

# Fascinating Families

## Rhymes & Resources

Compiled by  
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&  
Sue Eilers



# The Family in the Den

(Mary Marshall & Sue Eilers)  
Tune: "The Farmer in the Dell"

The family in the den  
The family in the den.  
Hum ho to bed we go.  
The family in the den.

The baby goes to bed  
The baby goes to bed.  
Hum ho to bed we go.  
The baby goes to bed.

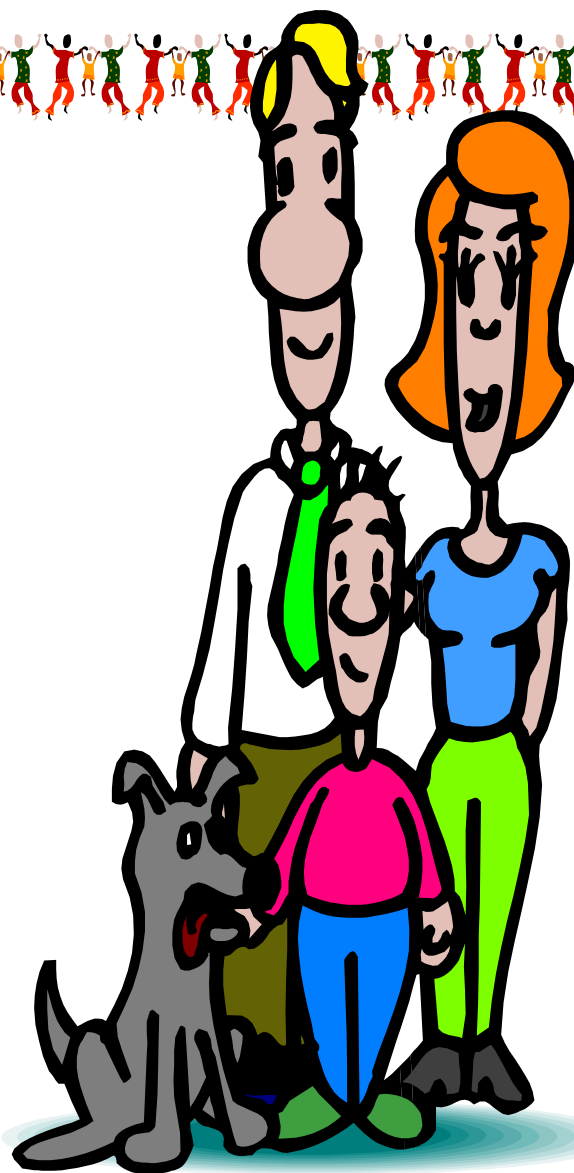
The sister goes to bed [*baby chooses sister*]  
The sister goes to bed.  
Hum ho to bed we go.  
The sister goes to bed.

The brother goes to bed [*sister chooses brother*]  
The brother goes to bed.  
Hum ho to bed we go.  
The brother goes to bed.

The grandma goes to bed  
[*brother chooses grandma*]  
The grandma goes to bed.  
Hum ho to bed we go.  
The grandma goes to bed.

The grandpa goes to bed  
[*grandma chooses grandpa*]  
The grandpa goes to bed.  
Hum ho to bed we go.  
The grandpa goes to bed.

The father goes to bed [*grandpa chooses father*]  
The father goes to bed.  
Hum ho to bed we go.  
The father goes to bed.



The mother goes to bed  
[*father chooses mother*]  
The mother goes to bed.  
Hum ho to bed we go.  
The mother goes to bed.

The dog goes to bed  
[*mother chooses dog*]  
The dog goes to bed.  
Hum ho to bed we go.  
The dog goes to bed.

The cat yowls all night  
[*dog chooses cat*]  
The cat yowls all night.  
Hum ho to bed we go.  
But the cat yowls all night.

