

Dear Parent/Caregiver,

Little Blue Truck is a fun rhyming book that you'll want to read over and over again with your child. Here are some ideas on how you might share the book with your child. We hope you'll love *Little Blue Truck* as much as we do! Have fun!

Read the Book Together

- Borrow *Little Blue Truck* from the library and read the book throughout the week.
 - What does your child notice each time you read it with them?
- Show your child how some of the words are written in different colors.
 - What color is *Little Blue Truck's* beep?
 - What other colors are in the book?
- Show your child how the animal sounds are in different colors (**Neigh, Quack, Beep**).
- Find the animals with your child, make the animal sounds, and name the colors.
- Talk about what you read. Ask:
 - What do you think will happen next?
 - How was Dump Truck acting? Why do you think he was hurrying?
 - How did Dump Truck learn to be a friend?
 - Would you like Little Blue Truck to be your friend? Why?
 - Who are your friends? What do you like to do with your friends?

Activities You Can Do Together

➤ Color Scavenger Hunt

- Pick a color from the book. For example, choose blue for *Little Blue Truck*.
- Look for blue objects around the house. Be creative – you might find blue spoons, books, tape, stuffed animals, paper, and more!
- Bring them all to one area and name the objects with your child.
- Choose another color like red and look for more objects.
 - Can you sort the objects into piles? Are any the same? How are they different?

➤ Make a Road

- Create a road on your floor using masking tape, paper, or items you find around the house. Help your child add different roads.
- Now, find toys and items around the house for them to *drive* down the road.

- Have fun and think about what sounds these toys or items make – make the sounds and talk about how they are driving down the road. You might ask: *Does anyone bump into anything? Does anyone get stuck? Are there any bumps on the road?*
- Can you and your child make up a story like *Little Blue Truck*?

➤ Music March

- Put on some music and encourage your child to *march* throughout the room. Call out *duck* and see if they can *waddle* like a *duck*. Call out *truck* and see if they *bump* like *Little Blue Truck* or *roll* into pretend mud like *Dump Truck*.

➤ Sing a Song with Friends

- Help your child gather their household friends – stuffed animals, trucks, and other toys and place them in a circle.
- Sing this song with your child to the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb." If you do not know what this song sounds like, search online using the song title and listen to it.

Will you be a friend of mine,
Friend of mine, friend of mine?
Will you be a friend of mine
And (choose an action) around with me?

- This is the time to get super silly! What is the action each *friend* does when the song says "And (choose an action) around with me?" Will they *jump around with me?* *Clap around with me?* *Shout around with me?* *Beep around with me?*

More Books to Explore

- Look for more *Little Blue Truck* books by Alice Schertle
- *Chicka Chicka Boom Boom* by Bill Martin, Jr.
- *Bear Snores On* by Karma Wilson
- *Barnyard Dance* by Sandra Boynton
- *Rhyming Dust Bunnies* by Jan Thomas
- *Red House, Tree House, Little Bitty Brown Mouse* by Jane Godwin
- *Bros* by Carole Boston Weatherford

We hope you enjoyed reading *Little Blue Truck* and doing the activities with your child. The most important part about reading with your child is sharing time with them. You are your child's first and best teacher!