

# Circle Time Format for a 20 minute circle

Greeting Songs – do roll the ball EVERY week, and then do a new greeting song each month. Emphasis of both is to take turns focusing on one child so they learn how to be the center of attention and how NOT to be the center of attention. Also helps with names.

Lap Songs – Do three each week. These are fun and silly but also help to build vestibular system (balance) and a visceral sense of rhythm.

Finger Plays – Choose 2. Good for small motor practice for the children. These may also include felt boards.

Theme Props – Each week I gather some small items from the classroom that they will interact with later (toys, puzzle pieces, etc.) The children come to me and each take one item to take back to their parent. They talk one-on-one about things like: what is that? What color is it? What does it feel like? How many \_\_\_\_ does it have? Is it big or small? This introduces a lot of pre-academic concepts and broad vocabulary as well as observation skills. After they've explored, we sing a song.

Shakers – We practice giving back the prop item and taking a shaker, then we do the shaker songs. These are all about listening to the teacher for cues on when to start and stop and what to do. Great practice at impulse control and also at things like location (high and low) and speed (fast and slow).

Active Songs – we most often use the parachute with these, but not always. They're about walking and moving in rhythm, working together with other people (we all have to walk about the same speed around the circle or we run into each other or get bumped into), and large motor development (lifting the parachute up and down.)

Final Song – We always close with Teddy Bear – the 6 line version: Teddy Bear Teddy Bear Turn Around. Teddy Bear Teddy Bear Touch the Ground. Teddy Bear Teddy Bear Peek-a-Boo. Teddy Bear Teddy Bear I love you. Teddy Bear Teddy Bear Reach Up High. Teddy Bear Teddy Bear Wave Bye-Bye.

Note: if you don't know the tunes or motions, you can find videos of MOST of these on the KCLS website:

<https://kcls.org/content/> or the Jbrary YouTube channel  
(<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCnjsY7TmClktuQLNCXXra6Q>)

# Babies and Pets

## Greeting Songs – both songs each week

Roll the Ball: I roll the ball to \_\_\_\_\_. S/he rolls it back to me!

The More We Get Together: The more we get together, together, together, the more we get together, the happier we'll be. With \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. The more we get together the happier we'll be. Etc...

## Lap Songs – choose 3 from this list

Humpty Dumpty up, Humpty Dumpty down.

Humpty Dumpty left, Humpty Dumpty right.

Humpty Dumpty all around. Humpty Dumpty Upside Down.

Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall;

Humpty Dumpty had a great fall.

Poor Humpty Dumpty!

Trot to Boston. Trot Trot to Boston, Trot Trot to Dover, Watch out Baby or You Might Fall Over.

Trot Trot to Boston, Trot Trot to Lynn, Trot to the Charles River, but don't Fall In.

Elevator Let's go riding on an elevator, Let's go riding on an elevator,  
1<sup>st</sup> floor, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, 4<sup>th</sup> floor, 5<sup>th</sup> floor, (raise legs a little bit each time)  
Down, down, down, down, down! (Child slides down legs)

The Noble Duke of York (or Grand Old Duke...)

(Baby sits on parent's knees, move knees up and down, left and right with soldiers)

The noble Duke of York, He had ten thousand men,

He marched them up to the top of the hill And he marched them down again

And when you're up, you're up, And when you're down, you're down

And when you're only halfway up, You're neither up nor down!

He marched them to the left, He marched them to the right  
He even marched them upside down, Now wasn't that a sight!

## Finger Songs or Rhymes – choose 2

### Round & Round the Garden

(Walk fingers in circle around baby's belly button. Step to chin or armpit, tickle)  
Round and round the garden Walks the teddy bear  
With a one step and a two step and a tickle you under there!

### Itsy Bitsy Spider

The itsy bitsy spider went up the water spout.  
Down came the rain and washed the spider out.  
Out came the sun and dried up all the rain,  
and the itsy bitsy spider went up the spout again.

### Open Shut Them

Open shut them, open shut them, Give a little clap. Open shut them, open shut them Lay them in your lap.  
Creep them crawl them, creep them crawl them Right up to your chin  
Open up your little mouth, But do not let them in! (Hands "run away")

## Theme Props – handout item for them to explore, then sing:

Week 1 – Scarves – "Someone is Hiding, hiding, hiding. Someone is hiding – who could it be? Peek-a-boo!!"

Sept 25 – Baby Dolls – Sing "Two Little Eyes to look around, two little ears to hear each sound. One little nose to smell what's sweet, one little nose to smell what's sweet. One little mouth that likes to eat. Eyes and ears and nose and mouth. Eyes and ears and nose and mouth.:

Oct 2 – small dog toys or magnets. There was a farmer had a dog and BINGO was his name O – B-I-N-G-O, B-I-N-G-O, B-I-N-G-O, and Bingo was his name O

Oct 9 – *use cat puppet to talk about cats, then show how to pretend to have a cat...*

I have a cat (*stroke your fist*); My cat is fat (*arms form a stomach*)

I have a cat (*stroking*); My cat wears a hat (*hands on head*)

I have a cat (*stroking*); My cat caught a bat (*clap hands together above head*)  
I have a cat (*stroking*) Purrrrrr, Meowwww

Use feltboard or fingers for kittens: Five little kittens standing in a row // They nod their heads to the children so. They run to the left, they run to the right. // They stand up and stretch in the bright sunlight. // Along comes a dog, who's looking for fun. // M-e-o-w, did you see those kittens run!

