



Storytime Kit: Construction

Read, sing, talk, write, and play when engaging with your young child. Use the books and toys in this kit, along with the activities below, to support the development of early literacy skills and instill a love of reading.

Read

Read the books in this kit with your child. Take time to look at and talk about the pictures.

Make the story come alive! Don't be afraid to use voices and have fun with reading.

Ask your child questions about what is happening in the story and what they think may happen next.

Encourage your child to participate: filling in rhymes, chanting refrains, making sounds, and acting out parts of the story.

Ask your child to help you identify the construction vehicles in the books. Talk about what each vehicle does.

Sing

Old MacDonald Had Some Tools

Old MacDonald had some tools, E-I-E-I-O.
And with those tools he had a hammer, E-I-E-I-O.
With a bang, bang, here and a bang, bang, there.
Here a bang, there a bang, everywhere a bang, bang,
Old MacDonald had some tools, E-I-E-I-O.

Continue singing with other tools:

Saw – See-saw

Wrench – Turn-turn

Screwdriver – Twist-twist

Pliers – Pinch-pinch

Drill – Zzzz-zzzz

Construction Worker Song

This is the way

This is the way we pound our nails, pound the nails, pound the nails

This is the way we pound the nails, so early in the morning

Repeat with additional actions:

Saw the wood, turn the screwdriver, drill a hole, stack the bricks, stir the paint, paint the walls

Alex Works With One Hammer

You can substitute your child or children's names into this song.

Alex works with one hammer, one hammer, one hammer
(*swing arm like using a hammer*)

Alex works with one hammer, Alex works with two

Alex works with two hammers, two hammers, two hammers
(*swing both arms*)

Alex works with two hammers, Alex works with three

Continue adding hammers and use arms, legs, head, etc. until you are moving your whole body!

Talk

In *Construction Crew*, the crew is building a house with various tools and materials. Talk about materials you can build houses with, even silly things! For example, how would it be to live in house made of chocolate? An exciting thought, but probably not great in summer when the chocolate melts.

Talk about the tools included in this kit and their functions. For instance, a hammer hammers nails. Can you find nails at home? What about screws?



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Write

After you talk about building houses with different materials, even silly materials, have your child draw what those houses might look like.

What letter does each tool start with? Pull out each tool and write the letter it starts with. For instance, if you pull out the hammer, have your child practice writing the letter H.

Play

Get out some blocks and construct a building of your own. Or use any materials you have at home to build something, like a fort. Bonus: Use the tools and construction vehicles provided in the kit for added fun when constructing your building.

Play Simon Says: Construction Edition! Use the tools in the kit to do things like hammer, drill, etc. during Simon Says. Let your child identify which tool is which as you ask them to drill, hammer, etc. Try and make sounds the tools would make while you play Simon Says.

This tip sheet stays with the kit. For a copy of your own, visit dtdl.org/littlethings. For more books, songs, rhymes, and activity ideas to share with your child, visit dtdl.org/storytimes.