



**Long Activity**  
**Ages 0-3**  
**30–45 minutes**

## **Around the World Storytime**

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### **Description**

Participants will participate in an interactive storytime and then do a related activity or craft.

**NOTE:** This activity is designed to give libraries a number of options so they can customize their program. There are several books and various crafts/activities to choose from.

### **Book options:**

- **If You Were a City** by Kyo Maclear and Sanna Francesca
- **In the Woods: An Adventure for Your Senses** by Mariona Tolosa Sisteré
- **Snap!** by Anna Walker

### **Suggested interactive song/rhyme options:**

- The Wheels on the Bus (**If You Were a City**)
- Going on a Bear Hunt (**In the Woods**)
- Five Little Speckled Frogs (**Snap!**)

### **Craft/activity options:**

#### **Crafts**

- Beginner origami jumping frog (**Snap!**)
- Mapping activity (**If You Were a City**)
- Nature stationery (**In the Woods**)
- Transportation sensory bag
- Sensory bin
  - Create a sensory bin with objects related to the theme of the story.
  - Include tactile books if possible.

### **Passive activity sheets**

- Colouring sheets

## Number of participants

Any number of participants

## Space considerations

An indoor space where participants can be seated to do an activity.

## Competencies

- Creative and imaginative thinking
- Literacy
- Logic and sequencing
- Oral communication skills
- Reading comprehension

## Materials

### Reading the story

- A book to read (can order the other two for families to look at)
  - **If You Were a City** by Kyo Maclear and Sanna Francesca
  - **In the Woods: An Adventure for Your Senses** by Mariona Tolosa Sisteré
  - **Snap!** by Anna Walker
- Multiple copies of the book for participants to follow along
- Microphone (recommended)

### Activity/craft

#### Activities

- Beginner origami jumping frog (**Snap!**)
- Mapping activity (**If You Were a City**)
- Nature stationery (**In the Woods**)

#### Sensory activities

- Transportation sensory bag
- Sensory bin objects

#### **If You Were a City**

- Building blocks, Duplo, Lego or any other building material
- Toy cars
- Toy buildings or other replicas of neighbourhood features

### **In the Woods**

- Fallen pieces of nature (don't pull living things from nature)
- Plastic nature replicas
- Small things you might bring on a hike

### **Snap!**

- Small items that make noise (e.g., shakers, Velcro strips)
- Any toy or plastic animals, insects or fallen/replicated pieces of nature, preferably but not limited to:
  - Reptiles: frog, alligator/crocodile
  - Birds: duck, goose, owl
  - Insects: bees, dragonflies
  - Nature elements: tree bark, plant leaves, flowers, pebbles/rocks

## **Preparation**

- Prepare for a standard storytime with 10–15 minutes allotted for the picture books and 15–20 minutes for the activity/craft.

### **Making the story interactive**

- Look through the title and write descriptions of the spreads beforehand, while generating questions for the audience.

#### **Suggested questions**

- a) Shapes: What shapes do you see?
- b) Counting: How many \_\_\_\_\_ do you see? Let's count them.
- c) Sounds: What kind of sounds do you think we can hear? What kind of sound does \_\_\_\_\_ make?
- d) Smells: What kind of smells can you smell? What does \_\_\_\_\_ smell like?
- e) Language: What would we call \_\_\_\_\_ in another language? [e.g., fish: French (poisson), Tagalog (isda), Japanese (sakana), Spanish (pez)]
- f) Other aspects of the book that you can bring up to get conversations going (e.g., have any of the kids seen/experienced what is happening in the book?)

### **Activity/craft**

Choose activity/activities and prepare accordingly.

- Print passive activity sheets.
- Prepare sensory bins.
- Set up craft station.

## **Implementation**

### **Reading the story**

1. Guide audience through each spread, describing the images on the pages. "Oh, what do we see here? It looks like there are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. There is a \_\_\_\_\_ wearing a \_\_\_\_\_." While exploring the pages, ask them to raise their hands to answer your generated questions about what is on the pages, then **summarize what happened before you go to the next spread**. Feel free to ask follow-up questions as well.
2. If you find they are not really participating, start asking silly questions or make up an inaccurate storyline to get them to correct you (e.g., "Is the story happening underneath the bed or in the washroom?" "I'm guessing this story is about a sneezing zebra...").