## Shakers

"Oh, you shake and you shake and you shake and you stop... "

## Active Songs / Parachute – choose 2

Round the Circle (can do just as a movement song, or with the parachute)  
Go round and round the circle, go round and round the circle, go round and round the circle, as we have done before.  
(In and out the circle, up and down)

### Mulberry Bush with Parachute

All around the mulberry bush (walk around a circle), the monkey chased the weasel (rattle parachute).

The monkey thought it was all in fun (lower the parachute to the ground). Pop goes the weasel (pop it)

Some weeks, DON'T Do Parachute!! (We don't want to have to ALWAYS do it.) Do:

Ring Around the Rosie. Ring around the rosie, A pocket full of posies, Ashes, ashes, We all fall down! The cows are in the meadow, Eating buttercups. Thunder! Lightning! We all jump up!

Hokey Pokey You put your arm in, You put your arm out, You put your arm in And you shake it all about. You do the hokey pokey As you turn yourself around That's what it's all about! (Leg, head, whole self)

# Fall, Farm, Spiders

## Greeting Songs – both songs each week

Roll the Ball: I roll the ball to \_\_\_\_\_. S/he rolls it back to me!

Sung to Farmer in the Dell: “\_\_x\_\_ is here today. \_\_y\_\_ is here today. Let’s all clap our hands. \_\_z\_\_ is here today.”

## Lap Songs – do all 3 each week

Riding on a pony downtown, (bounce child up and down your legs)

Better watch out or you might fall DOWN! (child falls between your legs)

Father and Mother and **Uncle John**, Went to market one by one,  
Mother fell off! Father fell off! But Uncle John went on and on and on!

**Pumpkin, pumpkin** sitting on a wall. Pumpkin, pumpkin tumble and fall. Pumpkin, pumpkin rolling down the street. Pumpkin, pumpkin you’re so sweet! (big hug)

## Finger Songs or Rhymes – choose 2

**Criss, cross** (*draw an X on baby’s back*)

Applesauce (*pat baby’s shoulders in rhythm to the beat.*)

Spiders crawling up your back (*walk fingers in a tickly fashion up your baby’s back*)

Tight squeeze (*give a hug*) Cool breeze. (*blow gently on baby’s neck*)

And now you’ve got the shivers! (*tickle baby all over*)

Five little jack-o-lanterns sitting on a gate. The first one said, "Oh my, it's getting late." The second one said, "Shhhh! I hear a noise." The third one said, "It's just some boys!" The fourth one said, "Let's run & run & run!" The fifth one said, "It's Halloween fun!" "Whoohoo! went the wind and out went their lights and five little jack-o-lanterns rolled out of sight.

Way up high in the **apple tree**. Two little apples smiled at me. I shook that tree just as hard as I could. Down came the apples, and mmmmm they were good.

**The itsy bitsy spider** went up the water spout.  
Down came the rain and washed the spider out.  
Out came the sun and dried up all the rain,  
and the itsy bitsy spider went up the spout again.

Theme Props – handout item for them to explore, then sing:

*Week 1 – give everyone silk leaves, talk about their colors, have them hold up red leaves, then orange leaves...*

(Hi-Ho the Derry O) The leaves are turning red, The leaves are turning red, Hi, ho, the derrio, The leaves are turning red. ...the leaves are turning orange...

Week 2 – Leaves. Five little leaves so bright and gay, (hold up 5 fingers) Were dancing on a tree one day. (wiggle fingers) The wind came blowing through the town, (hold hands by mouth, blow) One leaf came tumbling down. (roll hands downward) Repeat rhyme with 4 leaves, 3 leaves...

(Frere Jacques): Watch the leaves, watch the leaves, Falling down, falling down, all the pretty colors, all the pretty colors, To the ground, to the ground.

Week 3 – pumpkins. Then sing to Tune: Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star  
Pumpkin, pumpkin on the ground (crouch down) How'd you get so big and round? (stretch arms and then make a circle) Once you were a seed so small, (pretend to hold a seed) Now you are a great big ball! (make big circle with hands)

Week 4 - *farm animals* – I went to the farm the other day, I saw a cow across the way. And what do you think I heard her say? Moo. [Etc.] THEN sing Old McDonald

Week 5 – farm animals. The Wheels on the tractor go round and round... All around the farm. The cows on the farm go moo, moo, moo... All around the farm. The pigs on the farm go oink, oink, oink ... All around the farm. The chickens on the farm go cluck, cluck, cluck... All around the farm....

## Shakers

Just “Oh, you shake and you shake and you shake and you stop... “

Old McDonald Had a Farm with shakers or (Hi-Ho the Derry O) The leaves are turning red, The leaves are turning red, Hi, ho, the derrio, leaves are turning red.

## Active Songs / Parachute – choose 2

Round the Circle (do with scarves some weeks, and parachutes on other weeks  
Go round and round the circle, go round and round the circle, go round and round the circle, as we have done before.(In and out the circle, up and down)

(Tune: London Bridge) *(use the silk leaves on the parachute)*

Autumn leaves are falling down Falling down, falling down Autumn leaves are falling down. All around the town.

The wind will blow them round and round, Round and round, round and round.

The wind will blow them round and round All around the town.

They're drifting gently to the ground, to the ground, to the ground. They're drifting gently to the ground. All around...

Take a rake and rake them up, Rake them up, rake them up. Take a rake and rake them up. All around the town.

If time:

Ring Around the Rosie

Hokey Pokey

End with...

Take a little walk Bear...

# Moon, Stars

## Greeting Songs – both songs each week

Roll the Ball: I roll the ball to \_\_\_\_\_. S/he rolls it back to me!

