



Dear Caregivers:

Today we used some of these books, fingerplays, and other materials in our storytime. Please continue helping your child develop by sharing these at home!

# CONSTRUCTION

## LETTER OF THE DAY

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## BOOKS TO SHARE

*Brick By Brick*  
by Heidi Sheffield

*Bigger! Bigger!*  
by Leslie Patricelli

*Builders & Breakers*  
by Steve Light

*Bulldozer Helps Out*  
by Candace Fleming

*Billions of Bricks*  
by Kurt Cyrus

*Builder Goose: It's  
Construction Rhyme Time!*  
by Boni Ashburn

*Goodnight, Goodnight,  
Construction Site*  
by Sherri Rinker

*Kitten And The Night  
Watchman*  
by John Sullivan

*Diggers Go*  
by Steve Light

*Baby Builders*  
by Elissa Haden Guest

*Little Excavator*  
by Anna Dewdney

*Tap, Tap, Bang, Bang*  
by Emma Garcia

## FUN WITH FINGERPLAYS AND SONGS

### Janie Works With One Hammer [action rhyme]

Janie works with one hammer, one hammer, one hammer, **[one fist moves up and down]**

Janie works with one hammer, and then he works with two . . . **[both fists going up and down]**

**[Verses: Three hammers; both fists on legs and one foot on the floor**

**Four hammers; both fists on legs and both feet on the floor;**

**Five hammers; both fists on legs, both feet on floor; head bobbing up and down]**

### Pound The Nails

**[Tune: "Here We Go 'Round The Mulberry Bush"]**

This is the way we pound the nails, pound the nails, Pound the nails.

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

**[Verses: "saw the wood;" "stack the bricks;" "stir the paint;" "paint the wall"]**

### Where Are Trucks?

**[Tune: "Where is Thumbkin?"]**

Where is bulldozer? Where is bulldozer?

Here I am. Here I am.

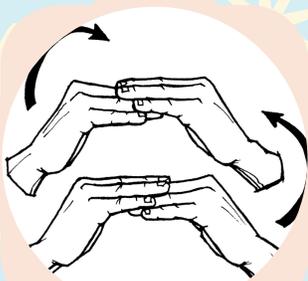
How are you today, sir? Very well, I thank you.

Drive away. Drive away.

**[Verses: Excavator, crane, backhoe, loader]**

## ASL SIGN OF THE DAY

"Build"



Start with hands in front of you with fingers together and palms facing downward.

Place your dominant hand on top of your non-dominant and begin a repetitive movement

in which one hand

supersedes the other until both hands are right in front of your nose.

## Five Little Nails [fingerplay]

Five little nails  
Standing straight and steady.  
Here comes the carpenter  
With a hammer ready!  
Bam! Bam! Bam! **[remove one nail]**

**[Count down until there are no 'nails' left]**

## It's Off To Work Bear Goes

**[Tune: "Dwarf Working Song" from Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs]**

Hi Ho, Hi Ho, it's off to work Bear goes  
With thick work pants and a safety vest  
Hi Ho, Hi Ho, Hi Ho, Hi Ho  
Hi Ho, Hi Ho, it's off to work Bear goes  
With steel toed boots and a hard hat  
Hi Ho, Hi Ho, Hi Ho, Hi Ho  
Hi Ho, Hi Ho, it's off to work Bear goes  
With safety glasses and a tape measure  
Hi Ho, Hi Ho, Hi Ho, Hi Ho  
Hi Ho, Hi Ho, it's off to work Bear goes  
With a long level and a hammer  
Hi Ho, Hi Ho, Hi Ho, Hi Ho!

## Building a Skyscraper [action rhyme]

I'm building a skyscraper,  
Brick by brick  
By brick by brick. **[continue to sign 'build' higher and higher towards sky]**  
My building's so high  
It's scraping the sky!

**"If I Had a Hammer" by Pete Seeger (1950)**  
**"Build Me Up, Buttercup" by The Foundations (1967)**

## MORE FUN!

### Taller, Taller!

#### Material Options:

Plastic cups  
Legos  
Foam blocks  
Wooden blocks  
Sliced pool noodle rounds  
Magnatiles



Lay out a variety of building materials (some suggestions are listed above, but get creative!).

Instruct your child(ren) to use any of materials provided to build the tallest buildings they can.

While they work, talk with your child about which material(s) are easiest to stack and which ones are harder.

***This is a great fine-motor and hand-eye coordination strengthening exercise and it builds your child(ren)'s problem-solving skills!***

Print (and laminate, if possible) some pictures of famous landmarks and put them up near your child's play area. They can use them as inspiration for their own building projects! Make sure to include buildings from around the world to introduce your child(ren) to different cultures' architectural styles.

Don't be afraid to use specific vocabulary when reading books or talking with your children about construction. This is a great opportunity to introduce novel words like "backhoe" or "bulldozer." ***The bigger of a variety of words your child is exposed to, the easier it will be for them to learn to read when the time comes!***

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