

Construction

Storytime To Go

Books

Building a House
Byron Barton

This is the House that Jack Built
Simms Taback

Tip Tip Dig Dig
Emma Garcia

The Three Pigs
David Wiesner

Old MacDonald Had a Woodshop
Lisa Shulman

Building Our House
Jonathan Bean

Andrew Henry's Meadow
Doris Burns

Toys

4 construction machines

Fingerplays

A House for Me

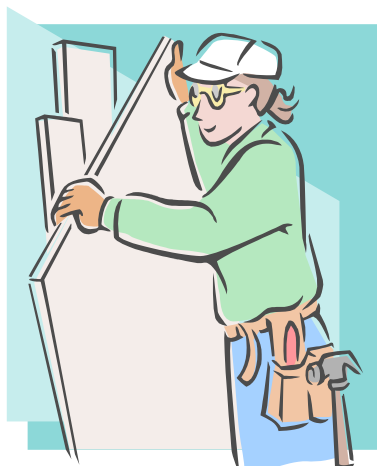
The carpenter's hammer goes rap,
rap, rap
(pound hand with fist)
And his saw goes see, saw, see
(move arm in sawing motion)
He hammers and hammers
(Hammer)
And he saws and saws
(saw)
And he builds a house for me
(make a house outline with fingers)

Source: Kentucky Department for
Libraries and Archives

Five Little Nails

Five little nails, standing straight
and steady
Here I come with my hammer
ready!
Bam, bam, bam! That nail goes
down.
Now there's just four nails to
pound.
(count down)

From storytimekatie.com



Action Rhymes

I Have One Hammer

(make an up/down motion with
one fist)
I have 1 hammer, 1 hammer, 1
hammer,
I have 1 hammer then I have 2.

(make up/down motion with both
fists)
I have 2 hammers, 2 hammers, 2
hammers,
I have 2 hammers then I have 3.

(make up/down motion with both
fists and one leg.)
I have 3 hammers, 3 hammers, 3
hammers,
I have 3 hammers then I have 4.

(make up/down motion with both
fists and both legs)
I have 4 hammers, 4 hammers, 4
hammers,
I have 4 hammers then I have 5.

(make up/down motion with both
fists, both legs and nod head)
I have 5 hammers, 5 hammers, 5
hammers,
I have 5 hammers, I'm tired, I'm
going to sleep.
(make a sleep motion as if laying
your head on a pillow)

Source: Harris County Public
Library

Songs

This is the Way

(Act out motions as you sing)

This is the way we saw the wood,
saw the wood saw the wood.

This is the way we saw the wood,
so early in the morning.

This is the way we hammer the
nails, hammer the nails hammer
the nails.

This is the way we hammer the
nails, so early in the morning.

This is the way we paint the
house, paint the house paint the
house.

This is the way we paint the house
so early in the morning.

*Source: Harris County Public
Library*

I've Been Working on the Railroad

I've been working on the railroad.
All the live-long day.

I've been working on the railroad.
Just to pass the time a-way.

Don't you hear the whistle
blowing?

Rise up so early in the morn'.

Don't you hear the captain
shouting;

Dinah blow your horn!

Some-one's in the kitch-en with
Di-nah

Some-one's in the kitch-en

I know oh oh oh

Some-one's in the kitch-en with

Di-nah

Strum-min' on the old ban-jo,

And sing-in' Fee Fi Fid-dle-ee aye

oh!

Fee Fi Fid-dle-ee aye oh oh oh oh!

Fee Fi Fid-dle-ee aye oh!

Strum-min' on the old ban-jo!

Crafts & Activities

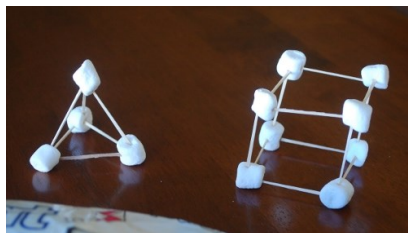
Comparing Building Materials

In the classic *Three Little Pigs* tale, children discover that different materials have varying levels of strength. To reinforce this concept, gather building blocks like Duplos (bricks), unsharpened pencils (sticks), and toothpicks (straw). Practice building structures and test their strength. Discuss which materials are strongest and which are weakest.

Idea from [Association of Library Services for Children](http://www.associationoflibraryservicesforchildren.org)

Toothpick and Marshmallow Structures

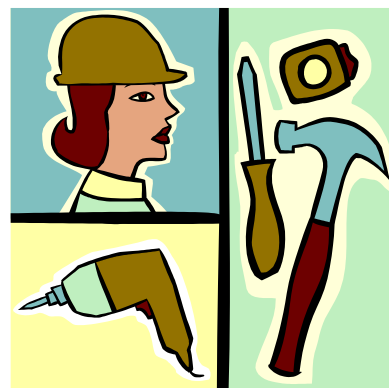
Practice building various structures with toothpicks, using marshmallows to connect them. Begin by building a triangle and then creating a pyramid. Next, build a square and extend it into a cube. Discuss the names of these shapes and predict which structure might be the strongest. Test each structure's strength by pushing lightly on it to see which one requires more pressure in order to collapse.



Picture from blog.innerchildcrochet.com

Shoebox Blocks

Gather old shoeboxes, cereal boxes, etc. Cover in construction paper or paper bags. Allow your child to color them (try not to squish them flat) and then get building! See how tall you can stack them or make a house to play in.



Early Literacy Take Home

Reading about building and construction is an excellent opportunity to build vocabulary. Discuss the types of buildings and construction vehicles and tools you see in the books you read and in the world around you (house, sky-scraper, bulldozer, hammer, wrench, etc.).

Questions about this kit?

Email youth services staff

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www.nols.org