# Families Are Different

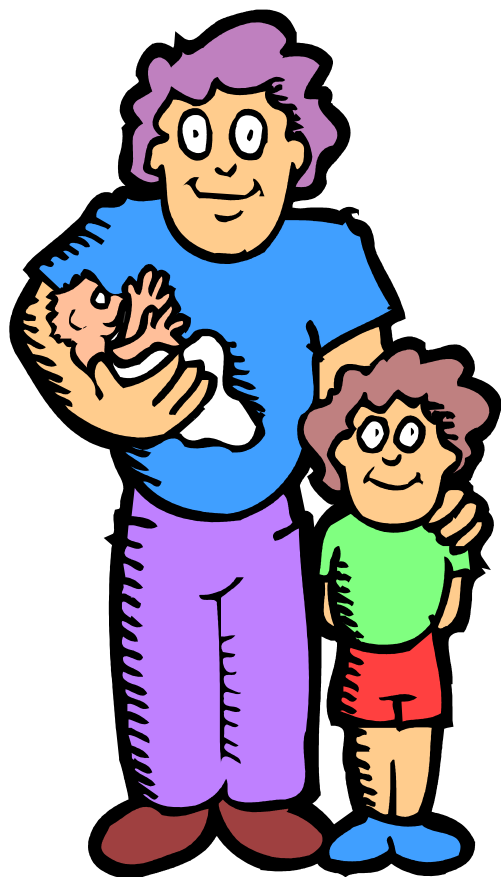
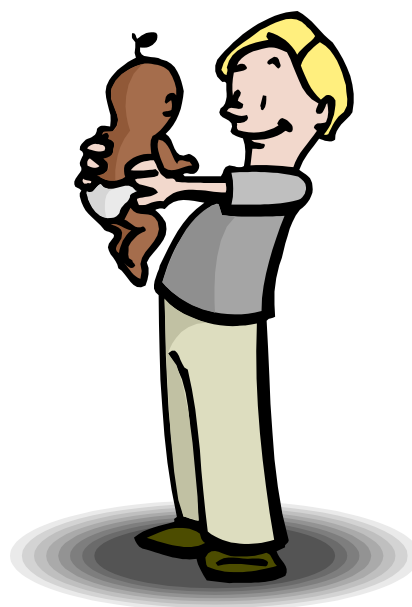
(Mary Marshall & Sue Eilers)

Families are different,  
They're not all the same.  
Here are some different kinds,  
Let's play a game.

A mother, a father, a brother, a sister.  
A child with a dog, who lives with a mister.  
A grandma and grandpa with grandchildren two.  
A mother with four has plenty to do.

You've made some families  
That aren't all the same.  
Can you make your own family  
To end the game?

*This could be done with a flannel board, puppets, or figures.*



## A Family Fingerplay

(Preschool Rainbow)

This is a family *[hold up one hand, fingers spread]*  
Let's count them and see,  
How many there are,  
And who they can be. *[count 1, 2, 3, 4, 5]*  
This is the mother *[touch pointer finger]*  
Who loves everyone.  
And this is the father *[touch big finger]*  
Who is lots of fun.  
This is my sister *[touch ring finger]*  
She helps and she plays,  
And this is the baby *[touch little finger]*  
He's growing each day.  
But who is this one? *[touch thumb]*  
He's out there alone,  
Why it's Jackie, the dog,  
And he's chewing a bone. *[wiggle thumb]*

# Where Is Mommy?

(Mary Marshall)

Tune: "Where Is Thumbkin?"

