



# Storytime Kit: Under The Sea

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.

Use the magnetic storytelling kit to help bring *The Pout-Pout Fish* to life. Remove the magnetic pieces before you begin. Place the magnetic pieces onto the board again as each character appears.

## Sing

### Did You Ever See a Fishy?

*Use the fishbowl toy as you sing and sway back and forth.*

Did you ever see a fishy, a fishy, a fishy?  
Did you ever see a fishy swim this way and that?  
Swim this way and that way,  
And this way and that way.  
Did you ever see a fishy swim this way and that?  
Yes, I've seen a fishy, a fishy, a fishy.  
Yes, I've seen a fishy swim this way and that.  
Swim this way and that way,  
And this way and that way.  
Yes, I've seen a fishy swim this way and that.

### I'm a Little Fishy

*Tune: I'm a Little Teapot*

I'm a little fishy, I can swim  
Here is my tail and here is my fin  
When I want to have fun with my friends  
I wiggle my tail and dive right in

### Pointy, Pointy Little Starfish

*Tune: Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star*

*Use the starfish from the fishbowl as you sing!*  
Pointy, pointy little starfish  
How I wonder where you are  
Down under the deep, blue sea  
Swimming around so carelessly  
Pointy, pointy little starfish  
How I wonder where you are

## Talk

Ask your child about the rhyming words in *The Pout-Pout Fish*. For example, "frown" and "down" are rhyming words, and so are words like "ocean" and "locomotion." Can you think of any other words from the story that rhyme?

Can you name all the sea animals that go to see the Pout-Pout Fish in the story?

In *The Pout-Pout Fish*, a friend eventually helps cheer the Pout-Pout Fish up. Can you think of a time when you cheered someone up or when someone cheered you up?

In *Nugget and Fang*, Nugget and Fang are best friends! What are your friends and family like?

The seahorse is hidden for most of *The Secret Seahorse*. Have you ever lost something? Did you find it?



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## Write

Write lists of rhyming words that your child knows, or help them rhyme words that they know but that they might not know rhyme!

Retell the story of *The Pout-Pout Fish*, *The Secret Seahorse* or *Nugget and Fang* using the magnetic storytelling kit or the fish bowl, or create a brand new story. You may wish to focus on themes from the books in this kit like friendship or looking for hidden things.

In *Nugget and Fang*, Nugget has to learn about math when he goes to school. His teacher teaches him that  $1+1=2$  and  $2+2=4$ . There are four fish in the toy fishbowl. Use them to demonstrate the ideas of adding and subtracting. You may also write and explore other basic math ideas using the magnetic kit.

## Play

Explore and experiment with the storytelling kit. What shapes are the fish? What colors are they? How can you sort them?

Can you move like each of the sea animals that went to visit the Pout-Pout Fish? How do you think they would sound?

Look into a mirror with your child. Make a “pout-pout” face with them. What other emotions can you express? Can you make a happy face? A mad face?

Hide the seahorse included with the toy fishbowl in a room in which your child is safe and comfortable. Ask them to find the “secret seahorse,” just like in the book! They may look on their own or with your help. Hide the other fish, as well, and collect them in the fishbowl as you find them.

Play a game of Simon Says using all of the actions from *The Pout-Pout Fish*, *The Secret Seahorse*, and *Nugget and Fang*. “Simon” can switch between the books, or you can go through one at a time.

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