

Perry Public Library Story Time



From Big to Small

Stories we shared:

Little Humans – by Brandon Stanton

You're Too Small! - by Shen Roddie

Big and Little: Things That Go – by Rebecca Bondor

Other books you may enjoy sharing:

The Mitten / Brett

Big Fat Hen / Baker

Big and Small / Bennett

Dex / Buehner, Caralyn

The Flea / Cohen

Little Elliot, Big City / Curato

So Big! / Faulkner

The Short Giraffe / Flory

Mr. Tall / Hargreaves

You Are (not) Small / Kang

Big Cat Small Cat / Rubinger

Little Tug / Savage

Big Big Sea / Waddell

Three Billy Goats Gruff / Asbjornsen

Tiny Seed / Carle

Clifford the big red dog / Bridwell

Big Sister Little Sister / Curtis

Big Dog, Little Dog / Eastman

Just me and my little brother / Mayer

Measurement / Pistoia

Big Bear Little Bear / Amerikaner

Little Mouse and the Big Cupcake / Taylor

Tell Me What It's Like to Be Big / Dunbar

The little mouse the red ripe strawberry and the big hungry bear / Wood

Clifford, the Small Red Puppy / Bridwell

Little Elephants / Base

Lulu the Big Little Chick / Bogan

Cork & Fuzz Short and Tall / Chaconas

Big Bug / Cole

Tiny Rabbit's Big Wish / Engle

My Big Brother / Fisher, Valorie

My Humongous Hamster / Freytag

Danny and the Dinosaur Too Tall / Hale

I'm Mighty! / McMullan

A Very Big Bunny / Russo

Giant Apple / Scheffler

Little Bug / Gackenback

What Size / Mackinnon

Giant Zucchini / Siracusa

Big bad Bruce / Peet

How big is a pig / Beaton

Big Helper / Bright

Just me and my little sister / Mayer

Oh So Tiny Bunny / Kirk

D.W. Thinks Big / Brown

How Big Is A Pig? Beaton

Am I Big or Little? / Bridges

Big, Bigger, Biggest! / Coffelt

Maisy Big, Maisy Small / Cousins

The Tiny Wish / Evert

My Big Sister / Fisher

Room for Bear / Gavin

Big Chickens / Helakoski

When Tiny Was Tiny / Meister

Big Little / Sami

Mushroom in the Rain / Ginsburg

Little House / Burton

My Big Dog / Stevens

Big and Little / Jenkins

I'm big / McMullan

Am I Big or Little / Bridges

Wake up big barn / Chitwood

Busy Little Squirrel / Tafuri, Nancy

Let's Sort by Size / Coss



Early Literacy & Early Math Extras:

The tips below highlight ways that you can help your child learn early math skills by building on their natural curiosity and having fun together.

- **Big, Bigger and Biggest** Have three different sizes of a similar item. This may be 3 containers, 3 books, 3 toys, 3 dolls, 3 balls or something similar. Discuss with the children which one is the biggest and why. Choose two children to stand with you, look in a mirror and ask, "Which one of us is the biggest?"
- **Let's Dress Up!** Bring in some adult size dress up clothes. Walk in with an over-sized jacket or shoes! If they are laughing or looking at you in a strange way ask them, "What is wrong with what I am wearing?" Hopefully someone will say, "It's too big!" Then have willing children put on some of the clothes on top of their own. Ask the students what they think. They are all too big. Show your child baby or doll clothes and tell them that they are your clothes and you are going to put them on. Ask your child if you can wear them. most likely they will answer "No, they are too small!"

