



November Story Time Ideas from the Elm Grove Library



Create a story time at home by using some of the elements below. Whatever your child's age, story time provides an opportunity to play with language and engage with your child.

- Rhymes hold the attention of young children and help early readers identify words. Try substituting different words in some of the rhymes below to listen for the matching sounds.
- Singing simple songs enhances a child's ability to hear syllables and pronunciation. If you aren't sure of the tune, check YouTube or just use the words as a rhyme.
- Point to words on the page as you say them so your child can begin to connect reading and writing.
- Ask questions as you read to help your child think about the story or predict what might happen.
- Coloring strengthens a child's ability to hold a pencil or crayon which is the first step in writing. Take home a coloring sheet and talk about how the picture relates to the stories you are reading.

Rhymes

Five Little Squirrels

Five little squirrels with acorns to store
One went to sleep and then there were four!
Four little squirrels hunting acorns in a tree
One fell down and then there were three!
Three little squirrels wondering what to do
One got lost and then there were two!
Two little squirrels tossing acorns for fun
One got tired and then there was one!
One little squirrel playing in the sun
He ran away and then there were none.

The Squirrel

Traditional (from the book Finger Rhymes collected and illustrated by Marc Brown)

Whisky, frisky, hippity-hop
Up he goes to the treetop. (run the fingers of one hand up the other arm to the fingertips)
Whirly, twirly, round and round,
Down he scampers to the ground. (run fingers around other arm back down from fingertips)
Furly, curly, what a tail
Tall as a feather, broad as a sail! (hold hand up and wave)
Where's his supper? In the shell. (cup hands together forming a nutshell)
Snappity, crackity. Out it fell. (open hands)

Five Fat Turkeys

Five fat turkeys were sitting on a fence. (Hold up five fingers)

The first one said, "I'm so immense! (stretch hands far apart)

The second one said, "I can gobble at you." (use hand for talking motion)

The third one said, "I can gobble, too." (both hands talk)

The fourth one said, "I can spread my tail." (fan fingers wide)

The fifth one said, "Don't catch it on a nail." (shake finger in a scolding motion)

A farmer came along and stopped to say, "Turkeys look best on Thanksgiving Day."

Songs

I'm Glad I'm Not a Turkey

Sung to: Did You Ever See a Lassie?

Oh, I'm glad I'm not a turkey, a turkey, a turkey

Oh, I'm glad I'm not a turkey on Thanksgiving day.

They'll stuff you and baste you and then they will taste you.

Oh, I'm glad I'm not a turkey on Thanksgiving Day!

This is the Way on Thanksgiving Day

Lyrics by Susan Olson Higgins, Tune: Here we go 'round the Mulberry Bush)

This is the way to Grandma's house, Grandma's house, Grandma's house

This is the way to Grandma's house on Thanksgiving Day.

This is the way to drive the car, drive the car, drive the car,

This is the way to drive the car on Thanksgiving Day.

This is the way to eat the pie, etc...

This is the way to clear the table, etc...

This is the way to say good-bye, etc...

This is the way to drive back home, etc...

Recorded song to try:

(I'm Gonna Eat) On Thanksgiving Day by Laurie Berkner (CD title: Whaddaya Think of That?)

Find it at the Elm Grove Library or on YouTube at https://www.youtube.com/watch?reload=9&v=rAjxzE_DDg0

Picture Books for November (Thanksgiving, Gratitude, Late Fall, Feasting/Food)

Balloons over Over Broadway: the true story of the puppeteer of Macy's Parade written and illustrated by Melissa Sweet. The background of the Macy's Thanksgiving parade in a picture book.

Bear Says Thanks by Karma Wilson. Bear thanks his friends for bringing food dishes to his dinner party and finds a way of sharing something of his own.

Feeding the Sheep by Leda Schubert. All the steps in making a woolly sweater starting from the beginning.

Feeling Thankful by Shelley Rotner. Simple expressions of gratitude paired with colorful photos.

Grandma's Tiny House: a counting story! By JaNay Brown-Wood. Family members show up for a feast but Grandma's house is too small.

How Do Dinosaurs Eat Their Food? by Jane Yolen. Good manners for little dinos.

I Know an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Pie by Alison Jackson. The familiar old song with a Thanksgiving twist.

If You Give A Moose a Muffin by Laura Joffe Numeroff. A circular story that begins and ends with feeding a moose.

In November by Cynthia Rylant. A tribute to late fall and everything that makes November special.

McDuff's Wild Romp by Rosemary Wells. At Aunt Frieda's house for dinner, McDuff the dog and the old cat Purlina fight over a Turkey Tidbit.

Me Hungry by Jeremy Tankard. Few words are needed to tell this humorous story of a prehistoric boy looking for a snack.

More by I.C. Springman. Mice save their Magpie friend from hoarding too much stuff.

Old Bear by Kevin Henkes. When old bear falls asleep for winter, he dreams of the seasons.

Over the River & Through the Wood: a holiday adventure by Linda Ashman. Rhyming tale of a far-flung, modern and multiracial family invited home for the holidays.

Run, Turkey, Run! by Diane Mayr. The turkey hides from the farmer before Thanksgiving.

The Thank You Book by Mary Lyn Ray. Explores the many ways we can be thankful for the pleasures great and small that await us every day.

Thanku: poems of gratitude edited by Miranda Paul. Most of these are for children older than preschool but there are a few you can enjoy together along with lovely illustrations.

'Twas the Night Before Thanksgiving by Dav Pilkey. A field trip to a farm becomes a turkey rescue mission in this funny story.

We Are Grateful: Otsaliheliga by Traci Sorell. The word otsaliheliga is used by members of the Cherokee Nation to express gratitude.

Coloring Ideas

Have you made a turkey by tracing your child's hand? It's good practice for holding a crayon and you can decorate your turkey any way you wish. Try adding this poem to make it a gift:

This isn't just a turkey, as everyone can see.
I made it with my hand, which is part of me.
It comes with lots of love, especially to say,
I hope that you have a great Thanksgiving Day!



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