### **Activity/craft**

1. Distribute activity sheets.
2. Distribute materials.

## **Accessibility considerations**

### **Reading the story**

- Use a microphone (optional).
- Use a loud voice and speak slowly.
- If possible, place hold on multiple copies of the selected book(s) so participants who need it can flip through the book along with you.

### **Activity/craft**

- Offer multiple types of writing tools.
- Offer tactile materials for decorating.
- Offer large glue sticks (if needed).
- Have tactile books on hand.

## **Book suggestions**

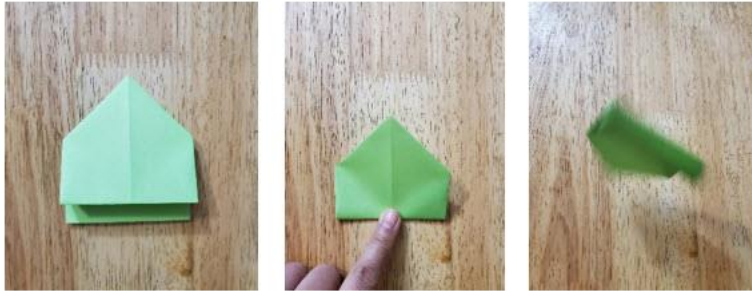
- **If You Were a City** by Kyo Maclear and Sanna Francesca
- **In the Woods: An Adventure for Your Senses** by Mariona Tolosa Sisteré
- **Snap!** by Anna Walker

## **Download Links**

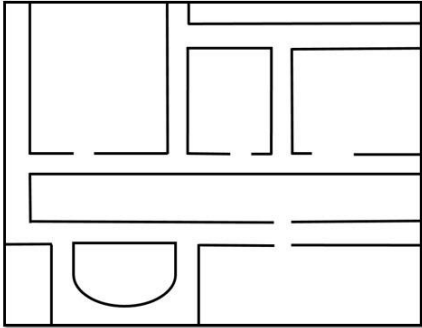
- [Beginner origami jumping frog \(Snap!\)](#)
- [Mapping activity \(If You Were a City\)](#)
- [Nature stationery \(In the Woods\)](#)
- [Transportation sensory bag](#)
- Colouring pages

# Images

## Beginner origami jumping frog activity

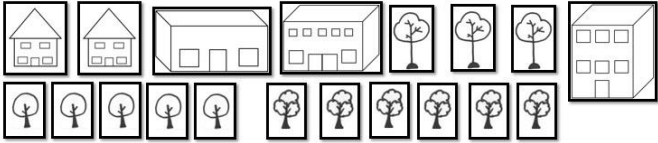


## Neighbourhood mapping activity



Neighbourhood Mapping Activity

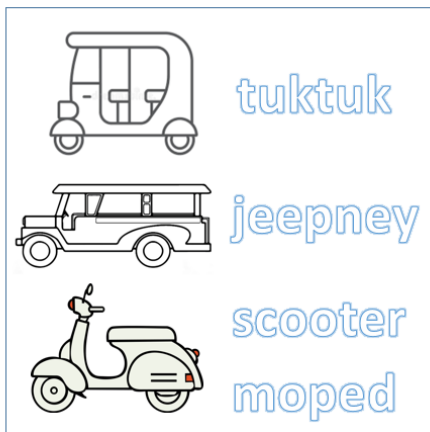
1. Draw houses, building and structures OR cut out the ones below to add to your map
2. Draw nature elements OR cut out the trees below and add them to your map
3. You can create a story together about your neighbourhood on the back of this sheet
4. You can also use a small tactile object to move around your map as you explore the neighbourhood you have created.



## Nature stationery



## Transportation sensory bag



### Transportation Sensory Bag

Let's add some 3D wheels to these vehicles from around the world.

1. Colour in the images
2. Place this handout on a flat surface and tape it down
3. Place your sensory bag on top of it
4. Push the bead wheels to the correct place on the vehicle

- tuktuk (Egypt, India, Laos, Sri Lanka, South Africa and other locations)
- jeepney (Philippines)
- scooter/moped (Europe, North America, parts of Asia)

#### BONUS CHALLENGE

★ Push a bead onto the words and trace each letter