(Sung to Frere Jacques) Hello \_\_x\_\_ Hello \_\_y\_\_. How are you? How are you? We're so glad to see you, We're so glad to see you. Here at school, here at school.

## Lap Songs – all 3

**Popcorn**, popcorn in a pan, Shake'em up, shake'em up, Bam, bam, bam

Zoom Zoom Zoom, we're going to the moon. Zoom Zoom Zoom, we're going to the moon. If you want to take a trip, climb aboard my rocket ship. Zoom Zoom Zoom, we're going to the moon. In 5 – 4- 3- 2 – 1 – Blast Off!!!

Let's go riding on an **elevator**, Let's go riding on an elevator,  
1<sup>st</sup> floor, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, 4<sup>th</sup> floor, 5<sup>th</sup> floor, (raise legs a little bit each time)  
Down, down, down, down, down! (Child slides down legs)

## Finger Songs or Rhymes – choose 2

Round & Round the Garden

Round and round the garden Walks the teddy bear  
With a one step and a two step and a tickle you under there!

[Tune: Farmer in the Dell]

The sun is in the sky. The sun is in the sky. Hot and bright it gives us light. The sun is in the sky.

The moon is in the sky. The moon is in the sky. Round and round the earth it goes. The moon is in the sky.

The stars are in the sky. The stars are in the sky. They twinkle bright all through the night. The stars are in the sky.

Twinkle Twinkle Little Stars (wiggle your fingers). Stand and twinkle where you are. Twinkle high and twinkle low. Twinkle fast and twinkle slow. Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star, Now sit and twinkle where you are.

## Theme Activities / Props –

Week 1 – *Hand out stars – count the points.* Star Light, Star Bright, First star I see tonight. I wish I may, I wish I might, Have the wish I wish tonight...

Week 2 – Stars.

Four little stars winking at me, (*Hold up 4 fingers*) One shot off, then there were 3.  
Three little stars with nothing to do, One shot off and then there were two.  
Two little stars afraid of the sun, One shot off, then there was one.  
One little star, alone is no fun. It shot off, then there was none.

## Shakers (BELLS in December)

“Oh, you shake and you shake and you shake and you stop... “

Sing Jingle Bells and shake them

## Active Songs / Parachute – choose 2

Round the Circle (can do with scarves, or with the parachute)

Go round and round the circle, go round and round the circle, go round and round the circle, as we have done before.

(In and out the circle, up and down)

Ring Around the Rosie

Ring around the rosie, A pocket full of posies, Ashes, ashes, We all fall down!

The cows are in the meadow, Eating buttercups. Thunder! Lightning! We all jump up!

Walk Bear. Take a little walk Bear, walk bear, walk bear, take a little walk bear, walk bear, STOP.

(wiggle, jump, dance, run, hug)

# Winter, Snow, Ice

## Greeting Songs – both songs each week

Roll the Ball: I roll the ball to \_\_\_\_\_. S/he rolls it back to me!

The More We Get Together: The more we get together, together, together, the more we get together, the happier we'll be. With \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. The more we get together the happier we'll be. Etc...

## Lap Songs – choose 2

**Popcorn**, popcorn in a pan, Shake'em up, shake'em up, Bam, bam, bam

**Sled**. (tune: Farmer in the Dell)

I'm riding on my sled, I'm riding on my sled,  
Hey ho just watch me go, I'm riding on my sled.  
I'm going oh so fast (bouncy), I'm going oh so fast,  
Hey ho just watch me go, I'm going oh so fast.  
I'm goin' round the bend (lean to sides), I'm goin' round the bend.  
Hey ho just watch me go, I'm goin' round the bend.

The Noble Duke of York (or Grand Old Duke...)

The noble Duke of York, He had ten thousand men,  
He marched them up to the top of the hill And he marched them down again  
And when you're up, you're up, And when you're down, you're down  
And when you're only halfway up, You're neither up nor down!

## Finger Songs or Rhymes – choose 3

**Up the mountain...** down the other side... brrrrr it's cold out. Let's climb inside.

Three little snowmen. (*mime 3 fingers perched on sled made by other hand*)

3 little snowmen riding on a sled. One fell off and bumped his head

Mama called the dr. and the dr. said

No more snowmen riding on the sled. [Etc.]

Here's a **great big hill**, (*hold arm out to make a hill*)  
With snow all down the side, (*wiggle fingers downward*)  
Let's take our speedy sleds, (*place hand on shoulder*)  
And down the hill we slide! (*slide hand down arm*)

Chubby Little Snowman rhyme

See gestures at [http://wiki.kcls.org/index.php/Chubby Little Snowman](http://wiki.kcls.org/index.php/Chubby_Little_Snowman)

A chubby little snowman had a carrot nose.  
Along came a bunny, and what do you suppose?  
That hungry little bunny, looking for his lunch,  
Ate that snowman's carrot nose, Nibble, nibble, crunch!

*Show snowman – help them notice hat, bow tie... talk about what snowmen are made of and what happens in sun*

Five little snowmen standing in a row (*hold up 5 fingers*)  
Each with a hat (pat head) and a big red bow (*pull at neck like a bow tie*)  
Along came the sun "(arms form big circle over head)" and it shone all day (*lean to the left*)  
And one of those snowmen melted away! (*put down one finger*)  
*Continue until there are no snowmen left.*

## Theme Activities / Props –

Week 1 – Snowflakes **It is Snowing** (*To the tune of Are You Sleeping.*)

It is snowing, it is snowing, All around, all around.  
See the pretty snowflakes, See the pretty snowflakes,  
Touch the ground. Touch the ground.

