Indiana Early Literacy Firefly Award

- 2019 -

Program Guide

Indiana Early Literacy Firefly Award

Talking • Singing • Reading • Writing

5 Years

#INfireflyaward

Indiana Center for the Book Director - Suzanne Walker icb@library.in.gov Indiana State Library www.in.gov/library/icb.htm

TeachingBooks.net®
This guide includes:

- Combination Storytime using all five books
- *A Hippy-Hoppy Toad* Storytime Ideas
- *Jabari Jumps* Storytime Ideas
- *There’s a Monster in Your Book* Storytime Ideas
- *Hello Hello* Storytime Ideas
- *Play This Book* Storytime Ideas
- Bonus Firefly Storytime Ideas - Indiana’s official state insect, Say’s Firefly
- Firefly information sheet from Indiana Nature Conservancy
- How to Vote and Voting Ideas
- Publicity Resources

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Combination Storytime Using All Five Nominees

It can be hard to get through five books in one storytime, however, you might find it difficult to vote with your group unless they experience all five nominees in one sitting. Here’s a storytime planned for you using all five 2019 nominated titles.

Setup: Consider scanning and printing out the covers of all five books in a smaller size and attaching them to a flannel board to make a visual timeline of your storytime. Take them off your timeline after you finish reading each book. This will help the children visually see progress through the storytime.

Opening Song: Welcome your participants in your typical way. Be sure to tell them to pay special attention to which book is their favorite. Sing your opening song. Here’s a simple one to try:

If You’re Ready for a Story - Tune: If You’re Happy and You Know It

If you’re ready for a story, clap your hands. *clap *clap
If you’re ready for a story, clap your hands. *clap *clap
If you’re ready for a story, if you’re ready for a story, clap your hands. *clap *clap

Additional Verses: If you’re ready for a story nod your head, rub your tummy, stomp your feet, sit so still...

Read: A Hippy-Hoppy Toad - As you read the book, use the magnet board that can be found on pages 8-10 for A Hippy-Hoppy Toad. This will help the children follow along with all the action in the story. Don’t forget to take this book (and future books) off your timeline when you’ve finished reading it.

The Numbers Jump: Jump like a toad and work on numbers! This is a great song off an older album; Kindergarten Sing & Learn by the Wonder Kids Choir. Parents can do this with babies too, by lifting them off their laps.

The Numbers Jump
Jump, jump, the numbers jump.
See what you can do! Be a kangaroo!
And jump, jump, the numbers jump.
Everybody here we go.
Jump one time (jump), Jump two times (jump, jump), Jump thee times (jump, jump, jump)...
Counting as we go. (Repeat with 4, 5, 6 and then with 7, 8, 9, and 10...you will be tired by 10.)

Learn the song here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y-rfooWU640

Read: Jabari Jumps - Jumping is fun, but jumping off a diving board can be scary.

Read: There’s a Monster in Your Book - Something else that can be scary is a monster. Read this book and work together to try to get the monster out of the book.
**Song:** Let’s sing good night to the monster and hello to the animals in the next book. As with most songs, it’s great if you can repeat it a few times. Are you a strummer? Try using a guitar or a ukulele in storytime. Remember, you can always make up words to tailor songs to your theme. This is especially easy if you play an instrument. If you want the children to play along, pass out egg shakers or other simple instruments.

**Goodnight Little Monster / Hello Animals -** **Tune:** *Wheels on the Bus*

Add simple hand motions to say goodbye to the Monster and hello to the animals in the next book.

```
D
Goodnight little monster, see you next time.
A   D
See you next time. See you next time.
D
Goodnight little monster, see you next time.
A   D
I can’t wait!

D
Hello to the animals in this book.
A   D
In this book. In this book.
D
Hello to the animals in the book.
A   D
I can’t wait!
```

**Read:** *Hello Hello* - Print out the word “Hello” and attach it to your felt board. Point to the word when you say “Hello” in the first few pages of the book and encourage the group to say and wave “Hello” as well. Soon, you won’t need to point anymore. When you are done, remove the book jacket from your visual timeline.

**Hello!**

**Read:** *Play This Book* - There is only one book left on your timeline! *Play This Book* is wonderful to share one on one with a child, as well as with a group. Read the book, paying special attention to the many sounds. Encourage the children to stand while you read and act out playing the various instruments. They can play the drum on their knees.

**Voting:** There are voting methods included in the back of this guide. If you need something super quick, just have the children raise their hands for their favorite book. The trick will be having them raise their hands only one time!

