Books we shared today:

**Polar Bear’s Underwear**
by Tupera Tupera

**Touchwords: Clothes**
by Rilla Alexander

**Shake, Wiggle & Roll**
by Carli Davidson

Reading Readiness Tips:
When you share tactile books, you are building print motivation, which is the literacy skill activated by having an interest in books. The cut outs in Polar Bear’s Underwear allow the book to become a guessing game. Younger children may need extended time to guess the next animal, while older children may need extra time for giggling.

Bringing books to life through an activity also builds a child’s print motivation.

Pairing the song “There’s Something in My Garden” with animals from Polar Bear’s Underwear extends the fun beyond the act of reading the book.

Incorporating these 2 practices into your routine will help children be more prepared to read and succeed!

There’s Something in My Garden
There’s something in my garden
That I cannot see
There’s something in my garden
I wonder what it could be?
I hear its funny sound:
Buzz buzz buzz
A bee is what I’ve found!

Pennsylvania Core Standards— English Language Arts

Foundations Skills: CC.1.1.PK.A, B, C, D

Reading Informational Text: CC.1.2.PK.A, B, C, E, F, G, I, J, K


Writing: CC.1.4.PK.M, O, P

Speaking & Listening: CC.1.5.PK.A, B, C, D, E, G

January 2022
Lesson Extensions

Related Readings

**Dad Bakes**
by Katie Yamasaki

A father and his daughter bake bread together. Pair with a baking activity for your classroom.

**If You’re Happy and You Know It**
by Annie Kubler

A first book of nursery rhymes, in a board book perfect to support book handling. Also includes interactive text for ideas on how to activate these rhymes.

**Keeping the City Going**
by Brian Floca

One of the better 2020/21 themed books about the importance of essential workers.

**Tummy Time Friends**
by Pat Brisson

An accordion style book with photographs of babies. The fold-out format is great for supporting tummy-time!

Additional Activities

**Family Engagement**
Name Scavenger Hunt

Go on a family scavenger hunt to look for letters of the alphabet. Environmental print is all around us: on street signs, on packaging, even found in nature. For babies and toddlers, look for letters that are found in their names. For preschoolers, you could “assign “ a string of alphabet letters (for instance JKLM), and ask parents to document their found letters by snapping photos with a camera phone and emailing or texting them. You could print the photographs and display a community created alphabet in the classroom.

**Extension Activity: Baby and Toddler**
Pool Noodle Threading

Cut at least two different pool noodles into 1 inch round pieces. Use a jump rope or other thick rope, and wrap duct tape around one end so that you have a workable end for threading. Encourage toddlers to hold the duct-taped end of the rope in one hand, and a pool noodle in the other.

This activity strengthens their hand-eye coordination, especially in regards to crossing the midline. You can ask them to make a pattern, or make letters or numbers with the noodle pieces to challenge them once they are developmentally ready.

**Extension Activity: Pre-K**
Alphabet Beach Ball

- Beach Ball
- Sharpie

Inflate the beach ball and use the sharpie to write capital (or lowercase) letters all over the beach ball. When dry, use the beach ball at circle time. Introduce the ABC beach ball with circle norms to set expectations, and then gently toss the ball to a child and ask them to find a certain letter on the ball. Once they’ve found the letter, they’ll call out a different letter and gently toss it to another student. This develops letter knowledge as well as print motivation.