Week 2 – snowflakes again **Tune: Skip to my Lou**

Snow is falling, what do I do? Snow is falling, what do I do?  
Snow is falling, what do I do? What do I do, my darling  
I'll build a snowman bigger than you! I'll build a snowman bigger than you!  
I'll build a snowman bigger than you! That's what I'll do, my darling!  
I'll ride my sled fast, how about you? I'll ride my sled fast, how about you?  
I'll ride my sled fast, how about you? That's what I'll do, my darling!

OR

### Disappearing Snowman

*(make a paper snowman; cut as you tell story, making snowman smaller)*

On Monday, I made a snowman. Just like that.

On Tuesday, the wind blew some snow away. Just like that.

On Wednesday, it rained on my snowman. Just like that.

On Thursday, the hot sun started to melt it. Just like that.

On Friday, it melted into a puddle. Just like that.

On Saturday, it snowed again. Just like that.

On Sunday, I made another snowman. Just like that.

### *Week 4 – bring in bear and penguin stuffed animals to talk about*

Here is a cave, (make a fist) Inside is a bear. (put the thumb in)

Now he comes out To get some fresh air. (pop out thumb)

He stays out all summer In sunshine and heat.

He hunts in the forest For berries to eat. (move thumb in a circle)

When snow starts to fall, He hurries inside

His warm little cave, And there he will hide. (put thumb back inside fist)

Snow covers the cave Like a fluffy white rug.

Inside the bear sleeps All cozy and snug. (cover fist with other hand)

Two little penguins sitting on the ice (Hold up index fingers) One bows once, the other bows twice (Make finger bow) Waddle, little penguins, waddle away (Put finger behind back) Come back penguins, time to play

### Shakers (or bells if December or scarves!)

“Oh, you shake and you shake and you shake and you stop... “

Sing Jingle Bells if December. Or..

Little Snowflake Swirling Round (tune: London Bridges) Use scarves or snowflakes

Little snowflake twirling round  
Twirling round, twirling round  
Little snowflake twirling round  
Lands on my *head*!  
Repeat with different body parts

## Active Songs / Parachute – choose 2

Bounce snowballs on the parachute  
1 little, 2 little, 3 little snowballs  
4 little, 5 little, 6 little snowballs  
7 little, 8 little, 9 little snowballs  
10 little snowballs go pop, pop, pop!

[Snowflake Fancy Free](#). (tune: *Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star*)

Snowflake, snowflake, fancy free,  
Snowflake, snowflake, dance with me.  
First on my head, then on my toes,  
Then on my nose, where the cold wind blows,  
Snowflake, snowflake, turn around,  
Snowflake, snowflake, touch the ground. //  
Snowflake, snowflake, fancy free,  
Snowflake, snowflake, dance with me.  
Touch my ear, then my knees,  
Snowflake, snowflake, I'm about to freeze!  
Snowflake, snowflake, turn around,  
Snowflake, snowflake, touch the ground.

# Transportation

## Greeting Songs – both songs each week

Roll the Ball: I roll the ball to \_\_\_\_\_. S/he rolls it back to me!      *Question – do we have a car we could push instead???*

Red shoes: Mary wore her red shoes, her red shoes, her red shoes. Mary wore her red shoes to toddler class today.

*[Go around the circle and repeat with different names and clothing items.]*

## Lap Songs – choose 3 from this list

Motorboat. Motorboat, Motorboat, Go So Slow. Motorboat, Motorboat, Go So Fast. Motorboat, Motorboat, Run Out of Gas.

Row your Boat (hold child facing you, holding hands, and row back and forth)

Row row row your boat, gently down the stream.

Merrily merrily merrily merrily, life is but a dream.

Zoom down the freeway

Zoom down the freeway, Zoom down the freeway, Zoom down the freeway, Fast!

Up goes the drawbridge, Up goes the drawbridge, The boat is going past.

Down goes the drawbridge, Down goes the drawbridge. The boat has passed at last.

Zoom down the freeway, Zoom down the freeway, Zoom down the freeway, EXIT!

Red Wagon. Bumping up and down in my little red wagon (3x). Won't you be my darlin?

One wheel's off and the axles broken (3x). Won't you be my darlin?

*[optional verses to add after we've done it a couple weeks... ]*

Fixing my wagon with a hammer (3x). Won't you be my darlin?

Zooming right along in my little red wagon (3x). Won't you be my darlin?

Fire Truck. Hurry Hurry drive the firetruck (3x), ding, ding, ding, ding ding.  
Hurry hurry turn the corner.... Hurry hurry climb the ladder.... Hurry hurry spray the water...

It's all right the fire is out now, drive the fire truck back to the station, tired fire fighters go to sleep now now snore, snore, snore, snore, snore.

## Finger Songs or Rhymes – choose 2

Where is Thumbkin?

Itsy Bitsy Spider

The Wheels on the Bus. Week one and two. On week 3 do train (below). On week 4 use rhythm sticks.

The Wheels on the Train

The wheels on the train go round and round, round and round, round and round all through the town

The engine on the train goes chug, chug, chug/chug, chug, chug/chug, chug, chug all through the town

The conductor on the train says, “All aboard!”/“All aboard!”“All aboard!” all through the town

The smoke from the train goes puff, puff, puff/puff, puff, puff/puff, puff, puff all through the town

The whistle on the train goes toot, toot, toot/ toot, toot, toot/ toot, toot, toot all through the town

## Theme Activities / Props –

Week 1 – Pass out toy cars. They talk about the colors of the cars, count the wheels, and so on.

Book: Wheels on the Bus

Week 2 - Pass out toy trains. They talk about the colors, count the wheels, and so on.

