

Books and Songs to support English Language Learners

Compiled by Kim McGrath, Kindergarten Educator

Phase 1: Beginning

Select picture books or big books that have simple text, sentences that repeat often throughout the story, or may have a pattern, and have large print. These stories need to have rich and detailed illustrations that help support the story.

Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What do you See?	Bill Martin Jr. & Eric Carle 978-0805047905
Goodnight Moon	Margaret Wise Brown & Clement Hurd 978-0-06-077585-8
No. David!	David Shannon 978-0-590-93002-4
Let's Go Visiting	Sue Williams & Julie Vivas 987-0-15-202410-9
Two Little Monkeys	Mem Fox & Jill Barton 978-1-4169-8687-4
Plant a Kiss	Amy Krause Rosenthal Peter H. Reynolds 978-0-06-198675-8
Blue Sky	Audrey Wood 978-0-545-31610-1
Time to Sleep Sheep the Sheep	Mo Williams 978-0-06-172847-1
Happy	Mies Vanhout 978-1-935954-14-9
Oops	Leo Timmers 978-1-60537-1054
More	I.C. Spingman & Brian Lies 978-0-547-61083-2
Does a Kangaroo Have a Mother Too?	Eric Carle 978-0-06-443642-7
Boots	Anne Schreiber & Arbo Doughty Illustrated by: Robin Ballard 0-590-27371-X

Phase 1: action songs

Select song and poems that are action based, have rhyme or have a pattern and repeat often. Provide illustrations as a visual cue.

Morning Circle song: <i>Johnny, Johnny how are you?</i> <i>Johnny, Johnny how are you?</i> <i>Johnny, Johnny how are you?</i> <i>Who is sitting next to you?</i> Johnny then names the person sitting next to him. The song continues with that person's name.	Source: a Kindergarten teacher
There are 7 days in a week Days of the week To the tune of "Oh my darling Clementine"	Lyrics: Barney Wiki http://barney.wikia.com/wiki/There_Are_Seven_Days Listen: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wazQHVRGYKQ
Ten Red Apples hanging in a Tree Thematic	Sing Along & Learn Around the Year Written and performed and produced by Ken Sheldon (2000). Published by: Scholastic
Head, shoulders, knees and toes Transitions	Listen: http://www.freeabcsongs.com/mp3/headshoulders.mp3

Phase 2: Emerging

Select books that contain rhyme and repetitive sentence patterns. If you have access to the CD's or big book versions, use them as variations. Books that are based on songs or have strong melody and rhythm work really well. Read and keep re-reading these books. As children become more familiar with them, they are more likely to participate in the reading and may even be observed singing them while at play.

There was an Old Lady who Swallowed a Fly	Illustrated by Pam Adams 978-0-85953-018-7
Eensy Weensy Spider	Mary Ann Hoberman & Nadine Bernard Westcott 978-0-316-73412-7
Wheels on the Bus	Illustrated by Sylvie Kantorovitz Luckstrom 978-0-517-57645-8
Five Little Monkeys	Eileen Christelow 978-0-618-83682-6
Down by the Bay	Nadine Bernard Westcott 978-0-517-56645-9
We are Going on a Bear Hunt	Michael Rosen & Helen Oxenbury 978-0-689-85349-4
I Spy with my Little Eye	Edwards Gibbs 978-0-7636-5284-5

Chicka Chicka Boom Boom	Bill Martin Jr. & Joan Archambault Illustrated by Lois Ehlert
Snowballs	Lois Ehlert 978-0-15-202095-8
The Cow that went Oink	Bernard Most 978-0-15-204763-4
Snug	Carl Thompson 978-1-84643-373-3
Dot	Patricia Intriago 978-0-374-31835-2
Go Away Big Green Monster	Ed Emberley 978-0-316-23653-9

Phase 2: action songs/poems

Use songs or poems that support your daily routine and/or current theme. The more relevant and meaningful vocabulary is to the learner, the more likely he/she will learn it. Songs or poems that include action and movement will more likely keep your learners engaged and motivated. Use visuals, gestures and movement as often as you can.

