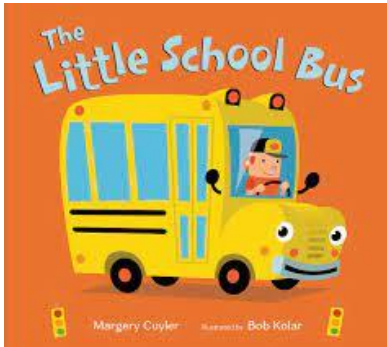


Literacy is an essential foundation of early child development. Children are never too young to start experiencing books and language. When a child is read to, they are learning the beginning basics of communication, plus, they love the sound of their loved one’s voices!



## The Little School Bus By Margery Cuyler

It’s Back to School season for children! This is the perfect time to talk about school and buses! *The Little School Bus* tells the story of a school bus and its driver and their daily journey. It is available in board book, paperback, hardcover, and Kindle versions.

**Read Aloud:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kmEhumWWozU>

**Wheels on the Bus with actions:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EtXObwSbtDs>

**Wheels on the Bus with actions ASL:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D4-FT8K0cQQ>



**Tips for how to read to a toddler:**

- use this time to connect with your child physically, engage them in verbal and finger play, and singing
- use the words in the story to guide your movements: make a car horn honking sound, turn your hands like they are on a steering wheel, slurp coffee
- let your child handle the book, turn it over, mouth the pages in board books, turn the pages
- encourage your child to turn the pages correctly
- adapt the story to your child’s attention span
- focus on the beginning and the end of the story
- incorporate props and toys that match the story: have your child drive a toy bus and sing the song
- it’s okay to skip words or make up your own words
- be animated, fun, and silly; use exclamations!
- Label prepositions, nouns, and actions: on/under, in/out, bus/driver/kids/wheels, driving, riding, sitting, etc.
- show or ask your child how to point to or touch pictures
- ask “Wh” questions (who, what, where)

Contributed by: Meghann Briggs, Holly Ridge Center 8/16/2021