- **Time to Move:** Use three balls: big, bigger and biggest. Toss or roll the ball to your child saying, "This is a big ball!" your child tosses it back saying, "This is a big ball." Then do the same with the next ball, "This is a bigger ball!" Finally, do the same with the last ball, "This is the biggest ball!"
- **Play "Follow the leader"** emphasizing big and small things and verbalizing as you go along: "Let's take small steps."
"Let's touch the small chair." "Let's take big hops." "Let's make big circles with our arms." "Let's show a small smile."
"Let's make a small frown." "Let's curl up in a small ball."
- **People are different sizes.** Show your child a baby or a picture of a baby with a mommy. Show how the baby is little and the mommy is big. Compare your own hand sizes, foot sizes, height, fingers & toes, head etc.
- **Small, smaller and smallest:** 1. Hold up an object like a book and ask your child to find one that is smaller than the one you have. 2. Ask your child to bring you three crayons. Then decide which is the smallest. 3. Have a partner activity! Make block towers and compare whose is taller or smaller. 4. Hold up a cracker and ask your child how to make it smaller. Yum!
- **Elastic Size :** Get a long piece of wide elastic and have your child hold one end and you hold the other. Ask your child to walk away from you holding their end. Watch the elastic get bigger and longer and then smaller as you walk back together.
- **Blow up a balloon** and watch it grow – then let the air out and watch it get smaller
- **Size Hunt :** go on a nature walk "size hunt" to find things in the outdoor environment of different sizes: something smaller than our fingernail, bigger than our hand, longer than our arm, smaller than our foot, bigger than our whole body, larger than a leaf, smaller than a house, etc.
- **Use play-doh or clay** and make big and little balls together - make long and short snakes too.
- **Go outside** and show your child all of the big things (trees, house, mountain etc.). Show him all of the little things (bugs, rocks, flowers, dirt etc.). Have him point out some big and little things.
- **Sort** your child's stuffed animals into groups of big and little. Talk about which animals are big and which are small (elephants and mice, whales and small fish, dinosaurs and spiders)
- **Building Sizes with Blocks:** use blocks or boxes to build towers that are smaller than their body, larger than their body, and the same size as their body.
- **Measurement:** Technically, this is finding the length, height, and weight of an object using units like inches, feet or pounds. Measurement of time (in minutes, for example) also falls under this skill area. Try measuring things around the house using a ruler or yardstick, blocks, or pencils to measure a table, a small rug, or a bookcase. Smaller areas can be measured by using paper clips.
- **Estimation:** This is the ability to make a good guess about the amount of size of something. This is very difficult for young children to do. You can help them by using size words in every day conversation and showing them the meaning of the words like more, less, bigger, smaller, more than, less than.
- **Count and sort.** Gather together a basket of small toys, shells, pebbles or buttons. Count them with your child. Sort them based on size, color, or what they do (i.e., all the cars in one pile, all the animals in another).
- **Sorting by size:** gather similar objects that come in two sizes (lego bricks, pom poms) and two containers (bowl, box, basket) one large and one small. Help you child sort the large items into the large container and the small items into the small container. This activity can be used to practice small muscle skills by having your child use tongs to pick up the items to sort.
- **What size is it?** Notice the sizes of objects in the world around you: That red car is the biggest. The blue car is the smallest. Ask your child to think about his own size relative to other objects ("Do you fit under the table? Under the chair?").

- **Comparing Sizes:** Show the children three boxes (or shoes, or books, or balls...) and talk with them about the size of each one. Next, place the boxes on the table in front of the children. Ask, "Can you show me the small box?". Next, ask, "Can you show me the medium-size box?". Finally, ask, "Can you show me the biggest box. Have them help you place the boxes in order from the smallest to the largest. This activity can also be done with clothing, such as shoes, shirts, or pants.
- **What fits best?** Provide assortment clothing in various sizes, such as baby socks, child-sized socks, grown-up pants, and a large jacket. Have your child explore the items to see which ones fit. Which one fits the best? Which is too large? Too small? Who might wear that size?, etc.
- **You're cookin' now!** All children love to cook and even young children can help fill, stir, and pour. Through these activities, children learn, quite naturally, to count, measure, add, and estimate. Plan a simple recipe where children measure with cups and tablespoons.
- **Walk it off.** Taking a walk gives children many opportunities to compare (which stone is bigger?), assess (how many acorns did we find?), note similarities and differences (does the duck have fur like the bunny does?) and categorize (see if you can find some red leaves). You can also talk about size (by taking big and little steps), estimate distance (is the park close to our house or far away?), and practice counting (let's count how many steps until we get to the corner).
- **Big on blocks.** Give your child the chance to play with wooden blocks, plastic interlocking blocks, empty boxes, milk cartons, etc. Stacking and manipulating these toys help children learn about shapes and the relationships between shapes (e.g., two triangles make a square). Nesting boxes and cups for younger children help them understand the relationship between different sized objects.
- **Tunnel time.** Open a large cardboard box at each end to turn it into a tunnel. This helps children understand where their body is in space and in relation to other objects.
- **The long and the short of it.** Cut a few (3-5) pieces of ribbon, yarn or paper in different lengths. Talk about ideas like long and short. With your child, put in order of longest to shortest.
- **Playground math.** As your child plays, make comparisons based on height (high/low), position (over/under), or size (big/little).
- **Graphing games.** As your child nears three and beyond, make a chart where your child can put a sticker each time it rains or each time it is sunny. At the end of a week, you can estimate together which column has more or less stickers, and count how many to be sure.

Songs and rhymes to share:

Twinkle Twinkle Little Star

Ernest was an Elephant: by A. A. Milne

Ernest was an elephant, a great big fellow
(*round arms in front of tummy*)

Leonard was a lion, with a six foot tail
(*hold arms out wide*)

George was a goat, and his beard was yellow
(*stroke pretend beard on chin*)

And James was a very small snail
(*hold out thumb and index finger like pinching*)

Snowballs

Great big ball rolling down the street
(*large circle with arms / roll hands*)

Great big ball landing at my feet (*touch feet*)

How it got here I don't know (*shrug shoulders*)

A great big ball made of snow
(*repeat with middle sized and teeny tiny ball*)

Three round balls made of snow (*hold up 3 fingers*)

Now just watch my snowman grow

Up go the balls, 1, 2, 3 (*build snowman*)

Now my snowman's as big as me! (*reach up high*
voice)

voice)

Tall As A Tree

Tall as a tree (*reach arms up high*)

Big as a house (*arms out wide*)

Thin as a pin (*arms down at sides*)

Small as a mouse (*crouch down low*)

Big and Little

(*sing to the tune of Twinkle Twinkle Little Star*)

This is big and this is little

This is big and this is little

Big, little, big, little,

Big, little, big little,

This is big and this is little

This is big and this is little

Eensy Weensy Spider

Balls

A Little ball (*small circle with hands*)

A middle sized ball (*larger circle*)

A great big ball I see (*large circle with arms*)

Now lets count them

Are you ready?