These are the months of the year Time: Months of the year	The Learning Station http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b_A43_sYliw
Shake my Sillies out	Raffi http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xZde3-ORjrM
Ten in the bed Numbers: Counting backwards	From: Math Jam K Judy and David http://judyanddavid.com/store/ecom/canada/cdcass.html Samples from CD: http://judyanddavid.com/samples/mjk-sampler1.mp3 Lyrics: http://judyanddavid.com/store/catalogue/mjk.html Nelson 978-0-176-260743
Three Ghosts Theme: Halloween	Music Builders K A balanced Kindergarten program teacher's manual and 3 cd's A Hardie Mason Project ISBN 0-7702-1900-4
If you're happy and you know it clap your hands Feelings	Lyrics: http://www.songsforteaching.com/folk/ifyourehappyandyouknowit2kind.php

Phase 3: Developing

At this phase in development children can comprehend short narratives that have a few sentences per page. Stories that have patterns, repetitive phrases and good supporting illustrations work well.

Big Pumpkin	Erica Silverman Illustrated by S.D.Schindler 0-590-47760-0
Lines that Wiggle	Candace Whitman Illustrated by Steve Wilson 978-1-934706-54-1
Darkness Slipped In	Ella Burfoot 978-0-7534-6209-6
Do You Know Which One Will Grow?	Susan A Shea Illustrated by Tom Slaughter 978-1-60905-062-7
Yo Ho Ho! A-Pirating We'll Go	Kaye Umansky & Nick Sharratt 978-0-14-056937-7
Inside Mouse, Outside Mouse	Lindsay Barrett Genge 978-0-06-000468-2
Cock-A-Doodle Who?	Martine Perrin 978-0-8075-11-7-7
The Lady with the Alligator Purse	Adapted and illustrated by Nadine Bernard Westcott 0-316-93136-5

Phase 3: action songs and/or poems

It Takes Two	Music Builders K A balanced Kindergarten program teacher's manual and 3 cd's A Hardie Mason Project ISBN 0-7702-1900-4
Our World Colors: Poem	101 Science Poems & Songs For Young Learners Published by: Scholastic Professional Books By: Meish Goldish ISBN:978-0-590-96369-5
If all the raindrops were lemon drops Seasonal	Barney http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sh1ZeWhAtRI

Phase 4: Applying

In this phase of development, children are ready to be exposed to literature with more text, more complex story lines, multiple characters and vocabulary with a higher level of difficulty.

Picture a Tree	Barbara Reid 978-1-4431-0761-7
The Bear Went Over the Mountain	Iza Trapani 98-1-61608-510-0
King Jack and the Dragon	Peter Bently & Helen Oxenbury 978-0-8037-3698-6
Nuts to You!	Lois Ehlert 978-0-15-205064-1
When a Monster is Born	Sean Taylor & Nick Sharratt 978-0-312-55348-7
The Gruffalo	Julia Donaldson & Axel Scheffler 978-0-333-71093-7
The Gruffalo's Child	Julia Donaldson & Axel Scheffler 978-1-4050-2046-6
Fortunately, Unfortunately	Michael Foreman 978-1-84939-224-2
Hide and Squeak	Heather Vogel Frederick Illustrated by C.F. Payne 978-0-689-85570-2
The Very Cranky Bear	Nick Bland 978-0-545-98614-4

Phase 4: action songs/poems

I'm growing	From: Miss Anne's Collection – Volume 1 Anne Roth On CD or MP3 format (from amazon.com or iTunes)
Green grass grows all around	Barney and Friends http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mINPh9-eTss
Seasons of the Year Poem sung to "Here we Go Round the Mulberry Bush"	From: 101 Science Poems & Songs For Young Learners Meish Goldish Scholastic Professional Books 978-0-590-96369-5

Phase 5: Extending

Children at this phase of development are functioning like mother tongue students. Therefore, use any good literature with illustrations that support the current theme or unit of inquiry.

Phase 5: action songs

Children at this phase of development are functioning like mother tongue students. Therefore, use any good songs, poems or chants with illustrations that support the current theme or unit of inquiry.

Find out more about **English and Second Language Learners** in the Preschool Education section of LEARN (<http://www.learnquebec.ca/>)