


## Storytime Activity Guide

## Grandma's Tiny House

 written by JaNay Brown-Wood and illustrated by Priscilla BurrisGrandma has a big family! With all the cousins and uncles and aunts and friends and moms and dads, they have really outgrown her tiny house. When grandma's big family all gathers for a delicious family meal, how will they fit inside? Read the book to see what happens when loved ones gather for a feast.

## Did you know?

A good foundation in early math prepares children for "math thinking" and for later academic success. Early Math includes number sense, classifications and patterning, measurement, mathematical reasoning, and geometry (shapes). While reading Grandma's Tiny House, practice counting together, pointing out numbers in print, and practicing simple addition and subtraction.


## Talk about it!

- Grandma has two pets. Do you know anyone with pets? Help your child name them and keep count.
- Grandma has a big family. How many people are in your family? Help your child name them and keep count.
- Whose family is bigger or smaller? Yours or grandmas? Help your child compare. What differences do you notice?


## Find More Online

Scan this QR code for a Read Aloud of this book and more free resources.

qrco.de/GmaTinyHouse

## Create!

My Counting House

## Materials needed:

- A large sheet of paper
- Markers

1. Draw a large, basic outline of a house on a big piece of paper.
2. Ask your child to add a door, some windows, and any other basic element of a house they'd like to add.
3. Brainstorm with your child to make a list of $5-10$ things you can count in your house. For example, you might include people, doors, sinks, beds, or pets on your list.
4. Help your child count each item on your list. Encourage your child to touch each item they count. This will help them develop the knowledge that each number they say refers to a specific item in a total quantity, a concept known as"1 to 1 cardinality."
5. Then write the things you counted on your big piece of paper. This will help build your child's literacy skills.
6. Ask your child to write as many of the numbers as they can. This will help them develop their fine motor skills and their numeral awareness.


## Play: Beginning Word Problems

Use the pictures in the book to begin practicing easy word problems with your child. For example, you could say,"if there is one grandma and two pets on the big easy chair, how many living beings are there?" Help your child count. "One, two, three: one plus two equals three." Or, "There are 7 cool uncles, but how many will there be if two go home?" Remember, your child won't know the "right" answer, but the more you model how to figure it out, the better.



# Storytime Activity Guide 

City Shapes
written by Diana Murray and illustrated by Bryan Collier
More than just a simple book for exploring geometry, City Shapes is a poem about the beauty and symmetry that surrounds us. Told through the perspective of a curious child who is seeing the shapes in their environment, City Shapes is a vibrant story to help your child become more aware of the geometry in our world.

## Did you know?

A good foundation in early math prepares children for "math thinking," and for later academic success.
Early Math includes number sense, classifications and patterning, measurement, mathematical reasoning, and geometry (shapes). While reading City Shapes, practice identifying the shapes that are pictured in the book. This will help develop your child's early math skills. You can even play a simple guessing game by asking your child which shape they think will come next.


## Words to Practice <br> round <br> pointy straight <br> long short

## Talk about it!

- While you are reading City Shapes, ask your child to find shapes in your own environment. Do they see a circle in the room you are in? Can they find a triangle in their toys? How about a rectangle?
- Using the clues in the book, ask your child to try and guess what shape is coming next. Why did they guess that shape?
- Talk to your child about the attributes of each shape. How many sides does it have? Are the sides the same size? How many angles does it have?


## Find More Online

Scan this QR code to for a Read Aloud of this book and more free resources.

qrco.de/CityShapes

튼

## Create!

## Paint your own neighborhood using shapes and sponges.

Materials needed: • Foam shapes or sponges

- Scissors
- Markers or Pens
- Paper plate or pie pan to use as a paint palette
- Cardboard or Paper
- Non-toxic Paint for kids

1. Ask your child what shapes they will need to make a picture of your neighborhood.
2. Draw the shapes on your sponge and help your child cut the shapes out.

3. Get your paint ready by pouring a little of each color onto your paper plate or pie pan.

4. Ask your child to use the sponge shapes as stamps and ask them to paint a picture of your neighborhood.
5. As your child paints, talk to them about the shapes they are using to make their picture.