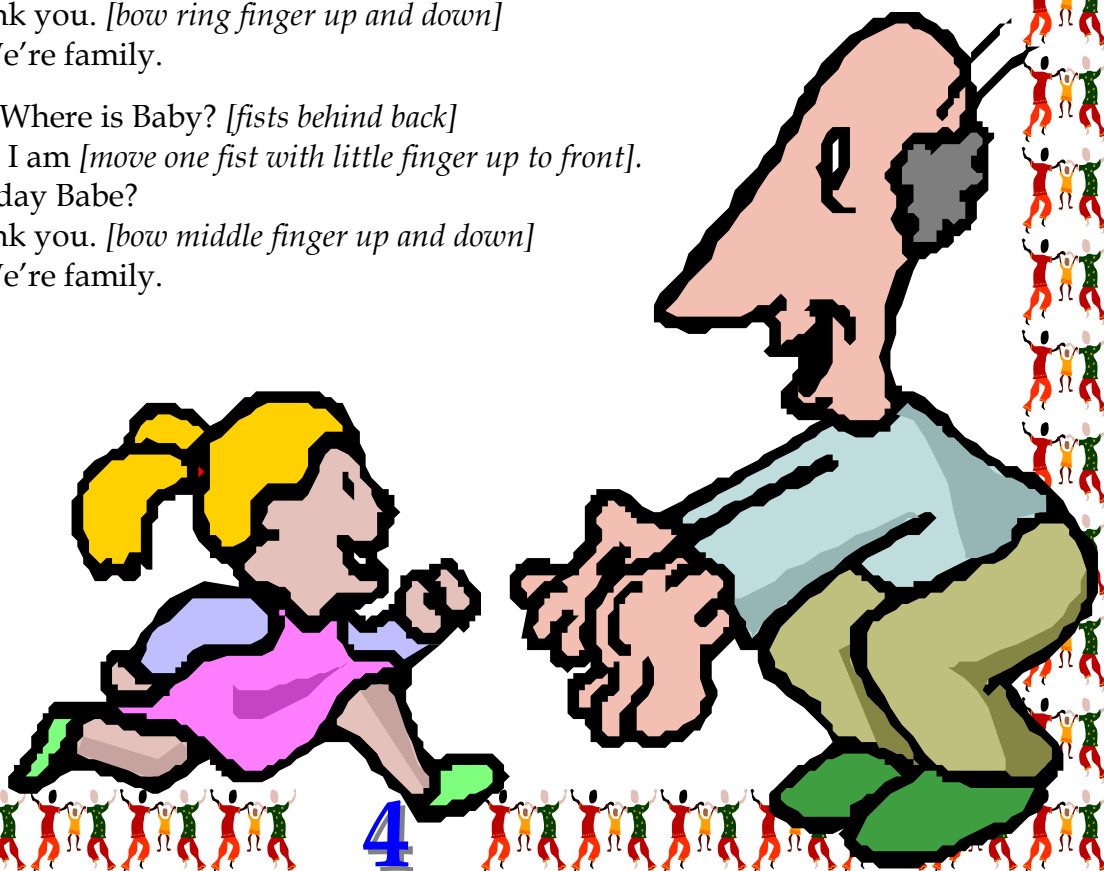
Where is Mommy? Where is Mommy? *[fists behind back]*  
Here I am. Here I am. *[move one fist with thumb up to front]*  
How are you today Mom?  
Very well, I thank you. *[bow thumb up and down]*  
We're family. We're family.

Where is Daddy? Where is Daddy? *[fists behind back]*  
Here I am. Here I am. *[move one fist with pointer finger up to front]*  
How are you today Dad?  
Very well, I thank you. *[bow finger up and down]*  
We're family. We're family.

Where is Sister? Where is Sister? *[fists behind back]*  
Here I am. Here I am. *[move one fist with middle finger up to front]*  
How are you today Sis?  
Very well, I thank you. *[bow middle finger up and down]*  
We're family. We're family.

Where is Brother? Where is Brother? *[fists behind back]*  
Here I am. Here I am. *[move one fist with ring finger up to front]*  
How are you today Bro?  
Very well, I thank you. *[bow ring finger up and down]*  
We're family. We're family.

Where is Baby? Where is Baby? *[fists behind back]*  
Here I am. Here I am *[move one fist with little finger up to front]*.  
How are you today Babe?  
Very well, I thank you. *[bow middle finger up and down]*  
We're family. We're family.





# Uncle Dave

(Reid/ Family Storytime)

My Uncle Dave, he likes to bowl. [make bowling motion]  
My Uncle Dave, he likes to bowl.  
My Uncle Dave, he likes to fish. [make an overhand casting motion]  
My Uncle Dave, he likes to fish.  
Bowl, fish. Bowl, fish. [repeat motions]  
My Uncle Dave, he likes to punt. [make punting motion with right foot]  
My Uncle Dave, he likes to punt.  
My Uncle Dave, he likes to kick. [make karate type kick]  
My Uncle Dave, he likes to kick.  
Punt, kick. Punt, kick. [repeat motions]  
Bowl, fish. Bowl, fish. [repeat motions]  
My Uncle Dave, he likes to twist. [do the "twist"]  
My Uncle Dave, he likes to twist.  
My Uncle Dave, he likes to skip. [skip in little circle]  
My Uncle Dave, he likes to skip.  
Twist, skip. Twist, skip. [repeat motions]  
Punt, kick. Punt, kick. [repeat motions]  
Bowl, fish. Bowl, fish. [repeat motions]  
My Uncle Dave falls in a heap, [gently slump to floor]  
He's totally pooped and falls asleep. [place head on hands and snore]