**Goodbye song followed by Play Time:** This is a nice good bye song to try. Try teaching it and repeating it.

**Thanks for Coming**

*Tune:* *Oh My Darling Clementine*

Thanks for sitting, thanks for listening,
Thanks for coming here today!
Now that storytime is over
Hope you have a lovely day!
**A Hippy-Hoppy Toad**

**A Hippy-Hoppy Toad** by Peggy Archer and Anne Wilsdorf

This book celebrates movement! A *Hippy-Hoppy Toad* takes you on a fun adventure following a hippy hoppy toad and the different characters he meets along his unpredictable journey. Read about the author and illustrator on TeachingBooks.net. Start by navigating to INSPIRE.in.gov. Click on the TeachingBooks.net icon. Click on it again, then choose Public Library or Public School. Search for any of the Firefly nominees for more activities for each book or for information on the authors and illustrators.

**Talking:** Use the “action” words (the colorful and bold words from the story) and write them out or put them on a felt board. Before you even start the story, have the children say these words with you. This way, when you read the story they can join in! For extra pizzazz, make the words the same color they are in the story.


**Singing:** This is a great tune to start with. This song is able to get all of the kids engaged in storytime and introduces movement. If you don’t know the tune, it is easily found online.

**Wake up Toes** by Joanie Bartels

* Wake up toes, wake up toes!
* Wake up toes and wiggle, wiggle, wiggle!
* Wake up toes, wake up toes!
* Wake up so early in the morning!

Continue with feet, hands, me, etc.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If You’re Hoppy and You Know It</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tune: <em>If You’re Happy and You Know It</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>If you’re hoppy and you know it, hop around</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
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<tr>
<td>If you’re hoppy and you know it, hop around</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
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<tr>
<td>If you’re hoppy and you know it</td>
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<tr>
<td>C</td>
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<tr>
<td>And you really want to show it</td>
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<tr>
<td>G</td>
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<tr>
<td>If you’re hoppy and you know it, hop around.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>…shake your hips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>…stomp your feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>…catch a fly</td>
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Toad Craft on next page!
**Reading:** Try adding some of these books in your *A Hippy-Hoppy Toad* storytime. These books celebrate movement, hopping, and jumping!

- *A Hippy-Hoppy Toad* by Peggy Archer - Indiana Author
- *Rain!* by Linda Ashman
- *Hop, Hop, Jump!* by Lauren Thompson
- *Wiggle* by Doreen Cronin
- *Everybunny Dance* by Ellie Sandall
- *Dance With Me* by Charles R. Smith Jr.

**Flannel or Magnet Board:** On the following pages are pieces that you can print out and attach to flannel pieces or magnets. Use them as you read *A Hippy-Hoppy Toad*!

**Writing:** Get your kids using their fingers in these product crafts that will help them practice following directions and lineal thinking.

**Create a Toad:** Use a variety of colors of construction paper colors and pre-cut out a toad body, head, and legs of one color, and some spots in different colors. Use browns, yellows, and greens for some variety in your amphibians. Let the kids decide how many spots they want to add. Provide googly eyes (or eye stickers) and let the child draw the toad’s face. Allow the child to choose the emotion.

This craft is a product craft. Children will get to practice following directions. Children can also get creative with the face they give the toad, and the colors and positioning of the spots. Don’t make a “model” craft. This sometimes serves to diminish creativity in children because they want their craft to match yours.

**Jumping Toad Cup Craft:** This takes some preparation but is a lot of fun. You can use this craft with different animals like frogs, toads, kangaroos, or bunnies. Take a paper cup and cut four slits in the top of the cup down about 1/2 an inch. They should be oriented around the cup in quarters. Take a rubber bands and cut it in half. Stretch one piece across the mouth of the cup and tie knots in each end. Repeat with the 2nd band. Slide the knotted bands into the slits you made, creating a cross. Turn the cup over and decorate this cup to look like a toad. In order to make it jump, push this cup down on top of another cup and let go. Let the jumping fun begin! For more information and to see pictures of this craft, search for “Jumping Bunny Cup Craft.”

**Playing:** Try these fun hopping games to get your storytime attendees moving!

**HOP! HOP!** Have the children start on their “teeter-totter twig.” Lay out carpet squares or use a rug you already have out and have the children HOP! Have a picture of each character Toad met along his journey (bird, bee, cricket, dog, lizard, leaf, the shoe) and land back on the “teeter-totter twig.” Hopping is an important skill to learn and the children will have fun being toads!

**Follow the Leader:** Choose different movements: jump, hop, skip, walk etc. Encourage the kids to take turns choosing a movement when they are the leader. Have ideas in case they need guidance.
A Hippy-Hoppy Toad

Templates for Toad Craft
A Hippy-Hoppy Toad

Shoe and flower image used with permission.
A Hippy-Hoppy Toad by Peggy Archer
Illustrated by Anna Wilsdorf
Published by Penguin Random House
A Hippy-Hoppy Toad
A Hippy-Hoppy Toad
Jabari Jumps

Jabari Jumps by Gaia Cornwall

Jabari Jumps is a great book for using with all types of storytime themes like summer, swimming and family. This is also a perfect book to talk about the bravery needed behind that big leap of faith. Activity guides for this book are available on TeachingBooks.net via INSPIRE.in.gov.