## Play: Shape Guessing Game

Describe a shape without using its name. "I'm thinking of a shape that has three sides. What shape am I thinking of?" "I'm thinking of a shape that's round but stretched. What shape am I thinking of?"



# Storytime Activity Guide 

Actual Size
Created and illustrated by Steve Jenkins

In Actual Size, we meet animals of different sizes. Animals are drawn to scale so children can see how they measure up to each animal. Each page includes interesting facts and physical dimensions of the animal.

## Did you know?

A good foundation in early math prepares children for "math thinking" and for later academic success. Early Math includes number sense, classifications and patterning, measurement, mathematical reasoning, and geometry (shapes). While reading Actual Size, practice comparing sizes by using relational language (bigger, smaller, close, far) to develop your child's early math skills.


## Words to Practice

bigger
smaller
taller
shorter
more
less

## Talk about it!

- Help your child compare animals of different sizes. Ask questions like: "Which one do you think is bigger, smaller, shorter, longer? How do you know?"
- Encourage your child to measure the animals using different body parts. Say things like: "Let's use your hand to measure the size of the animals. How big is this animal compared to your hand?"
- Play with your child as you explore how your child's size compares to the size of the animals. How does their foot compare to the elephant's foot? What about yours? Which one is bigger?


## Find More Online

Scan this QR code to for a Read Aloud of this book and more free resources.

qrco.de/ActualSize

## Create!

## Draw and Measure YOUR actual size!

Materials needed: • Sidewalk chalk<br>- Measuring tape<br>- Popsicle sticks<br>- Any other object you want to use to measure (ie. rocks, leaves, blocks, toy cars, etc.)

1. Trace your child's body with the chalk on the sidewalk and help them decorate the outline.
2. Help them measure their body with the popsicle sticks or any other uniform object you want to use to measure.
3. Note down the measurements.

4. Measure their body using various other objects such as rocks, blocks, or even step (feet).
5. Now help your child measure their body with a measuring tape. Note down the measurement in inches and centimeters using to make their picture.
6. Discuss and compare measurement. Ask :

- How long is your body in popsicle sticks? How long is it in steps?
- How long is your body in feet? In inches?
- Did you notice that even though your body is the same length, the measurements are different depending on the
 objects we measured with? Why do you think that is?
- Did you need more popsicle sticks or feet to measure your body? What if we measured it with something bigger?


## Play: "Which is bigger?"

After comparing the size of the animals in the book, find objects to compare with your child at home. Shoes are a good example. Gather 5 different shoes from around the house and help your child line them up in order from smallest to biggest. Do the same with stuffed animals. Help your child practice comparing sizes throughout the day, using words like smaller, bigger, shorter, longer, wider, and narrower to describe the objects you are comparing.



## Storytime Activity Guide

## Pattern Fish

written by Trudy Harris and illustrated by Anne Canevari Green

A group of fish float, glide, swirl, and swish through the water as patterns surround them. Not just lines and squiggles, but sound and movement patterns too! How many patterns can you and your child find?

## Did you know?

A good foundation in early math prepares children for "math thinking," and for later academic success. Early Math includes number sense, classifications and patterning, measurement, mathematical reasoning, and geometry (shapes). While reading Pattern Fish, practice pointing out patterns on each page. There are different types of patterns, such as ABAB (yellow-black-yellow-black) and AABB (chomp-chomp-munch-munch, chomp-chomp-munch-munch). Helping your child notice and predict patterns builds the same skills that will help with algebra much later in school!


