

Toddler Language: The Wheels on the Bus



Learning Value:

This activity promotes development and learning by encouraging children to understand and use a growing vocabulary.

Materials Needed:

- ▶ [“The Wheels on the Bus”](#)

Participants:

This activity is intended for adult/child interaction.

Directions:

Step 1: Sit with your child and sing the song, “The Wheels on the Bus.” Do the hand actions and encourage your child to copy you.

Step 2: Sing the song repeatedly over time to build focus, memory, and phonological awareness. Smile and use big gestures to engage your child.

Step 3: Change the words to create new songs, e.g., “The Whistle on the Train.”

Learn More: Show your child how to pretend with toy vehicles at home. Build roads or tunnels for them from paper, toys, or other materials. Toddlers initially use toys for sensory exploration. They might pound two cars together or push them across the floor. Later, they begin to actually pretend with them, using them to represent cars. When you model pretend play for your child, you nurture that higher level thinking.

Bright Horizons.

World at Home