# Helping Daddy

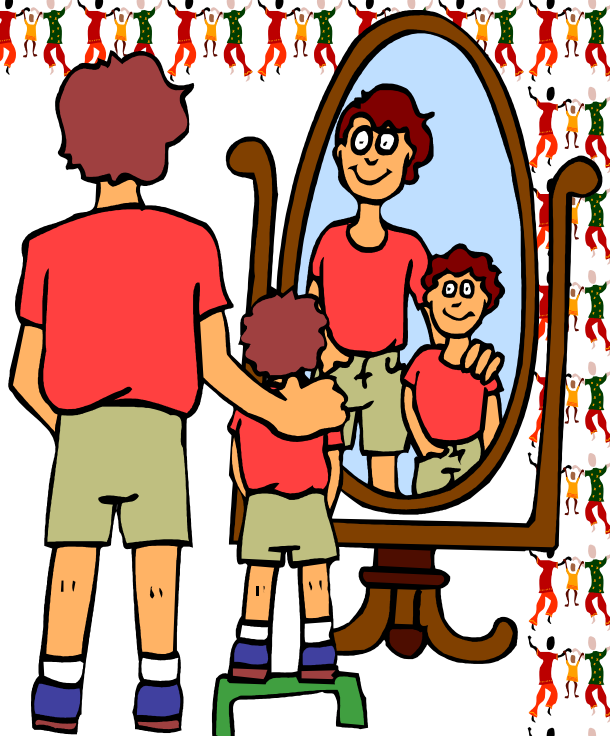
(Reid/ Family Storytime)

I help daddy. [point to self]  
I sweep the floor. [make sweeping motions]  
I dust the table. [make dusting motions]  
I run to the store. [run in place]  
I help him crack the eggs. [mime cracking eggs]  
And stir the flour for cake. [stir]  
Then I help him eat. [mime eating]  
All the good things that he makes.

# My Big Brother

(Kidstuff 4:4)

My big brother can do anything.  
[put hand above head to indicate taller height]  
He can hop and skip, and sing!  
[hop & skip]  
He can ride a bike  
[pretend to ride a bike]  
And climb a tree,  
[make climbing motions with hands]  
And he used to be little  
[put hand out to indicate lower height]  
Just like me!  
[point to self]



# Five Little Sisters

(Mary Marshall)

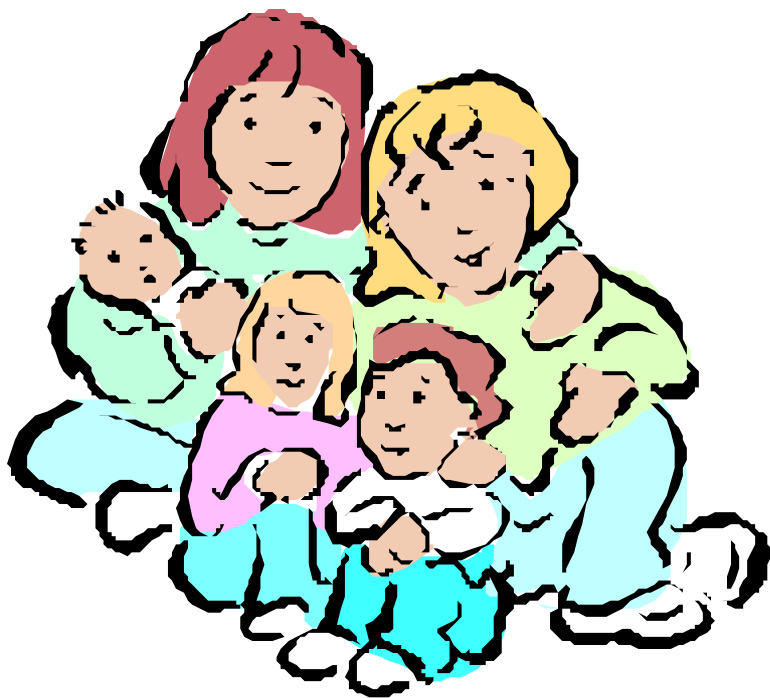
Five little sisters  
Lived on the fourth floor.  
One went to the store  
And that left four.