Talking: Ask children if they swim and if they’ve ever jumped in a pool. Invite children to share at whatever level they are able.

Have you had the experience of jumping from a diving board or simply jumping in puddles?
Were you scared or surprised?
What other new things have you recently tried?

Singing: There are so many fun action songs that involve jumping, it’s hard to choose just a few. Have children stretch and take a big breath just like Jabari before you begin jumping together using any of these songs or your favorites:

- Jumping and Counting by Jim Gill
- The Goldfish by The Laurie Berkner Band
- Jump and Fly by The Laurie Berkner Band
- Jump Up! by Ladybug Music

Child Jump Down and Up - Tune: Sally Go Round the Sun
Don’t forget, if you are a strummer, you can easily change words to popular storytime songs to suit your needs. This is a very easy song to play with just two easy chords. Instead of saying the word “child,” use the names of your storytime kids. Go around the circle and let every child have a turn!

D
Child jump down and up,
D
Child jump here and everywhere,
D
Child jump up and down,
A7
And all around the town.

Reading: Additional books you could use in a storytime about swimming, jumping, or bravery:

- Jump, Little Wood Ducks by Maureen Dane Bauer - The photographs of wood ducklings up in a tree make a terrific comparison with Jabari Jumps. Do birds get scared to try new things too?
- Pool by Jihyeon Lee - Don’t be afraid of trying wordless picture books during storytime. Ask your participants to help you tell the story. This one is about a shy boy and his adventure in a pool.
- Leo Can Swim by Anna McQuinn - Father & son at a pool with a cozy focus rather than a bold one.
- Benny Shark Goes to Friend School by Lynn Row Reed - Indiana Author - Benny is a shark who is also a bully, but he wants some friends. He gets a great recommendation to go to Friend School.
- A Brave Bear by Sean Taylor - This father/child duo is motivated to face the fear of crossing the forest in order to cool off in the river. Lots of great parallels with Jabari Jumps.
Writing: The writing component in the Every Child Ready to Read® program is really about allowing children time to practice their fine motor skills. Try one of these activities that that focuses on fine motor skills or choose one of your own.

**What sinks? What floats?** This is a fun activity to do with kids. Fill up a few shallow storage bins with water and give the children some items to see if they will sink or float. Be sure the items are big enough not to get lost or not to be a choking hazard. Try things like metal spoons, small empty plastic bottles, craft sticks, blocks, plastic toys, or full plastic bottles. Children will enjoy the sensory input of the water while having fun working on a simple STEM activity.

**“Goggle” Craft:** This is a fairly open-ended craft that pairs well with *Jabari Jumps*. Jabari sports some pretty cool “goggles.” Make some in storytime! Just precut your goggles and hand them out to your children. Have them decorate them however they want. Attach them with some yarn or with a taped piece of construction paper.

Playing: There are lots of Mother Goose rhymes that have to do with jumping. Mother Goose is great for storytimes. Don’t assume that all the parents in your storytime will know all the words. Help them out by passing out words on take-home sheets, putting them on your flannel board, or projecting them onto a wall.

**Hey Diddle Diddle**
This one is great for a flannel board. You can also have the children all jump together like the cow.

*Hey diddle diddle*
*The cat and the fiddle*
*The cow jumped over the moon*
*The little dog laughed*
*To see such a sport*
*And the dish ran away with the spoon*

**Jack Be Nimble**
Make a pretend candle and have the children take turns trying to jump over.

*Jack be nimble*
*Jack be quick*
*Jack jump over the candlestick!*

**Ring Around the Rosie**
Children love *Ring Around the Rosie*. This version has the mysterious second verse where you all jump up after falling down.

*Ring-a-round the rosie,*
*A pocket full of posies,*
*Ashes! Ashes!*
*We all fall down!*

*The cows are in the meadows,*
*They’re eating buttercups*
*Thunder, lightning (pound the floor with hands)*
*We all jump up!*

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**Jabari Jumps**

*Gaia Cornwall*
Consider making this craft before you read the book. You can pre-cut the goggles. If you want the children to practice cutting, be sure to at least pre-cut the eye holes. Give each child goggles to decorate however they want. Add a piece of yarn so the children can wear the goggles while you read the book!

