Madison Public Library’s

Storytime Starters

Carpentry

Books for Toddlers:

Bling Blang by Woody Guthrie, © 2000. (RHYMES, Guthrie)
Old MacDonald Had a Woodshop by Lisa Shulman, © 2002. (RHYMES, Shulman)
Tap Tap Bang Bang by Emma Garcia, © 2010. (CONCEPTS, Garcia)
Tools Rule by Aaron Meshon, © 2014. (FAVORITES, Meshon)

Books for Preschoolers:

Building a House by Byron Barton, © 1981. (+690.8373 Barton)
Building Our House by Jonathan Bean, © 2013. (GO, Bean)
Building Tools by Inez Snyder, © 2002. (+684.16 Snyder)
The House that Zack Built by Alison Murray, © 2014. (RHYMES, Murray)
Iggy Peck Architect by Andrea Beaty, © 2007. (STORIES, Beaty)
Raise the Roof! by Anastasia Suen, © 2003. (STORIES, Suen)
This Is the House that Jack Built by Simms Taback, © 2002. (RHYMES, Taback)
Tools by Taro Miura, © 2005. (CONCEPTS, Miura)

Fingerplays & Songs:

Madison Public Library
www.madisonpubliclibrary.org/kids
rev. 12/2013 AR/YS
The Hammer Song
Jenny works with one hammer,
(swing left fist, hammer motion)
One hammer, one hammer.
Jenny works with one hammer.
Then she works with two.

Jenny works with two hammers,
(swing right fist as well)
Two hammers, two hammers.
Jenny works with two hammers.
Then she works with three.

Jenny works with three hammers,
(stamp left foot as well)
Three hammers, three hammers.
Jenny works with three hammers.
Then she works with four.

Jenny works with four hammers,
(stamp right foot as well)
Four hammers, four hammers.
Jenny works with four hammers.
Then she works with five.
Jenny works with five hammers,
(nod head as well)

Five hammers, five hammers.
Jenny works with five hammers.
Then she goes to sleep!
(stop all motions and rest head on hands)

Five Little Nails
Five little nails
Standing straight and steady
Here comes the carpenter
With a hammer ready!
Bam! Bam! Bam!

(Count down to one nail. After each verse, ask kids how many nails are left.)

My House
I’m going to build a little house
(fingers form roof)
With windows big and bright
(fingers and thumbs form windows)
With chimney tall and curling smoke
(stand with arms up in air)
Drifting out of sight.
In winter when the snowflakes fall,
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(hands flutter down)
Or when I hear a storm
(hand cupped to ear)
I’ll go sit in my little house
(sit down)
Where I’ll be snug and warm.
(Cross arms over chest)

A House for Me

(perform actions indicated by words)
The carpenter’s hammer goes
Rap, rap, rap,
And his saw goes see, saw, see,
He hammers and he hammers,
And saws and saws.
And builds a house for me!
(draw an outline of a house in the air)

This is the Way We Build a House

(Tune: “Mulberry Bush”)

This is the way we build a house,
Build a house, build a house.
This is the way we build a house,
So early in the morning.

This is the way we hammer the nails,
Hammer the nails, hammer the nails.
This is the way we hammer the nails,
So early in the morning.

This is the way we saw the wood,
Saw the wood, saw the wood.
This is the way we saw the wood,
So early in the morning.
Big Book: This Is My House

Flannel Boards: My Tool Chest, The House that Jack Built (2 options), The House in the Woods, Green House, Not a Box

Prop Stories: Three Little Pigs (puppets)

Movies: I’m Dirty (DVD, 8min.), Goodnight, Goodnight, Construction Site (DVD, 9min.)

App: Sago Mini Toolbox + Fox & Sheep Little Builders

Stamps: Little House

Craft: Using die-cut shapes (and any other craft supplies you want to use!), have the children “build” something. They can then glue them onto construction paper and decorate.

Play Literacy: Play with blocks at the end of storytime.

Early Learning Tip: Books are tools! Help your child understand how a book works by talking about the parts of the book, how to hold it, and how to use it.