Book: Chugga Chugga Choo Choo

Week 3 - Pass out a variety of vehicles. Talk about what they are: car? Boat? Plane?

Rhyme (teacher using scarves): Stop says the red light, go says the green. Now just wait says yellow in between. That's what they say and that's what they mean. We all must obey them, even the queen.

Book: Wheels on the Bus – Pete the Cat version

Week 4 – Pass out a variety of vehicles. Everyone hold up a blue one – they're all blue, but what kind of vehicle?

Book: Row Row Row Your Boat

## No Shakers – Rhythm Sticks

*First week, pass out sticks. Have them explore all the ways you can play: first tapping slow, then tapping fast, then in the air, hammering, drumming and so on.*

Every week: Oh you tap and you tap and you tap and you stop... PLUS

Second week: This is the way we tap our sticks (3x) so early in the morning. This is the way we drum our sticks... This is the way we hammer our sticks...

Third week: (tune Mary Had a Little Lamb) If you have some rhythm sticks, rhythm sticks, rhythm sticks... if you have some rhythm sticks, you can tap them now... you can rub them now... you can drum them now

Fourth week: Wheels on the Bus with rhythm sticks!

## Active Songs / Parachute – choose 2 + ending song

Rhyme: [Green means go](#). *Teacher uses scarves for the colors.*

Green means go. Go go go. Yellow means slow. Slow slow slow. Red means stop.  
Go go go. Slow slow slow. Stop.

I'm a choo choo train.

I'm a choo-choo train; (walk in circle)

Chugging down the track. (rhythmically move arms)

First I go forward,

Then I go back.

Now my bell is ringing, (pretend to pull bell)

Hear my whistle blow. (cup hand to ear)

What a lot of noise I make (cover ears)

Everywhere I go!

Motorboat, Motorboat, Go So Slow. Motorboat, Motorboat, Go So Fast.

Motorboat, Motorboat, Run Out of Gas.

End with a familiar ending song, like Ring Around the Rosie or Mulberry Bush (Kids RIDE on the parachute for first time)

# Jungle / Zoo

## Greeting Songs – both songs each week

Roll the Ball: I roll the ball to \_\_\_\_\_. S/he rolls it back to me!

Hi Hello. (London Bridge) Hi, hello and how are you? How are you? Hi, hello and how are you? How are you today?

## Lap Songs – choose 2 from this list

Popcorn. Popcorn, popcorn in a pan, Shake'em up, shake'em up, Bam, bam, bam

Row Row Row Your Boat

Grand Old Duke

### A Hippo on a Bus

A hip-, a hip-, a hippopotamus, Got on, got on, got on, a city bus. (*spread arms, sway back & forth*)

And all, and all, and all the people said, "You're squishing us!" (*give a squeeze*)

A cow, a cow, a black and white cow, Got on, got on, got on, a city bus.

And all, and all, and all the people said, MOOOOVEEE over (*lean child to side*)

A sheep, a sheep, a fuzzy wuzzy sheep, Got on, got on, got on, a city bus.

And all, and all, and all the people said, BAAAAACCKKK UP (*lean back*)

## Finger Songs or Rhymes – choose 2

Five Little Monkeys jumping on a bed

Five little monkeys (in a tree)

Five little monkeys sitting in a tree, Teasing Mr. Crocodile: "You can't catch me!"

Along comes Mr. Crocodile As quiet as can be and...**SNAP!**

Four little monkeys sitting in a tree... *three... two.... One* ... Along comes Mr.

Crocodile. As quiet as can be and SNAP! One monkey says "Ha Ha! Missed Me!"

The Funky Spunky [Monkey](#) (tune Itsy Bitsy)

The funky spunky monkey climbed up the coconut tree. Down came a coconut and bopped him on the knee. Out came a lion a shaking his mighty mane. And the funky spunky monkey climbed up the tree again. OR

The funky spunky monkey climbed up the coconut tree. Down came a coconut and bopped him on the knee. Along came his mama who hugged away the pain. And the funky spunky monkey climbed up the tree again.

### [Alligator, Alligator](#)

Alligator, alligator, long and green (*hold out arm: 4 fingers, thumb below*)

Alligator, alligator, teeth so mean (*open and close fingers and thumb*)

Snapping at a fly, snapping at a bee, (*snap with fingers and thumb*)

Snapping at a frog, but you can't catch me! (*arms slap together, then shake head*)

## Theme Activities / Props –

Week 1 – Hand out toy animals to look at and talk to parents about, then sing...

The lions at the zoo say roar, roar, roar. .... All day long

The snakes at the zoo go hiss, hiss, hiss -- hiss, hiss, hiss -- hiss, hiss, hiss

The hyenas at the zoo go ha, ha, ha The monkeys at the zoo go ooh, ooh, ooh

Book: Row Row Row Your Boat (has extra verses about animals in the jungle)

Week 2 – Hand out toy animals again. Repeat last week's song

Book: Dear Zoo

Scarves – someone is hiding...

Week 3 – Did you ever see a lion (tune ... see a lassie)

Did you ever see a lion, a lion, a lion Did you ever see a lion -- While at the zoo?

(pause, then say "what does a lion say? ROAR)

Did you ever see a zebra, a zebra, a zebra Did you ever see a zebra -- While at the zoo? (NEIGH)

Did you ever see an elephant... (TRUMPET)

Did you ever see a gorilla... (OOH, OOH)

Book: Goodnight Gorilla

Week 4 – bring in cookie sheet and magnet letters. Read Book: Chicka Chicka Boom Boom, arranging the letters on the sheet – when the letters in the book fall down, push all the letters off the sheet...