Four little sisters  
Sat down to tea.  
One went to buy a cake  
And that left three.

Three little sisters  
How they all grew.  
One went to visit grandma  
And that left two.

Two little sisters  
Loved everyone.  
One went to the library  
And that left one.

One little sister  
All her work was done  
She went to play  
And that left none.



# Telephone Invitation

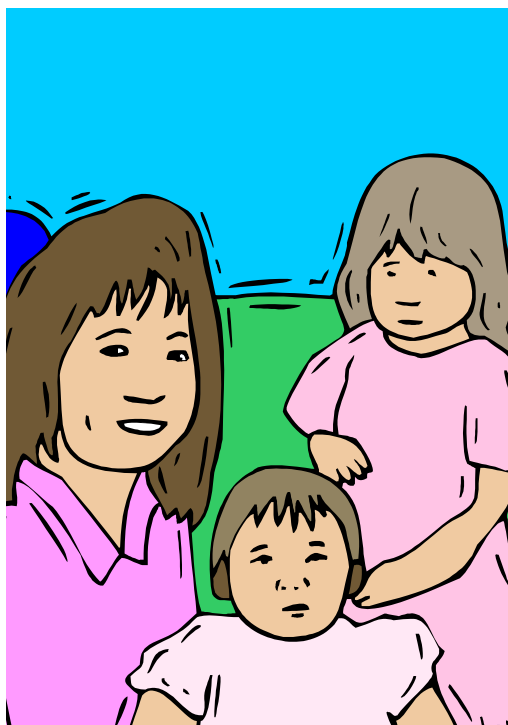
(Totten/ Seasonal Storytime Crafts)

Mommy's on the phone. *[pretend to talk on the phone]*  
She's calling Uncle John. *[hold hand up high, indicating his height]*  
Come over, come over, *[motion toward self with hand]*  
And *[clap]* he comes.

Mommy's on the phone. *[pretend to talk on the phone]*  
She's calling Aunt LouAnn. *[hold hand up high, indicating her height]*  
Come over, come over, *[motion toward self with hand]*  
And *[clap]* she comes.

Mommy's on the phone. *[pretend to talk on the phone]*  
She's calling Gramps and Gran.  
Come over, come over, *[motion toward self with hand]*  
And *[clap]* they come.

Mommy's on the phone. *[pretend to talk on the phone]*  
She's calling Cousin Ann. *[hold hand up high, indicating her height]*  
Come over, come over, *[motion toward self with hand]*  
And *[clap]* she comes.

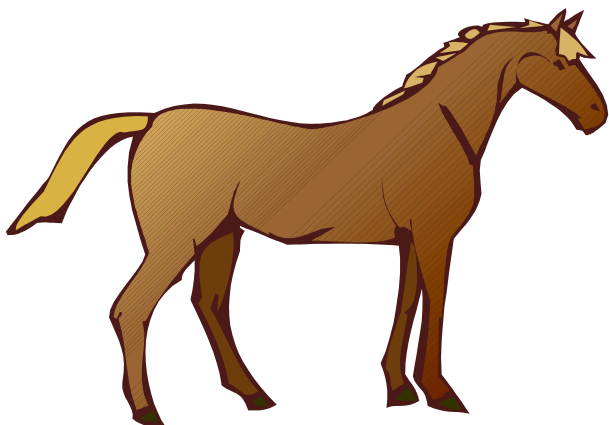
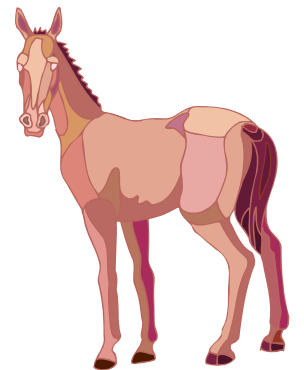
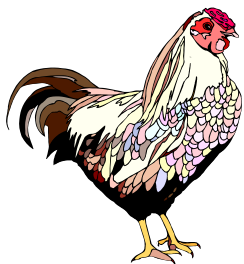
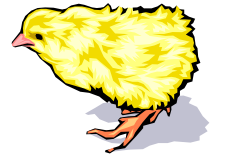
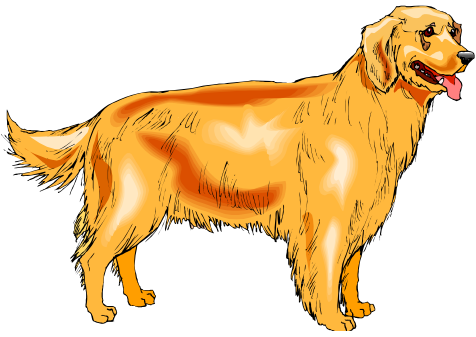


