

# Opening the Gift

## Songs & Fingerplays

### Animal Action Rhymes

I'm a little kitty,  
I love to tippy-toe.  
Won't you do it with me?  
Ready now, let's go!

[Everyone tippy-toe]

I'm a little rabbit,  
I love to hop, hop, hop.  
Come on and do it with me.  
It's fun! We'll never stop!

[Everyone hop]

I'm a great big elephant,  
I take big steps so slow!  
I'd love to have you join me,  
Ready now, let's go!

[Everyone take big steps]

I'm a little dog,  
Who loves to run and run.  
If you would do it with me,  
We could have such fun!

[Everyone run]

### Jiggling for Joy

[follow directions]

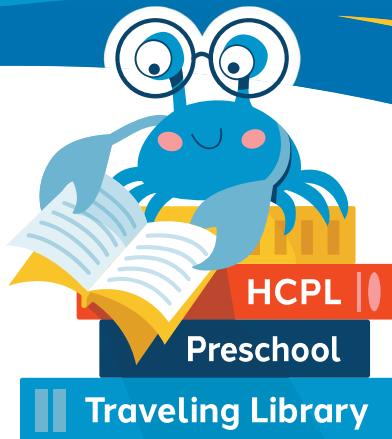
I can jiggle to the left,  
I can jiggle to the right,  
I can jiggle all around  
And squeeze my arms up tight.

I can jiggle very fast,  
I can jiggle very slow,  
Come and jiggle with me,  
Now here we go!!

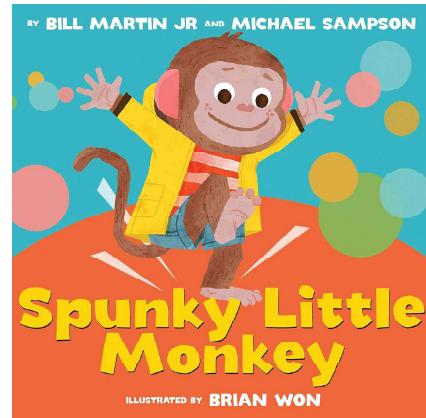


Harford County  
Public Library

HCPLonline.org



February 2026



### Theme: Movin' and Groovin'

### Books to Share

This month we are *Movin' and Groovin'* to action packed songs and stories. We will get our wiggles out with Bill Martin's *Spunky Little Monkey* and Scott Fisher's *Jump!* In *I Got the Rhythm*, by Connie Schofield-Morrison, we will hear the beat and move our feet with a girl and her mother on a walk through the park. We will also join the animals in rhymes and motion in *Over in the Meadow*, by Jane Cabrera. So please move and groove with us as we enjoy stories, songs, and fingerplays this month.

***Spunky Little Monkey***, by Bill Martin

***Jump!*** by Scott Fischer

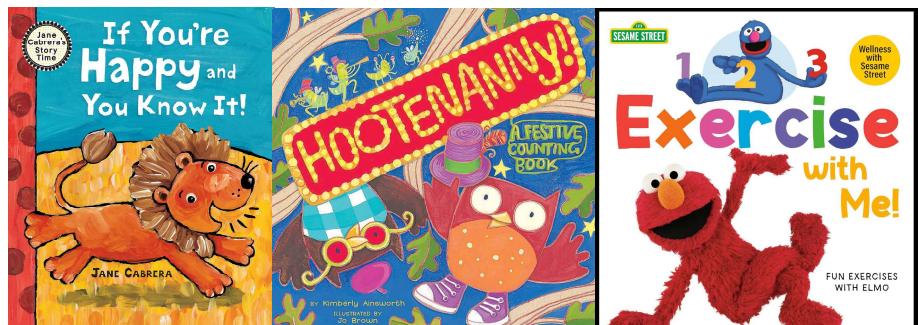
***Over in the Meadow***, by Jane Cabrera

***I Got the Rhythm***, by Connie Schofield-Morrison

### Music: "Clap Your Hands"

from *Wiggleworms Love You*  
by Wiggleworms

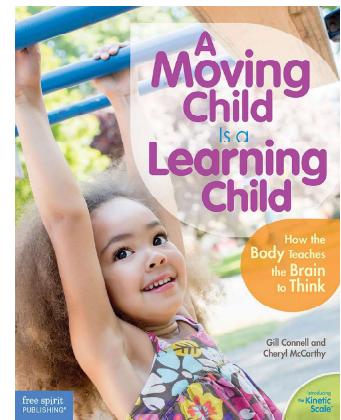
Looking for more book ideas? Check these out!



## Book of the Month from the Parent Teacher Collection

### *A Moving Child Is a Learning Child: How the Body Teaches the Brain to Think (Birth To Age 7)*, Gill Connell

Learning is an active process and everyone needs to move to learn. This book explains the learning link between the body and the brain and how educators can leverage that link to support learning. It also describes the Kinetic Scale, which visually maps the active learning needs of infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and primary graders.



## More Rhymes

### Two Little Feet

[follow directions]

Two little feet go stamp, stamp, stamp  
Two little hands go clap, clap, clap  
One little body stands up straight  
One little body goes round and round  
One little body sits quietly down.

### We Wiggle and Wiggle and Stop

[follow directions]

We wiggle and wiggle and stop  
We wiggle and wiggle and stop  
We wiggle and wiggle and wiggle and wiggle  
and wiggle and wiggle and stop

*Repeat with twirl... clap... jump...  
bounce...*

### This is the Way We Clap Our Hands

[Tune: *The Mulberry Bush*]

This is the way we clap our hands, clap our hands, clap our hands.  
This is the way we clap our hands so early in the morning.

*Repeat with:*

*Stomp our feet; Turn around; Reach and Stretch; Wave hello; Tap our Knees...*

For more information,  
visit us at [hcplmd.org/otg!](http://hcplmd.org/otg!)



## Try a Fun Activity

### Egg Maracas Homemade Musical Instruments

#### Supplies needed:

Plastic Easter eggs  
Filler such as dried beans, rice, birdseed, popcorn, sand, salt, sugar, or beads  
Plastic spoons  
Tape such as Duct, Washi, or masking



#### Directions:

Fill the plastic eggs with filler of your choice.  
Center the egg between two spoons and tape all together.

<https://musicinourhomeschool.com/easy-to-make-homemade-musical-instruments/>



By singing songs with your children, you are helping them hear the smaller sounds in words because there is a distinct note for each syllable. This will help them later when they need to sound out words as they learn to read. One great way to sing songs is to share song books together. Preschoolers and older children often like to make up their own verses. By choosing sentences that fit the rhythm of the song and that use rhyming words, they are developing phonological awareness in enjoyable ways.



## Questions or suggestions?

Contact: Sheila George at 410-638-3151 x6351 or [george@hcplonline.org](mailto:george@hcplonline.org)