**For each craft you will need:**

- 1 cut out template for goggles
  - (Try cardstock for sturdier goggles or construction paper for colorful goggles.)
- 1 length of yarn to fit child’s head
- Scraps to decorate with
- Glue stick
- Stickers (optional)
- Crayons (optional)

Copy the goggle template as many times as you want on your pieces of paper and run them through the copier. Three goggles will fit on one piece of 8.5 x 11 paper. Cut out goggles, using a hole punch for the sides. Don’t forget to cut out the eye holes. Allow the children to decorate them however they want.

**Note:** A product craft is one where the end product is pretty much the same for each child. For example a craft where children glue together three circles to make a snowman. This type of craft is helpful for developing linear thinking and for practicing following directions.

A process craft focuses more on the process the child undergoes to make the craft. Process crafts encourage creativity and independent thought. In this craft, the template allows for all the children to do the same craft, but the process of decorating it can be different for each child.
There’s a Monster In Your Book

There’s a Monster in Your Book by Tom Fletcher, illustrated by Greg Abbott

A storytime about monsters is a great way to get children using their imaginations. As with all your storytimes, be sure to choose elements that will allow children to Talk, Sing, Read, Write (work on their fine motor skills), and Play. Playing is especially easy with monsters. Learn more about the author and illustrator on TeachingBooks.net via INSPIRE.in.gov.

Talking: Start your storytime off by having a chat about your chosen theme. Depending on the age of your children you might kick things off by asking any of these questions:

What do you think a monster looks like? How do you feel about monsters? Do monsters have to be scary? How do you feel about monsters?

Singing: There are lots of great monster songs out there. If you can’t find one you like, just use a song you know and change the words up to be about monsters!

This is the Way a Monster Goes
Tune: Here We Go ‘Round the Mulberry Bush

C
This is the way a monster goes (stomp feet)
G7
They have big feet (lift and shake one foot)
G7
And furry toes (lift and shake the other foot)
C
They stamp along and make big bangs (stamp and clap)
G7
And when they smile they show their fangs! (grin with teeth)
C
This is the way a monster goes (stomp feet)
G7
With wiggly eyes and (peek through circled fingers)
G7
Great big nose (gesture a big nose)
C
With spiky horns (gesture big horns on head)
C
And big sharp claws (hold fingers out like claws)
G7
A gulp of breath before they roar! (big breath in and roar!)

Monster Pokey
Tune: The Hokey Pokey

You put your claws in.
You put your claws out.
You put your claws in and you shake them all about.
You do the Monster Pokey and you turn yourself around.
That’s what it’s all about.
Add in horns, tail, teeth, etc.

Lots of other songs can be monster songs. Try some of these!

- Baby Shark
- Did You Ever See a Monster?
- Five Little Monsters
- Going on a Monster Hunt
- Monster Boogie by Laurie Berkner
- One Little, Two Little Three Little Monsters
There’s a Monster In Your Book

Reading: There are lots of books that you could use in a monster storytime. Use your favorites, or try out one of these.

- Monster Party by Annie Bach
- Go Away Big Green Monster by Ed Emberley
- Monster Trouble by Lane Fredrickson
- Monsters Don’t Eat Broccoli by Barbara Jean Hicks
- I Need My Monster by Amanda Noll
- Where the Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak
- I Loathe You by David Slonim - Indiana Author
- Leonardo the Terrible Monster by Mo Willems

Writing: The writing component in the Every Child Ready to Read® program is really about allowing children time to practice their fine motor skills. This is why we do crafts in storytime. Try out any of these craft activities, or try out the Monster Mask craft on the next page.

- Monster Painting: Give each child a piece of paper, a toothbrush, watercolors and a water cup. Let their imaginations run wild with how their monster looks.

- Monster Mosaic: This is a great way to use scraps! Every child needs a piece of plain paper and a glue stick. Don’t just use white paper for the background. Get creative by using black or another color. Children can use scraps of paper (tissue, construction, anything) to create their own monster. Provide them with googly eyes or pre cut teeth. It’s fun to see what they come up with!

Playing: Playing is one of the most important thing a child can do. Remember that when children are playing, they are learning. Play comes in lots of different flavors from pretending to exploring a toy to physical play like being active with the whole body.

- Act Out the Book: Get the kids wiggling, spinning, tilting, shaking, and jumping to mimic the movements of the book.

- Block Play: Pull out blocks and build monsters with them.

- Action Rhyme: Try this fun action rhyme modified from Teddy Bear
  Teddy Bear Turn Around.

  Monster, monster, (repeat monster, monster each time) turn around / touch the ground / reach up high / touch the sky / touch your nose / grab your toes / touch your knees / sit down please!
There’s a Monster In Your Book

Making masks with children is a fun way to boost their imaginative play. The hardest thing about making any mask is cutting out the eye holes. Make it easy on yourself by using some kind of circle cutter. This mask uses a circle cutter made for a 2 and one quarter inch button maker circle cutter. The eye holes are big, but that will allow for the child to see well.

