

Let's Take a Trip

• Storytime •

by | Kim Faurot

Grades:
K-2

More music, crafts, transportation titles and extension activities to accompany this storytime program.

Music

Play “traveling” music as the audience is gathering in your storytime area. Possibilities include *Travelin’ Magic* by Joanie Bartels (Discovery Music, 1988), *Sing-Along Travel Songs* by Sesame Street (Sony Wonder, 1996), “Riding in My Car” on *Woody’s 20 Grow Big Songs* by Woody Guthrie (Warner Brothers, 1992), “Choo Choo Boogaloo” on *Choo Choo Boogaloo* by Buckwheat Zydeco (Music for Little People, 1994), “The Airplane Song” on *Whaddaya Think of That?* by Laurie Berkner (Two Tomatoes, 2000), “I’ve Been Working on the Railroad” on *Playing Favorites* by Greg & Steve (Youngheart, 1991), and many others.



“We’re Leaving on Vacation”

Adapted by Kimberly Faurot

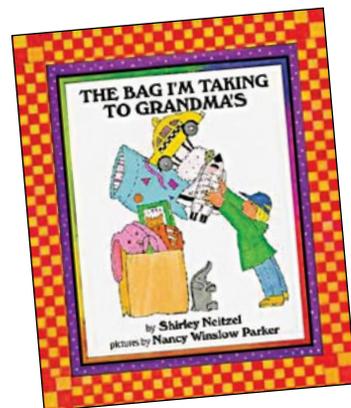
Listen to the tune on the sound recording *Great Big Hits* by Sharon, Lois and Bram (Elephant, 1992), *Wee Sing Children’s Songs and Fingerplays* by Pamela Beall and Susan Nipp (Price Stern Sloan, 1977), *Wee Sing Sing-Alongs* by Pamela Beall and Susan Nipp (Price Stern Sloan, 1982), and many others if you don’t know it. Also see the musical notation in *This Little Piggy: Lap Songs, Finger Plays, Clapping Games, and Pantomime Rhymes* edited by Jane Yolen (Candlewick Press, 2005); *Treasury of Folk Songs* compiled by Tom Glazer (Grosset & Dunlap, 1964); and *Wee Sing Children’s Songs and Fingerplays* by Pamela Conn Beal and Susan Hagen Nipp (Price Stern Sloan, 2002).

Craft Ideas

- Make and fill some storytime suitcases! Use brown or brightly colored file folders for suitcases, and punch two holes along each side (opposite the fold) to affix pipe cleaner handles so the suitcases will stay closed when they are carried. Decorate the outside of the folder suitcases with stickers or stamps to look like travel stickers. Have the children cut out pictures from old magazines of items they would like to bring on their trip, or draw pictures of the items. Glue the pictures inside the folder suitcases. Sing the opening chorus of “This Is the Way I Pack My Bags” and have each child show what they have packed.
- Cut up old road maps into manageable sized sections, and make paper cars, buses, boats, and so forth to drive on them.

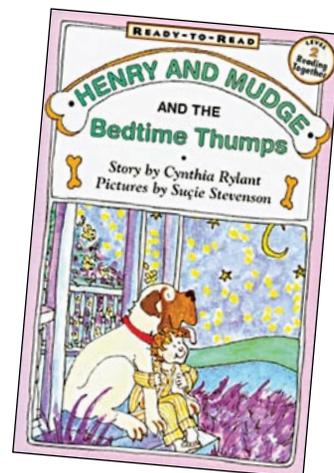
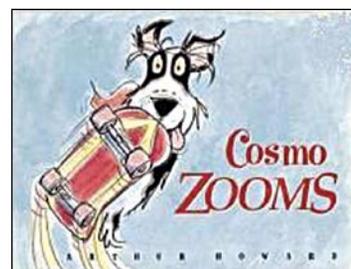
Additional Resources

- *All Aboard! A True Train Story* by Susan Kuklin. Orchard Books, 2003. Toddler–Grade 1. A photographic journey through part of the Colorado Rockies aboard a steam locomotive of the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad. Includes historical and descriptive notes on the Durango & Silverton trains.
- *The Bag I'm Taking to Grandma's* by Shirley Neitzel, illustrated by Nancy Winslow Parker. Greenwillow Books, 1995. PK–1. In cumulative verses and rebuses, a young boy and his mother have different views on how to pack a bag for a trip to Grandma's.
- *Big Brown Bear Goes to Town* by David McPhail. Harcourt, 2006. PK–1. Rat's car fills up with water when it rains, but his friend Big Brown Bear comes to the rescue.
- "Bumping Up and Down" on the sound recording *Singable Songs for the Very Young* by Raffi (MCA Records, 1976); musical notation is in *The Raffi Singable Songbook: A Collection of 51 Songs From Raffi's First Three Records for Young Children*. (Crown Publishers, 1987.)