Hand out letters... tell the parents to talk about words that start with that letter. Then have them come up and set their letters down on a board.

After the book, repeat last week's song

## Shakers

Shake and Stop

Shake your shakers near and far...

Everyone can shake, shake, shake. (3x) And then we make a stop.

## Active Songs / Parachute – choose 3

10 Little Bubbles

1 little, 2 little, 3 little bubbles 4 little, 5 little, 6 little bubbles

7 little, 8 little, 9 little bubbles 10 little bubbles go pop, pop, pop!

Parachute with Mama's Taking Us to the Zoo Tomorrow -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yCkQxaP3mME>

### Dancing with Bears

1-2-3 1-2-3 Dancing with Bears 1-2-3 1-2-3 Dancing round chairs.

1-2-3 1-2-3 that's what we'll do. 1-2-3 1-2-3 Dancing with you.

Waltzing with Bears – put on this song, and they hold kids in arms and waltz them around the room: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_OCYIK95KXE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_OCYIK95KXE)

Walk Bear. Take a little walk Bear, walk bear, walk bear, take a little walk bear, walk bear, STOP.

(wiggle, jump, dance, run, hug)

Mulberry Bush or Ring around the rosie

# Spring

## Greeting Songs – both songs each week

Roll the Ball: I roll the ball to \_\_\_\_\_. S/he rolls it back to me!

(Farmer in the Dell) We clap and sing hello, we clap and sing hello, with our friends at circle time, we clap and sing hello. We wave... we stomp...

## Lap Songs – choose 2 from this list

### Humpty Dumpty

Humpty Dumpty up, Humpty Dumpty down.

Humpty Dumpty left, Humpty Dumpty right.

Humpty Dumpty all around. Humpty Dumpty Upside Down.

Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall;

Humpty Dumpty had a great fall.

Elevator Let's go riding on an elevator, Let's go riding on an elevator,  
1<sup>st</sup> floor, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, 4<sup>th</sup> floor, 5<sup>th</sup> floor, (raise legs a little bit each time)  
Down, down, down, down, down! (Child slides down legs)

### Five riders.

Five little riders on a nice spring day Jumped on their ponies and rode far away  
They galloped in the meadow They galloped up a hill  
They galloped so fast that they all took a spill

### Little Seed. Tune: I'm a Little Teapot

I'll plant a little seed in the dark, dark ground. *(parent plants a seed in child's hand)*  
Out comes the yellow sun, big and round. *(all raise arms to make a big circle over their head)*

Down comes the cool rain, soft and slow. *(wiggle fingers down to make rain – parents on child's back)*

Up comes the little seed, grow, grow, grow! *(parent lifts the child up slowly)*

## Finger Songs or Rhymes – choose 3

This is a nest for a Bluebird *cup both hands*

This is a hive for a Bee *fists together*

This is a hole for a bunny *All Fingers touching*

And this is a house for me *Finger tips together for a roof peak*

Here is a beehive. *fist*

But, where are the bees? Hidden away, where nobody sees.

Soon, they come creeping out of the hive... *lift up fingers one by one*

1,2,3,4,5 -- buzzzzzz! *Buzz the bees to tickle*

5 little bees, up in the trees. Busy, buzzing, bumblebees. *(wiggle 5 fingers over head)*

First, they go to a flower.

*(open left hand flower;*

wiggle right fingers to it)

Then, they go to the hive.

*(left fist hive; wiggle right*

hand fingers)

Then they make some honey.

*(pat tummy)*

What a busy family of 5 !

*(wiggle fingers all around)*

A Bee is On My Toe (Tune: **Farmer in the Dell**)

A bee is on my toe. A bee is on my toe.

Heigh-ho just watch me blow.

A bee is on my toe. (blow gently on toe)

*(refrain: On my nose; On my head; On my ear)*

Round and round the garden, hops the little bunny. One hop, two hops, tickle you on the tummy.

## Theme Activities / Props –

Week 1 – Hand out flowers to talk about

Book – one of the springtime book options (see spreadsheet)

5 pretty flowers in my garden grew.

"I bet they all smell pretty too!"

I bent down to sniff, but they tickled my nose.

Aaah-Choo! Oh no! Away one flower blows!

*Remove 1 flower (finger) & repeat rhyme counting down*

## Week 2 – Book – Over in The Meadow

hand out toy bugs to explore and talk about

Fuzzy Wuzzy Caterpillar Into a corner will creep (*creep fingers*)

He'll spin himself a blanket

And then fall fast asleep (*rest head, close eyes*)

Fuzzy, wuzzy caterpillar Very soon will rise (*wake up*)

And find he's grown beautiful wings

Now he's a butterfly!

Book – Very Hungry Caterpillar

## Week 3 – Book: It's raining, it's pouring

Tune: [Frere Jacques](#)

Raindrops falling, Raindrops falling,

From the sky, From the sky,

Put up your umbrella, Put up your umbrella,

Nice and dry. Nice and dry.

## 10 Little Bubbles

1 little, 2 little, 3 little bubbles 4 little, 5 little, 6 little bubbles

7 little, 8 little, 9 little bubbles 10 little bubbles go pop, pop, pop!

## Shakers

"One day I was sitting in my house. It was very quiet.  
All of a sudden, I heard some light raindrops on my roof.  
They sounded like this. (*shake very slowly*)  
After a while the rain got a little heavier, (*shake a bit louder and faster*)  
And then a little heavier, and then it turned into a rainstorm! (*shake very fast and hard*) And then it stopped (*stop shaking*)."