For each craft you will need:

- 1 large paper plate
- 1 craft stick for the handle
- Glue stick
- Piece of tape
- Crayons

Pre-cut the eye holes, the teeth, and the horns. Feel free to cut any kind of triangles for the teeth, or use the templates provided. During storytime, have the children color the monster whatever color they want, being sure to color a mouth. Have the child glue on the horns and the teeth.

Note: This craft is basically a product craft. The end result for each child will be about the same, however, you can allow for some creativity.

Don't show the children a pre-made mask. Allow them to color the mask however they want. Provide horns in a variety of colors and don’t worry if they use teeth for horns or horns for teeth.

The process of doing the craft is more important than the end products all looking the same.
Hello Hello by Brendan Wenzel

This is not strictly an opposites book. In *Hello Hello*, Brendan Wenzel uses language more like poetry to include some pages describing opposites, like “Hello Quiet Hello Loud,” and some pages describing other details, like “Hello Pattern Hello Pose.” The sparse, poetic text leaves lots of room for marveling over the pictures. They’re so fun, with great patterns, and colors in every shade. Spend some time examining how Wenzel made each animal match its neighbor in at least one physical attribute. Check out the book trailer on TeachingBooks.net via INSPIRE.in.gov!

Talking: Read *Do Pigs Have Stripes* and make sure everyone knows that they’re welcome to talk during the story; it’s an entire book of questions! Have fun getting responses from kids as you go and don’t be afraid to ask your own questions: *How did you know what animal it really was? Have you ever seen one of those? Etc.*

Singing: Two great animal songs for kids to act out are “The Goldfish” by Laurie Berkner (on her *Victor Vito* or *Best Of* CDs) and “Hop Little Squirrel” by Red Yarn (on his *Wake Up and Sing* CD). Encourage everyone to listen carefully as the songs go along and then join in for the motions you’ve decided will work best for your storytime group.

**Five Green and Speckled Frogs**

G
Five green and speckled frogs
C
Sat on a speckled log
G                  D
Eating the most delicious bugs (Yum Yum!)
G
One jumped into the pool
C
Where it was nice and cool
G                  D7       G
Now there are four green speckled frogs.
Croak! Croak!

Continue counting down to one, singing the last part of the song as *Now there are NO green speckled frogs.*

Reading: There are lots of books about animals. Try some of these to think about animal parts, comparing animals, and the uniqueness of the animal kingdom.

*Paddle, Perch, Climb: Bird Feet Are Neat*  
by Laurie Ellen Angus

*The Mixed-Up Chameleon*  
by Eric Carle

*Sometimes I Feel Like a Fox*  
by Danielle Daniel

*The Wide Mouthed Frog*  
by Keith Faulkner

*Ten Little Rabbits*  
by Virginia Grossman

*Pet Show*  
by Ezra Jack Keats

*What Do You Do With a Tail Like This?*  
by Steve Jenkins & Robin Page

*Just One Bite*  
by Lola Schaefer - Indiana Author
**Writing:** To cover the writing category of the Every Child Ready to Read® program, focus on fine motor skills that develop the wrists, hands, and fingers. Try out these craft ideas or choose one of your own.

**Wiggle Arms Octopus Craft:** For this craft you will need paper plates, markers or crayons, pipe cleaners, hole punch, and 1 inch straws pieces. Help the children punch 8 holes around one edge of the plate, or do this before storytime. The children then color a face for their octopus. Have kids attach 8 pipe cleaners for the arms by threading the end of each wire through the holes and around the main part of the wire. Slide on several straw pieces then bend the end to keep them from coming off.

**If I Had a Tail:** For this craft you will need 11 x 17 or larger white paper, markers or crayons, scissors, and tape. Look back through the pages of Hello Hello and talk about all the nifty tails you see. Give everyone paper and markers and encourage them to make an animal tail related to something they saw in the book. When their tail is colored and cut out, have their adult tape it to them so they can ‘try out’ their new tail.

**Playing:** One of the things that play teaches children is the advanced concept that one thing can stand in for, or represent, something else. When a child pretends to be an elephant, they are understanding that the motions and sounds they are making mean, or represent, “elephant.” This is a similar concept to learning that the letters e-l-e-p-h-a-n-t stand in for, or represent, the concept of “elephant.”

**Sorting:** Animals can be categorized in all sorts of ways. Get a pile of animal pictures, toy animals, or puppets, and ask children to sort them by color. Try other ways of sorting, like number of legs, fur, feathers, and scales, or pets vs non-pets. The fantastic thing about this activity is you can talk while you do it and get some great vocabulary in while you play this early math game.