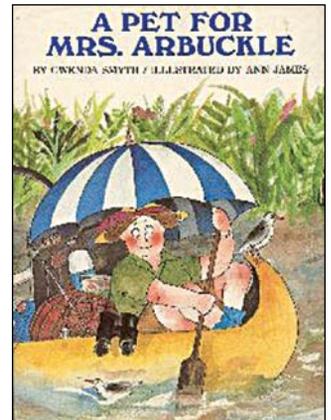
Extension Idea: Make up additional verses with other modes of transportation.

- *Cars! Cars! Cars!* by Grace MacCarone, illustrated by David A. Carter. Scholastic, 1995. Toddler–K. Simple rhymes and pictures portray many different kinds of cars.
- *Chugga-Chugga Choo-Choo* by Kevin Lewis, illustrated by Daniel Kirk. Hyperion Books for Children, 1999. Toddler–K. A rhyming story about a toy freight train's day, from loading freight in the morning to retiring to the roundhouse after the day's work is done.
- *Clickety Clack* by Rob and Amy Spence, illustrated by Margaret Spengler. Viking, 1999. PK–1. A train gets noisier and more crowded as quacking ducks, dancing acrobats, talking yaks, and packs of elephants board.
- *Cosmo Zooms* by Arthur Howard. Voyager Books, 2003. PK–2. Cosmo the dog discovers a special talent when he accidentally takes a nap on a skateboard.
- *Down By the Station* by Will Hillenbrand. Harcourt Brace, 1999. PK–1. In this version of a familiar song, baby animals ride to the children's zoo on the zoo train. Printed music on last page. (Available as a BIG Book.)
- *Duck On a Bike* by David Shannon. Blue Sky Press, 2002. PK–3. A duck decides to ride a bike and soon influences all the other animals on the farm to ride bikes too.
- *Emma's Vacation* by David McPhail. Dutton, 1991. PK–1. Emma's idea of a good vacation is quite different from that of her parents.
- *Freight Train* by Donald Crews. Greenwillow Books, 1978. Toddler–Grade 1. Brief text and illustrations trace the journey of a colorful train as it goes through tunnels, by cities, and over trestles. (Available as a BIG Book.)
- *Go! Poetry in Motion* by Dee Lillegard, illustrated by Valeri Gorbachev. Knopf, 2006. PK–1. Short, snappy poems capture the unique personalities of things that go, including bikes, skateboards, airplanes, sleds, skates, wagons, and many more.
- *Henry and Mudge and the Bedtime Thumps: The Ninth Book of Their Adventures* by Cynthia Rylant, illustrated by Suçie Stevenson. Macmillan, 1991. Easy

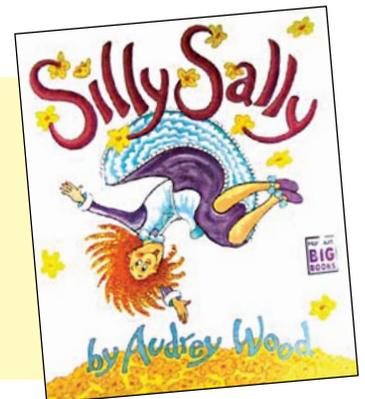


Reader. PK–1. Henry worries about what will happen to his big dog Mudge during their visit to his grandmother's house in the country.