Shake and Stop

## Active Songs / Parachute – choose 3

Caterpillar

Caterpillar, caterpillar, crawl, crawl, crawl, crawl, crawl, crawl,  
crawling on a green leaf, crawling on a green leaf.

crawl, crawl, crawl, crawl, crawl, crawl.

Caterpillar, caterpillar eat, eat, eat, eat, eat, eat,  
eating leaves all day, eating leaves all night,  
eat, eat, eat, eat, eat, eat.

Caterpillar, caterpillar, spin, spin, spin, spin, spin, spin,  
spin a silk cocoon, spin a silk cocoon,  
spin, spin, spin, spin, spin, spin.

Caterpillar, caterpillar, sleep, sleep, sleep, sleep, sleep, sleep,  
sleep in your cocoon, sleep until you bloom,  
sleep, sleep, sleep, sleep, sleep, sleep.

Caterpillar, caterpillar, squirm, squirm, squirm, squirm, squirm, squirm,  
squirm from your cocoon, squirm from your cocoon  
squirm, squirm, squirm, squirm, squirm, squirm,

Caterpillar, caterpillar, fly, fly, fly, fly, fly, fly,  
'cause you're not a caterpillar, you're a great big butterfly, so,  
fly, fly, fly, fly, fly, fly

Shoo Fly – on Shoo Fly part, walk around circle. On Feel Like part, walk in and out the circle

Shoo Fly don't bother me (3x) for I belong to somebody. I feel, I feel, I feel like the morning sun

Looby loo – *walk around a circle on looby part*

Here we go looby loo, here we go looby lie, here we go looby loo, all on a Saturday night

I put my right hand in, I put my right hand out, I give my hand a shake shake shake and turn myself around

Hip Hop (tune Row Your Boat) Hip hip hippety hop, hippety hippety hop, we'll hop around the room today until it's time to stop.

Little Raindrops (London Bridges tune)

Little raindrops falling down,

Falling down, falling down.(gently pat lap)

Little raindrops falling down,

Falling to the ground.

2nd verse - Bigger raindrops (clap hands)

3rd verse - Giant raindrops (stomp feet)

End with Let's Go Round and Round the Circle or Ring Around the Rosie

# Ducks

## Greeting Songs – both songs each week

Roll the Ball: I roll the ball to \_\_\_\_\_. S/he rolls it back to me!

Well hello everybody can you touch your nose, touch your nose, touch your nose.

Well hello everybody can you touch your nose, TOUCH YOUR NOSE ([tune](#))

## Lap Songs – choose 2 from this list

Pop, pop, pop Put the corn in the pot

Pop, pop, pop Shake it 'til it's hot

Pop, pop, pop Lift the lid and what have you got? Popcorn!

A bouncing we will go, a bouncing we will go, hi ho the derry o, a bouncing we will go. A rocking we will go...

You take a little milk, pour some milk

And you take a little cream, pour some cream

You stir it all up You shake it and you'll sing...a 1,2,3,4

Milkshake, milkshake shake it up, shake it up

Milkshake, milkshake shake it all up!

Milkshake, milkshake shake it up, shake it up

Milkshake, milkshake shake it all up!

Trot Trot to Boston

## Finger Songs or Rhymes – choose 2

Where is Thumbkin?

Five Little Ducks went out

Five little ducks went out one day, over the hills and far away. Mama duck said quack quack quack. Four little ducks came running back....

Clap, Clap, Clap

Clap, clap, clap your hands as slowly as you can

Clap, clap, clap your hands as quickly as you can

Pound, pound, pound your hands slowly as you can

Pound, pound, pound your hands as quickly as you can

Shake, shake, shake your hands as quickly as you can

Shake, shake, shake your hands as quickly as you can

Pat, pat, pat, your face as slowly as you can

Pat, pat, pat, your face as quickly as you can

Wiggle Your Fingers

Wiggle your fingers, wiggle them so

Wiggle them high, wiggle them low

Wiggle them left, wiggle them right

Wiggle them, wiggle them out of sight

## Theme Activities / Props –

Week 1 – Book – Little White Duck (play Raffi version:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CiOPIr4GKb0>)

One little duck

One little duck in the pond so blue Called for a friend...Quack

And then there were two.

Two little ducks swimming round with glee Called for a friend...quack, quack

And then there were three.

3 little ducks, paddling near the shore. Called for a friend...quack, quack, quack

And then there were four.

Four little ducks, learning how to dive. Called for a friend..quack, quack, quack, quack

And then there were five.

Five little ducks near the end of day Hear their mothers calling

And they all swim away.

Week 2 – Five Little Ducks that I once knew...

Book – Have You Seen my Duckling

Scarves – Someone is Hiding

Week 3 – Hand out rubber ducks to everyone to talk about. Book – Ten Little Rubber Ducks

There was a little Ducky (source: Library Storytime)

I had a little ducky, He lived in a box.

He swam in a puddle, He climbed on the rocks.

He snapped at a mosquito, He snapped at a flea,

He snapped at a minnow, And he snapped at me!

He caught the mosquito, He caught the flea,

He caught the minnow, But he couldn't catch me!

## Shakers

Shake and Stop

Little Raindrops Falling Down (London Bridges)

Little raindrops falling down, Falling down, falling down. (*gently shake*) Little raindrops falling down, My Fair Lady.

2nd verse – Bigger raindrops (*tap shakers loudly on lap*)

3rd verse – Giant raindrops (*shake shakers on lap loudly and stomp feet at same time*)

## Active Songs / Parachute – choose 2

Walking walking walking walking. Hop Hop Hop. Hop. Hop Hop. Running running running. Running running running. Now we stop, now we stop.