One, two, three! (*repeat all 3 hand circles*)

Do You Suppose?

Do you suppose a giant

Who is tall, tall, tall (*stretch up on toes*)

Could ever be an elf

Who is small, small, small (*crouch down*)

But the elf who is tiny

Will try, try, try

To reach up to the giant (*reach up high*)

Who is high, high, high!

One is a Giant

One is a giant who stomps his feet (*stomp feet / big*

Two is a fairy so light and neat (*tiptoe / quiet voice*)

Three is a mouse who crouches up small (*crouch / high*

And four is a great big bouncing ball! (*jump and bounce*)

I Am In Between

Giraffes are tall (*arms up high*)

Monkeys are small (*reach down low*)

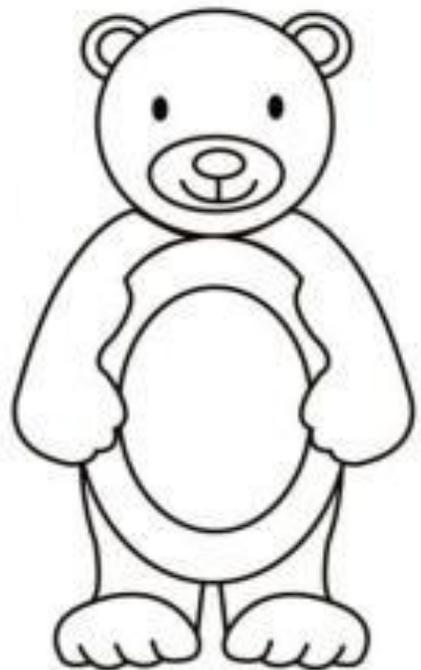
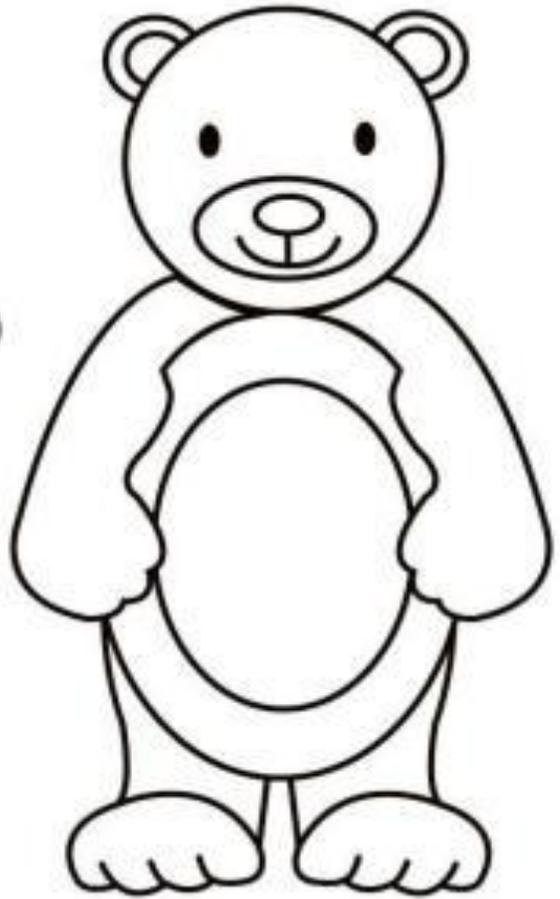
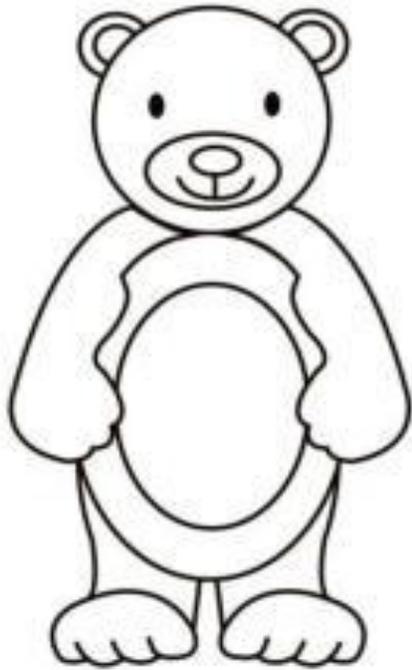
And zebras are in between (*hands at waist level*)

Grownups are tall (*reach up high*)

Babies are small (*reach down low*)

And I am in between! (*stand straight and point to self*)

Color the small bears red, the middle sized bears blue, the big bears yellow



Color and compare

Which one is bigger? Which one is smaller?