- *Maisy Drives the Bus* by Lucy Cousins. Candlewick Press, 2000. Toddler–K. Maisy the mouse picks up an assortment of passengers as she drives her bus.
- *Mr. Gumpy's Motor Car* by John Burningham. Crowell, 1976. Toddler–Grade 1. Mr. Gumpy's human and animal friends squash into his old car and go for a drive. When it starts to rain, however, the car gets stuck in the mud and everyone must get out to help push.
- *My Car* by Byron Barton. Greenwillow Books, 2001. Toddler–Grade 1. Sam lovingly describes his car and how he drives it.
- *Now We Can Go* by Ann Jonas. Greenwillow Books, 1986. Toddler–K. A child must take all the toys from her toy box and put them in her bag before she is ready to go.
- *Oh No, Gotta Go!* by Susan Middleton Elya, illustrated by G. Brian Karas. Putnam, 2003. PK–1. As soon as she goes out for a drive with her parents, a young girl needs to find a bathroom quickly. Text includes Spanish words and phrases; there is a Spanish glossary and pronunciation guide at the end of the book.
- *On the Go* by Ann Morris; photographs by Ken Heyman. Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Books, 1990. PK–1. Discusses the ways in which people all over the world move from place to place, including walking, riding on animals, and traveling on wheels and water.
- *A Pet for Mrs. Arbuckle* by Gwenda Smyth, illustrated by Ann James. Crown Publishers, 1984. PK–2. Mrs. Arbuckle, who longs for a pet, travels the world with a helpful ginger cat to interview exotic animals for the position.
- *The Relatives Came* by Cynthia Rylant, illustrated by Stephen Gammell. Bradbury Press, 1985. K–3. The relatives come to visit from Virginia and everyone has a wonderful time.
- *Rooster's Off to See the World* by Eric Carle. Picture Book Studio, 1987. PK–1. A simple introduction to the meaning of numbers and sets as a rooster, on his way to see the world, is joined by fourteen animals along the way. (Available as a BIG Book.)
- *Sheep Take A Hike* by Nancy Shaw, illustrated by Margot Apple. Houghton Mifflin, 1994. PK–1. Having gotten lost on a chaotic hike in the great outdoors, the sheep find their way back by following the trail of wool they have left.
- *Silly Sally* by Audrey Wood. Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1992. Toddler–Grade 1. A rhyming story of Silly Sally, who makes many friends as she travels to town—walking backward, upside down. (Available in Spanish and as a BIG Book.)



Extension Idea: Read the story rhythmically, inviting participation with the repeated refrain “Silly Sally went to town, walking backward, upside down.” Make animal noises for each creature she meets, enhancing their ensuing interactions as desired. For example, bark “Woof, woof-leapfrog!” for the dog; sing a wacky operatic well-known tune for the loon; fall asleep snoring with the sheep, “Zzzzzz-baaaaa, zzzzzz-baaaaa;” and so forth. When the tickling begins, encourage the audience to giggle and laugh like each animal might (“oink-ha-ha” and so forth).



- *Tooth-Gnasher Superflash* by Daniel Pinkwater. Macmillan, 1990. PK–3. The Popsnorkle family test drives the Tooth-Gnasher Superflash, pleased with the car's ability to turn into several different animals.

Extension Idea: Make a magnet board story with colored flexible magnetic sheeting!

Storytime

- “Traffic Light” (author unknown)
Red on top; Green below.
Red means stop; Green means go.
Yellow means wait, Even if you’re late!

Extension Idea: Make a flannel board, magnet board, or cardboard traffic light and practice “Red means stop; green means go; and yellow means wait!”

- *Truck Driver Tom* by Monica Wellington. Dutton Children’s Books, 2007. Toddler–Grade 1. The driver of a tractor-trailer picks up a load of fresh fruits and vegetables, then drives through the countryside, past small towns, and into the big city, passing farms, construction sites, and many other vehicles. After delivering the produce, he relaxes with other drivers.
- *Truck Jam* by Paul Stickland. Ragged Bears, 2005. Toddler–Grade 1. Large pop-up illustrations feature various trucks engaged in activities such as pouring sand, getting stuck in traffic, and being towed.
- *Vroomaloom Zoom* by John Coy, illustrated by Joe Cepeda. Crown Publishers, 2000. PK–1. Daddy takes Carmela on an imaginary car ride, lulling her to sleep with various sounds, from the wurgle lurgle of swamps to the hoopty doopty swoopy loopty of driving in circles.
- *We’re Going On a Bear Hunt* retold by Michael Rosen, illustrated by Helen Oxenbury. Margaret K. McElderry Books, 1989. K–1. Brave bear hunters go through grass, a river, mud, and other obstacles before the inevitable encounter with the bear forces a headlong retreat. (Available in Spanish.)
- *The Wheels On the Race Car* by Alexander Zane, illustrated by James Warhola. Orchard Books, 2005. PK–1. Animal racecar drivers roar around the track. Text based on the popular song “The Wheels on the Bus.”