Five little ducks. *Start with kids in the middle, near the “mama duck”. Instead of 5, say # of kids in room*

\_\_\_\_ little ducks went out one day over the hill and far away (*kids walk away from center to edges of room*)

Mama Duck said “Quack Quack Quack” and all the little ducks came running back. (*run back to center*)

Hokey Pokey with Duck Body Parts

You put your WING in... You put your WEBBED FOOT in.... You put your BEAK in...

You put your TAIL FEATHERS in

### Everyone can March

Everyone can March, March, March. (3x) And then we make a stop. Everyone can clap... Everyone can dance... wave...

# Beach / Ocean

## Greeting Songs – both songs each week

Roll the Ball: I roll the ball to \_\_\_\_\_. S/he rolls it back to me!

\_\_\_\_\_ is here today. \_\_\_\_\_ is here today. Let's clap our hands and give a cheer that \_\_\_\_\_ 's here today.

## Lap Songs – choose 2 from this list

Grand Old Duke

Row Row Row Your Boat Usual verse, then...

Row, row, row your boat, Gently down the stream, If you see a crocodile, Don't forget to scream.

Row, row, row your boat, Gently down the Nile, If you see a camel, Don't forget to smile.

Row, row, row your boat, Gently down the river, If you see a polar bear, Don't forget to shiver.

Row, row, row your boat, Gently to the shore, If you see a lion there, Don't forget to roar!

Row, row, row your boat, Gently down the creek, If you see a little mouse, Don't forget to squeak.

My Bonnie (lift baby up each time you say Bonnie)

My Bonnie lies over the ocean My Bonnie lies over the sea

My Bonnie lies over the ocean Oh bring back my Bonnie to me

Bring back, bring back (rock back and forth) Oh bring back my Bonnie to me, to me

Bring back, bring back (rock back and forth) Oh bring back my Bonnie to me

Charlie over the water, Charlie over the sea, Charlie catch a blackbird, can't catch me.  
(*tickle*)

## Finger Songs or Rhymes – choose 2

Crabs are crawling (repeat) on the rocks (repeat) Watch out for their pinchers (repeat)  
Snap, snap, snap! (repeat) Lobsters are crawling...

Baby Shark ([video](#))

Baby shark, Doot-doo, doot-doo-doo-doo Baby shark, Doot-doo, doot-doo-doo-doo

Baby shark, Doot-doo, doot-doo-doo-doo Baby Shark!

Mommy Shark... Daddy shark... Going swimming... See a shark... Swimming fast...  
Safe at last... Bye-bye shark...

Little fish (video of [tune](#) – my words are different)

Little fish, little fish, Swimming in the water,

little fish, little fish, Gulp, gulp, gulp.

Oh no! It's being eaten by a

Bigger fish, bigger fish, Swimming in the water....

Octopus...wiggling... great white shark... lurking... big blue whale.... Spouting... end  
Splash, splash splash instead of gulp

## Theme Activities / Props –

Week 1 – Hand out shells for everyone to explore and talk about. Then do this rhyme

Five little seashells washed up on the shore, Swish went the waves and then there were four.

Four little seashells pretty as could be, Swish went the waves and then there were three.

Three little seashells all shiny and new, Swish went the waves and then there were two.

Two little seashells lying in the sun, Swish went the waves and then there was one.

One little seashell left all alone, Swish went the waves and then there was none.

Five little seashells swept out to sea. Wait until morning and they'll return to me.

Book – 10 Little Rubber Duckies by Carle

Week 2 –

One, two, three, four, five. Once I caught a fish alive.

Six, seven, eight, nine, ten. Then I let him go again.

Why did you let him go? Because he bit my finger so!

Which little finger did he bite? This little finger on the right.

Book: Fish Swish

Week 3 – hand out toy fish for them to explore and talk about.

Book: Over in the Ocean

Week 4 – Book: 10 Little Fish by Wood

## Shakers

Shake and Stop

## Active Songs / Parachute – choose 2

All the Fish (one of us sings, other does bubbles)

All the fish are swimming in the water, Swimming in the water, Swimming in the water

All the fish are swimming in the water (swimming motions with arms)

Bubble, bubble, bubble, bubble...SPLASH! (make hands larger and larger and big clap to SPLASH)

All the ducks are paddling in the water, paddling in the water, paddling in the water

All the ducks are paddling in the water (doggy paddle motion with hands)

Bubble, bubble, bubble, bubble...SPLASH!

All the frogs are jumping in the water, Jumping in the water, Jumping in the water

All the frogs are jumping in the water (jump with both feet)

Bubble, bubble, bubble, bubble...SPLASH!

All the kids are splashing in the water, Splashing in the water, Splashing in the water

All the kids are splashing in the water, (splash hands in the air)

Bubble, bubble, bubble, bubble...SPLASH!

### Jumping on the Beach (Farmer in the Dell)

We're jumping on the beach, We're jumping on the beach,  
We're jumping, jumping, jumping, jumping, jumping on the beach.  
We're digging in the sand, We're digging in the sand,  
We're digging, digging, digging, digging, digging in the sand.  
We're swimming in the sea, We're swimming in the sea,  
We're swimming, swimming, swimming, swimming, swimming in the sea.

### Fish in the Ocean (Wheels on the Bus)

The fish in the ocean go swim, swim swim. Swim, swim, swim. Swim, swim, swim!  
The fish in the ocean go swim, swim, swim. All day long!  
The octopus in the ocean goes wiggle.... Sharks chomp.... Crabs pinch... sea horse  
rocks...

End with Ring Around the Rosie, Mulberry Bush, or Let's Go Round and Round the  
Circle