## Talk about it!

- What pattern do you hear on this page? What pattern do you see?
- Listen to the pattern: Bubble-bubble-pop, bubble-bubble-pop. Bubblebubble ... What do you think comes next in the pattern? How do you know?
- Yellow-black-yellow-black sounds different than stripe-dot-dot, stripe-dotdot. How many parts does each pattern have before it starts again? Let's count.
- What do these colorful stripes on the bottom and top of the page tell you about the pattern


## Find More Online

Scan this QR code to for a Read Aloud of this book and more free resources.

qrco.de/PatternFish
tandem.
Partners in Early Learning

## Create!

Use the attached template and some drinking straws to make your own wiggly jiggly pattern fish!
Materials needed:

- 1 pipe cleaner
- 1 marker
- 11 colorful beads
- scissors
- 10 colorful straws
- construction Paper
- 1 push pin, safety pin, or needle
- glue or tape

1. Make a pattern with your straws and poke a hole in the middle of each one. (You may need to wiggle the pin around to make the holes big enough for step 2.)
2. String the straws on the pipe cleaner, separated by beads. (bead, straw, bead, straw, bead, etc.)
3. Measure the length of each straw on the attached fish template and cut to size
4. Cut out the head and tail pieces of the attached template. Fold your construction paper in half, and trace the templates with the flat sides along the fold.

5. Cut out the construction paper heads and tails, and poke the ends of your pipe cleaner through the creases in each.
6. Glue the pieces flat, covering the pipe cleaner, and decorate.


Play: Act it, Act it, Act it Out!
Have your child pick a favorite underwater creature and come up with a movement for each word on the page. How do you wiggle? How do you jiggle? How do you float? Practice doing the movements in order. Then, see if your child can remember the sequence and repeat the movement pattern on their own. How fast can they do it? How slowly?

DREME



# Storytime Activity Guide 

## Jabari Tries

Created and illustrated by Gaia Cornwall Jabari is back again but this time he's determined to build a flying machine. He plans, tries, and fails. He plans, tries, and fails again. Encouraged by his dad, and drawing inspiration from famous Black and Asian-American inventors, Jabari partners with his sister and finally accomplishes his goal.

## Did you know?

A good foundation in early math prepares children for "math thinking" and for later academic success. Early Math includes number sense, classifications and patterning, measurement, mathematical reasoning, and geometry (shapes). While reading Jabari Tries, make predictions and encourage your child to help Jabari problem solve to develop your child's early math skills.


## Talk about it!

As you read Jabari Tries, ask your child to think about Jabari's problem and come up with ideas that may help his flying machine soar across the sky.
"What can Jabari try next?". "What do you think Jabari's flying machine needs?". "Should Jabari change his ramp or his flying machine?". "What would you do?"

Jabari feels frustrated and takes deep breaths to feel better. Ask your child, "what makes you feel better when you are frustrated?".

## Find More Online

Scan this QR code to for a Read Aloud of this book and more free resources.

qrco.de/JabariTries

## Create!

## Make a Ball Run to practice problem solving and persistence as well as counting, geometry and measurement skills!

Materials needed: - Flat piece of cardboard

- Tall and short craft tubes
- Masking Tape
- Markers


You may use a box with sides for this project, but if your cardboard doesn't have sides you will need to make "walls" or stops so your ping pong balls don't fall out.

1. Allow your child to play with the tubes and ping pong balls. Ask them to test if the balls will fit through the tube. Ask, "Does it fit?","What can we do to help the ball roll through the tube?" "What size do we need the craft tubes to be?Should we cut them?"
2. Plan an initial layout of your ball run and tape down your craft tubes. This is the problem solving and persistence part of the challenge, deciding how to line up your tunnels and half pipes so that the ping pong ball will roll down into your hole at the bottom.
3. Place the ball at the top and watch it roll down to the bottom. If the ball is not running through the entire layout, move tubes and half pipes as needed. Ask:
What can we do to keep the ball from rolling off of the cardboard?", "How can we move the tunnels of half pipes so the ball will run through the entire
 layout?"
4. Keep practicing and testing until you get a winning layout! Decorate your ball run with markers.
5. Try using other small objects you find at home and see if they can go through the ball run.


## Play: Ramp Play

- Explore ramps outdoors such as slides and hills. Find out what ramp is harder to go up or down, what surface is easier to go up or down, etc.
- Roll different objects down a ramp (driveway, hill, slide). Notice how the texture of the object or the surface changes how the object moves.
- Play a game of "Faster, Slower." Set up a piece of cardboard so that it makes a gentle incline. Have your child roll a ball down the ramp. Challenge her to change the ramp incline so the ball moves slower/faster.