## Mama Said

(Reid/ Family Storytimes)

Mama said, "Get dressed" 1,2,3. *[clap three times]*  
Mama said, "Pants on" 1,2,3. *[clap three times]*  
Mama said, "Shirt on" 1,2,3. *[clap three times]*  
Mama said, "Socks on" 1,2,3. *[clap three times]*  
Mama said, "Shoes on" 1,2,3. *[clap three times]*  
Mama said, "Sweater on" 1,2,3. *[clap three times]*  
Mama said, "Time to play" 1,2,3. *[clap three times]*

Draw a line from each mother to her baby.





## Selected Books on Families

- Adoff, Arnold. *Black Is Brown Is Tan*. New York: HarperCollins, 2002.
- Appelt, Kathi. *Someone's Come to Our House*. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1999.
- Banks, Kate. *Mama's Coming Home*. New York: Farrar, 2003.
- Bauer, Marion. *My Mother Is Mine*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2001.
- Blumenthal, Deborah. *Aunt Claire's Yellow Beehive Hair*. New York: Dial, 2001.
- Browne, Anthony. *My Dad*. New York: Farrar, 2001.
- Buck, Nola. *Hey, Little Baby!* New York: HarperFestival, 1999.
- Buckley, Helen. *Grandfather and I*. New York: Lothrop, 1994.
- Buckley, Helen. *Grandmother and I*. New York: Lothrop, 1994.
- Fisher, Valorie. *My Big Sister*. New York: Atheneum, 2003.
- Fisher, Valorie. *My Big Brother*. New York: Atheneum, 2002.
- Greenspun, Adele. *Grand Parents Are the Greatest Because*. New York: Dutton, 2003.
- Hutchins, Pat. *There's Only One of Me*. New York: Greenwillow, 2003.
- Jenkins, Emily. *Five Creatures*. New York: Farrar, 2001.
- Kuskin, Karla. *I Am Me*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2000.
- Lasky, Kathryn. *Before I Was Your Mother*. San Diego: Harcourt, 2003.
- Lasky, Kathryn. *Mommy's Hands*. New York: Hyperion, 2002.
- Mackall, Dandi Daley. *Are We There Yet?* New York: Dutton, 2003.
- Numeroff, Laura. *What Grandmas Do Best/What Grandpas Do Best*.  
New York: Simon & Schuster, 2000.
- Parr, Todd. *The Daddy Book*. Boston: Little, Brown, 2002.
- Riggio, Anita. *Smack Dab in the Middle*. New York: Putnam, 2002.
- Rosenberry, Vera. *The Growing Up Tree*. New York: Holiday, 2003.
- Walsh, Melanie. *Minnie and Her Baby Brother*. Cambridge, MA: Candlewick, 2003.
- Williams, Vera. *"More, More, More," Said the Baby*. New York: Greenwillow, 1990.
- Wood, Douglas. *What Dads Can't Do*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2000.
- Wood, Douglas. *What Moms Can't Do*. New York: Simon & Schuster, 2001.

## Puppets & Music

- Bad Mood Mom* CD (Jamie Broza)
- Boy Puppet
- Girl Puppet
- Hand Puppet Family
- You're Growing* CD (Mister Rogers)





## Teacher Resources

*1001 Rhymes and Fingerplays for Working with Young Children.*

Everett, WA: Warren, 1994.