**Let's Pretend:** Sometimes it’s fun to ‘be’ an animal! In this simple group game, ask for a volunteer who would like to pretend to be an animal. Introduce your volunteer to the group then tell everyone what animal he/she is going to act out. After a few seconds of watching the volunteer, encourage everyone to do the same things as they act out that animal too. Help kids label the actions by naming the motions you see the volunteer doing. Give more kids turns at leading the group in pretending to be an animal.
Play This Book

Play This Book by Jessica Young, illustrated by Daniel Wiseman

This book celebrates instruments! As you read the book, be sure to turn it so that it looks like you are playing a saxophone, a guitar, or beating on a drum. This is a great book for exploring instruments and music.

Talking: Bring in some instruments! Children love getting to have tactile experiences with new things. Do you own any instruments or have friends with instruments? Some symphonies have instruments that they lend for programming with children. Perhaps the high school in your community will lend you a few instruments that you can show and tell about in storytime.

What sound do you think this instrument makes?
Do any of you play instruments?
How do you feel when you beat a drum?
How does music make you feel?
Do different kinds of music make you feel different emotions?

Singing: It’s a given that you want to incorporate a lot of music into your music storytime. Go out on a limb and play a pop tune that may be familiar to the parents that are attending your storytime. Taylor Swift’s song *Shake It Off* would be a great song to pair with parachute time. Parents might get a chuckle out of rocking out with their children. Consider purchasing a new storytime album to expand your music selection. Try one of these artists: Barenaked Ladies, Laurie Berkner, Caspar Babypants, Jim Gill, Imagination Movers, Eric Litwin and the Learning Groove, Kathy Reid-Naiman, They Might Be Giants, or The Wiggles. There are many great artists that create songs perfect for storytime.

**We Ring Our Bells Together**
Mother Goose On the Loose
Adapted by Barbara Cass-Beggs

This is a great song for using with any instrument you like. Give one to each participant and sing along together. If you are strumming this one, you might want an assistant to model the song.

C
We ring our bells together
E
We ring our bells together
G
We ring out bells together
E C
Because it’s fun to do.
Repeat

Ring them up high! (Sing in a high voice while playing your instrument up high.)
Ring them down low... (Sing in a low voice while playing your instrument down low.)
Ring them in the middle... (Sing in a middle voice while playing your instrument in middle.)

C
We ring our bells together
E
We ring our bells together
G
We ring out bells together
E C
Because it’s fun to do.

We play our drums together...
We shake shakers together...
We click clickers together...
Play This Book

**Reading:** There are lots of books that you could use in a music or movement storytime. Use your favorites or try out one of these.

- *My Family Plays Music* by Judy Cox
- *Dancing Feet!* by Lindsey Craig
- *Violet’s Music* by Angela Johnson
- *Squeak, Rumble, Whomp! Whomp! Whomp!* by Wynton Marsalis
- *Mole Music* by David M. McPhail
- *I Got the Rhythm* by Connie Schofield Morrison
- *Music Class Today!* by David Weinstone
- *Tanka Tanka Skunk* by Steve Webb
- *Music Everywhere!* by Maya Ajmera, Elise Hofer Derstine - Indiana Author, and Cynthia Pon

**Writing:** When children get ready to write their alphabet, it’s really helpful if they are familiar with direction words like up, down, across, and even diagonal. Doing activities that allow children to move their arms and hands up and down and all around help them practice this skill.

**Song in My Tummy Scribble Activity:** Play the song “Song in My Tummy” by Laurie Berkner. Have the children listen to the song and draw or scribble in time to the music. Give children the outline of a person located on the next page so they can follow along with the song. Let them get creative and draw whatever the music inspires them to draw. The lyrics talk about a song being inside your tummy, toes, nose, bones, and heart, and it wants to come out!

**Make and Decorate an Instrument:** For young children, making an instrument can be tough, but with a parent’s help, it’s totally possible for you to do this in storytime. Ideas include a rubberband guitar, shakers made with coffee cans and beans, and rainsticks made with cardboard tubes, rice, and wax paper. Do a search for preschool instrument crafts and you’ll find plenty.

**Playing:** Many songs for storytime really lend themselves to playing. With a storytime focused on music try parachute time, or Jim Gill’s “Silly Dance Contest.”

**Marching Band:** Give each storytime child (or parent while carrying a child) an instrument. Good instruments for little ones include shakers, cymbals, tambourines and drums. Play a fun marching song and march around in a circle. Switch directions from time to time. Involve the whole library and march through your building!

