduct numerous activities all at the same time. Early childhood musical (or rhythm and rhyme) experiences, especially if they involve the parents, are one of the most powerful ways to accelerate the 'wiring up' of a child's brain."

Brilliant Brain Games for Kids to Enjoy Published by Hamlyn, a division of Octopus Publishing Group LTD



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Questions or Suggestions? Call Melinda Chase, Bel Air Branch, 410-638-3151, ext. 2279

If you have an urgent message for me, please speak with the operator, 410-638-4800 (starting at 8 am)

email: chase@hcplonline.org

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London Bridge is falling down,
Falling down, falling down.
London Bridge is falling down,
My fair lady.



EARLY LITERACY EXTRA! (SINGING) Rhyming is one way children learn to hear that words are made up of smaller parts. By saying rhymes and singing songs with your children, you are supporting **PHONOLOGICAL AWARENESS**—the ability to hear and play with the smaller parts of words.

SAY the words to London Bridge Is Falling Down. Now **SING** the song. Do you hear the difference in the way the words are said and sung? Singing slows down language, and because children can hear the sounds of the words more easily when you are singing, you are helping them develop **PHONOLOGICAL AWARENESS**, which will help them when they try to sound out words later when they learn to read.

excerpted from: Storytimes for Everyone/ By Saroj Nadkarni Ghoting and Pamela Martin-Diaz