

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.

Talk about the story. Help your child relate it to their own experiences.

## Sing

### **Drive, Drive, Drive Your Car**

*Tune: Row, Row, Row Your Boat*

Drive, drive, drive your car,  
All around the town!  
Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily,  
Up the hills and down.

Turn, turn, turn the key,  
Make the engine roar.  
Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily,  
Let's go to the store.

Press, press, press the pedal,  
Give the engine gas.  
Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily,  
Now we're going fast.

Turn, turn, turn the wheel,  
That is how we steer.  
Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily,  
Let's just park right here.

### **The Wheels on the Train**

*Tune: The Wheels on the Bus*

The wheels on the train go clickety-clack  
Clickety-clack, clickety-clack  
The wheels on the train go clickety-clack  
All along the track

The whistle on the train goes toot, toot, toot  
The conductor on the train says, "Ticket, please!"  
The people on the train go bounce, bounce, bounce  
The engine on the train goes chug, chug, chug

## Talk

Talk with your child about vehicles. What is their favorite vehicle? What color would it be? Where would they drive it? How fast can it go?

As you play with the Trucks Color Match Up Game and Puzzle, ask your child to count wheels or identify unique features like cranes or digging equipment.

## Write

Draw a picture of you riding in your favorite vehicle. Draw a picture of your favorite person riding with you!

Can you draw a vehicle using only shapes? Examples of shapes to use: circles, squares, rectangles, triangles.

## Play

Use the Mix and Match Magnetic Vehicles to build trucks, cars, and trains that you read about in the books.

Use masking tape or painters tape to plot out a road on the floor for the vehicles. Use items around your house to build a town next to your road. What do you like about your miniature town?

Draw a start and finish line on the floor. Have children move the cars from the start to the finish line, pushing them with a specific body part (nose, elbow, feet, blowing on them with their mouth, etc.).

Play with the Trucks Color Match Up Game and Puzzle. There are three ways you can play: Cards face up teach basic recognition, face down for memory match, and floor puzzle for problem solving.

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).