



**collaborative**  
summer library program™

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# Early Literacy

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**BLANK PAGES ARE INTENTIONAL FOR  
ITEMS TO BE PRINTER FRIENDLY.**

# The Land of Make Believe

## **SING** | Hippy Hop (to the tune of “Row, Row, Row Your Boat”)

This is a fun song that can be done sitting with baby in parent and caregiver’s lap or a child hopping.

Hip, hip, hippity hop (bounce baby)  
Hippity, hippity, hop (bounce baby)  
We’ll hop around the room today (bounce baby)  
Until it’s time to stop. (stop bouncing baby)

## **TALK** | Five Little Gingerbread Men Counting Game

Have fun counting down the gingerbread men in this repetitive rhyme. Use the templates of the gingerbread man to help tell the rhyme. For additional hands-on participation and talking opportunity, let the children color and decorate one of the gingerbread men for the rhyme.

5 little gingerbread men lying on the tray.  
1 jumped up and ran away!  
Catch me, catch me, if you can.  
I run really fast.  
I’m the gingerbread man!  
Additional Verses  
4 little gingerbread men . . .  
3 little gingerbread men . . .  
2 little gingerbread men . . .  
1 little gingerbread man . . .

## **WRITE** | Texture Sorting

Put together a small bowl that has cotton balls, marshmallows and beans in it. Talk with your child about what they feel like: squishy, soft, sticky, smooth, etc. Then have them sort by what they are. For babies, you can use cotton balls and large marshmallows and have the baby feel each one before sorting them.

## **PLAY** | There Was a Crooked Man

### **Supplies:**

- Masking or painters tape, chalk, yarn, or string

Make a crooked tape line on the floor (you can also make a chalk line outside or create one with yarn or a string. Have children walk the crooked line. Have them walk on the line backward, sideways, and jumping on it. Modify it for your child’s abilities. An adult can walk the baby on the line. A toddler might walk backwards and forward, etc.

## Read | There Once Were Three Bears

Share this version of the classic story.

There once were three brown bears,  
Mother, Father, Baby Bear.  
Mother's food was way too cold.  
Father's food was way too hot.  
Baby's food was all gone.  
Someone ate it, so he cried.

There once was three brown bears,  
Mother, Father, Baby Bear.  
Mother's Chair was way too low.  
Father's chair was way too high.  
Baby's chair was just right.  
But when she sat, she broke it.

There once three brown bears,  
Mother, Father, Baby Bear.  
Mother's bed was way too soft.  
Father's bed was way too hard.  
Baby's bed was occupied.  
Someone strange was sleeping there.  
"Come here quickly," Baby cried.  
"Someone's sleeping in my bed!"  
"Who are you?" asked Baby Bear.  
"Who are you?" asked Goldilocks.  
"You better run," said Baby Bear.  
"I will," said Goldilocks.



# Gingerbread Boy Templates