**Dancing Ribbons:** Dancing with ribbons is a great way to help children work on their directional movement. You can use store bought ribbons or just make some by sewing long ribbons onto hair scrunchies. The children can put them around their wrists for a dance party. Be sure to have them move their arms across their bodies. This allows them to practice crossing the body’s midline which is an important developmental skill for all kinds of things including core stability and hand dominance.

*Be sure to go to TeachingBooks.net via the INSPIRE databases (INSPIRE.in.gov) to access even more resources for all of the Firefly books!"
Outline for “Song in My Tummy”
Need some more storytime ideas? Look no further than this bonus section about Indiana’s new state insect, the firefly. Here’s a bit about the history of fireflies in Indiana:

Say’s Firefly became Indiana’s state insect when legislation proclaiming it as such was signed by Gov. Eric Holcomb on March 23, 2018. Not only is this species of firefly native to Indiana, it also is named after a Hoosier—Thomas Say. Say is considered the Father of North American Entomology and has also been called the Father of American Zoology. Entomology is the science and study of insects. Zoology is the science and study of animals. Say was living in New Harmony, in Posey County, when he first described the Say’s Firefly, in 1826. - Indiana Department of Natural Resources

**Talking:** Anytime you do a storytime with a natural theme like fireflies, the water cycle, gardening, or weather, consider passing out deeds to the Children of Indiana Nature Park. Explain the park to your parents and have pre-made deeds printed out. Learn more about the park here: www.ilovemyland.org. Another way to get your attendees talking is to see what they already know about fireflies.

What are they? When do we see them? What other names do we know them by?
What should we do with fireflies we catch? (Return them to nature.)

**Singing:** Here are two favorite storytime songs changed up to match the firefly theme. In addition, some popular recording artists have created songs about fireflies. You might remember the popular song “Fireflies” by the group Owl City. The lyrics go, “I like to make myself believe / that planet earth turns slowly...” The rest of the song is all about fireflies. This would be a great calming song to play while having bubble time or free drawing time. Laurie Berkner also has a lullaby called “Fireflies.” You can learn it here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4OjsLiFrS1Q.

**Twinkle Twinkle Firefly**
Tune: Twinkle Twinkle Little Star

D           G      A      D
Twinkle twinkle firefly,
G         D         A         D
How I watch you in the night.
D         G
I see you sparkle,
D          A
I see you shine,
D         G         D         A
I hold you in these hands of mine.
D         G      A      D
Twinkle twinkle firefly,
G         D         A         D
A world of wonder flashing by.

**The Firefly at Night**
Tune: The Wheels on the Bus

The firefly at night goes
Blink, blink, blink,
Blink, blink, blink,
Blink, blink, blink.

The firefly at night goes
Blink, blink, blink,
All around the town.

Additional words:
Flash, flash, flash
Spark, spark, spark
Shine, shine, shine
**Bonus Firefly Storytime Ideas**

**Reading:** Remember that nonfiction books are also great additions to your storytimes. Try a nonfiction book about fireflies and both you and your participants could learn something new!

- *The Very Lonely Firefly* by Eric Carle
- *Fireflies* by Mary R. Dunn
- *Among a Thousand Fireflies* by Helen Frost - Indiana Author
- *It’s a Firefly Night* by Dianne Ochiltree and Betsy Snyder
- *Ten Flashing Fireflies* by Philemon Sturges

The book *Ten Flashing Fireflies* by Philemon Sturges is a great book for a flannel or magnet board. Locate a glass jar. Print off two copies of the fireflies on the next page and prep them for your flannel or magnet board. As you tell the story, add the fireflies to your jar. Don’t forget the important step of releasing the fireflies at the end of the story.

**Writing:** From glow-in-the dark Band-Aids to miniature flashlights, there are lots of ways to make firefly crafts in your storytime. Search for your own or try this fun parent/child activity.

**Thumbprint Firefly Drawing:** Have the parent draw a picture of a jar on a piece of paper (or provide one for them). Using either stamp pads or markers, the parent can assist the child in making thumbprints inside the jar. Finish up the fireflies by adding some antennae and wings with a black crayon.

**Playing:** There are lots of ways to play “firefly.” Pass out flashlights and play a firefly song while blinking your lights, or try one of these ideas.

**Five Little Fireflies**

You can do this as a flannel board, using the five fireflies on the next page.

- **One little firefly shines very bright.**
  (put one firefly on your board/have the children put up 1 finger)
- **Two little fireflies show their lights.**
  (add another/have the children put up 2 fingers)
- **Three little fireflies glimmer and glow.**
  (add another/have the children put up 3 fingers)
- **Four little fireflies watch them go!**
  (add another/have the children put up 4 fingers)
- **Five little fireflies fly in the night.**
  (add another/have the children put up 5 fingers)
- **Blink! Blink! Blink! Blink!**
  (blinking motion with hands)
- **Oh what a sight!**
  (jazz hands)
Bonus Firefly Storytime Ideas
Chasing after the blinking glow of fireflies on a warm, summer evening is a favorite childhood memory for many Hoosiers.