A to Z Kids Stuff. [www.atozkidsstuff.com](http://www.atozkidsstuff.com).

*Best of the Mailbox Songs, Poems, and Fingerplays.*

Greensboro, NC: Education Center, n.d.

Briggs, Diane. *101 Fingerplays, Stories and Songs to Use with Finger Puppets.*

Chicago: ALA, 1999.

Castellano, Marie. *Simply Super Storytimes.* Fort Atkinson, WI: Upstart, 2003.

Charner, Kathy. *The Giant Encyclopedia of Circle Time and Group Activities for Children 3 to 6.*

Beltsville, MD: Gryphon House, 1996.

Charner, Kathy. *The Giant Encyclopedia of Theme Activities for Children 2 to 5.*

Mt. Rainier, MD: Gryphon House, 1993.

Cooper, Kay. *Too Many Rabbits and Other Fingerplays about Animals, Nature, Weather, and the Universe.*

New York: Scholastic, 1995.

Forte, Imogene. *[Month] Patterns, Projects & Plans Series [by Month].*

Nashville, TN: Incentive, 1990.

*Kidstuff* [magazine]

Lohnes, Marilyn. *Finger Folk.* Fort Atkinson, WI: Alleyside, 1999.

*The Mailbox* [magazine]

McKinnon, Elizabeth. *Busy Bees Fall.*

Everett, WA: Warren, 1994 [also, Spring, Summer, Winter].

Patti's Preschool Resources. [www.geocities.com/soogal99/index.html](http://www.geocities.com/soogal99/index.html).

Phelps, Joan Hilyer. *Finger Tales.* Fort Atkinson, WI: Upstart, 2002.

Preschool Rainbow [[www.preschoolrainbow.org](http://www.preschoolrainbow.org)]

Raines, Shirley and Robert Canady. *Story S-T-R-E-T-C-H-E-R-S.*

Beltsville, MD: Gryphon House, 1989.

Reid, Rob. *Family Storytime.* Chicago: ALA, 1999.

*Ring A Ring O'Roses.* 10th ed. Flint, MI: Flint Public Library, 1996.

Schiller, Pam and Thomas Moore. *Where Is Thumbkin?*

Mt. Rainier, MD: Gryphon House, 1993.

Silberg, Jackie. *300 Three Minute Games.* Beltsville, MD: Gryphon House, 1997.

Stetson, Emily and Vicky Congdon. *Little Hands Fingerplays & Action Songs.*

Charlotte, VT: Williamson, 2001.

Totten, Kathryn. *Seasonal Storytime Crafts.* Fort Atkinson, WI: Upstart, 2002.

Warren, Jean. *Animal Piggyback Songs.* Everett, WA: Warren, 1990.

Warren, Jean. *The Best of Totline.* Torrance, CA; Totline, 1995.

Warren, Jean. *More Piggyback Songs.* Everett, WA: Warren, 1995.



## Story Totes

*Animals for All Seasons* [seasons & different animals]

*"B" Is for Building* [building & construction machines]

*Beautiful Babies* [big brothers, big sisters, & new babies]

*Billions of Bugs* [all kinds of insects]

*Birthday Bonanza* [celebrating birthdays]

*Bunches of Bears* [teddy bears & real bears]

*Cool Cats & Cuddly Kittens* [cats & kittens]

*Dazzling Dinosaurs* [dinosaurs]

*Fabulous Food* [food and eating]

*Fascinating Families* [all types of families & their members]

*Fun on the Farm* [farms & farm animals]

*Helpers & Heroes* [community helpers]

*Monster Mania* [monsters]

*Pooches by the Pound* [dogs & puppies]

*Preschoolers Pretend* [imagination & play]

*Rainbows & Stars* [colors & shapes]

*Sensational Seasons* [the four seasons]

*Sing a Song of Sixpence* [music & rhyme]

*Spectacular Sea Stories* [ocean & sea creatures]

*Trips Around Town* [places to visit]

*Wacky Weather* [all types of weather]

*Wonderful World of Wheels* [transportation]

*Zoo-rific* [zoos & zoo animals]

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