Fireflies, also called lightning bugs or glow worms, are winged beetles known for their bioluminescence in the twilight hours. **Bioluminescence** is a chemical reaction that allows fireflies to produce a cold light that emits little to no heat.

Fireflies glow to communicate with potential mates as well as predators. When attracting a mate, it all comes down to the twinkle. Every species of firefly has its own distinct pattern of flashing their light-producing bottoms. Males and females of the same species will flash this pattern to notify each other of their presence.

Fireflies also glow to warn predators to stay away. Most species of fireflies are filled with a nasty tasting chemical. Predators who have had a mouthful of this chemical quickly learn to associate the firefly’s glow with a very bad taste.

**Have You Noticed Fewer Fireflies?**
Unfortunately, we may be chasing after fewer and fewer of these magical insects each summer. Populations are dwindling throughout our country and the world.

Most scientists and researchers believe that development and light pollution are driving them away. Most species of fireflies are born and thrive in the rotting wood and understory of forests near lakes and ponds. As they grow, they tend to stay near where they are born. As more forests and open fields are developed, their habitat becomes threatened.

Light pollution - the excessive use of artificial light - may also be driving firefly populations down. Fireflies use their bioluminescence to attract mates. If too much light surrounds their habitat, there is a chance that males and females won’t find each other to mate. Less mating means fewer fireflies, which means fewer chances for Hoosiers to enjoy chasing fireflies on a warm, summer evening.

**YOU CAN HELP**

Join Firefly Watch!
The Museum of Science in Boston, MA, is asking the public for help in recording the number of times they see fireflies during the summer.

Firefly Watch combines summer evening fun with scientific research. Join a national network of citizen scientists by observing your own backyard and help scientists map fireflies.

Learn about Firefly Watch and sign up to participate today.

massaudubon.org/get-involved/citizen-science/firefly-watch

**HOW TO CATCH A FIREFLY**

Catching fireflies is fun and a great way to observe them up close. To avoid harming a firefly, collect it with a net. Then gently place it in a jar containing a moist paper towel for humidity. After you’ve gotten a good look, remember to let your fireflies go where you found them. If you handle fireflies, make sure you don’t have any insect repellent on your hands, and wash your hands carefully when you’re done.
Voting

Voting: Vote however works for you, but here are a few ideas.

Use the Ballot:
The ballot for the Indiana Early Literacy Firefly Award is purposefully easy for small children to use with an adult helping them. Have your Firefly storytime. Print out enough ballots for each child. Pass them out to their caregivers along with a crayon. Have them interact to determine which book was the child’s favorite. The child can point to the picture and the child or the parent can circle the book. Collect the ballots and then tally up the numbers.

Use a Manipulative:
Give every child one manipulative to represent their one vote. This could be a cut out circle, an image of a firefly, a beanbag, or whatever you have. Place the books in a row on a low table or on the floor. Put a basket in front of each book. Have the children put their manipulative in the basket that corresponds to their favorite book. Pack these up quickly, and tally the votes later.

Use a Voting Board:
Create a voting board similar to the one below. Keep stickers at the desk and issue them when children and parents ask for them. This will give your community a chance to see how their votes are stacking up.

Indiana Early Literacy Firefly Award—Vote on this state award for the best picture book for ages 0-5!
Ask us for a sticker! Vote on your favorite!

Each child can vote on the Firefly Award only one time. Read the five books with your child. Give your child a sticker from our Youth Services desk and have your child put the sticker above the book that they enjoyed the most. These votes will be sent to the statewide competition to help determine which book will win the 2019 award!
Publicity Resources

Feel free to promote the Firefly award to patrons at your library. You have permission to use the Firefly logos on your website, in your newsletters, and on social media to promote and support the award, the voting, and any Firefly storytimes you might have. For your convenience, some of our logos are below.

Feel free to write to the Indiana Center for the Book if you need a higher resolution image: icb@library.in.gov.

Font: The Firefly font that is featured in our logo is one that is standard on most computers. It can be found by searching for High Tower Text. Feel free to use it when promoting the award in print or on your website.

Colors: There are four colors that make up the Firefly Logo. Our colors and their RGB coordinates are listed here. The last color is just the standard black.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Color</th>
<th>RGB Coordinates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lime green</td>
<td>R: 180, G: 211, B: 52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>R: 244, G: 125, B: 42</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lavender</td>
<td>R: 198, G: 190, B: 222</td>
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