

Bookbug Session: Outdoors

This session has an outdoor theme with an Autumn focus. We hope it encourages families to take songs, rhymes and stories outside. If you're delivering this session online, think about using some natural outdoor props such as leaves, sticks or apples.

Activity type	Title	Benefits	Tips
Introduction song	The Hello Song	Familiar start- lets everyone know a Bookbug Session has started.	Smile and use names if you know them.
Transition song	What is in my bag/the tree/ today?	Engages and builds anticipation.	Use your environment or props. If you're outside, you could find objects in a tree/pile of leaves, or you can point something out that links to a rhyme or song. (e.g. a spider's web).
Familiar rhymes and songs with finger puppets	Incy Wincy Spider Roon Aboot Two Little Dicky Birds	Actions link words with meanings. Encourages fine motor and early numeracy skills Tickling rhymes encourage parent-child bonding.	Do tickling rhymes face to face on baby (or Bookbug's hand or tummy). Older children could make their hand the spider/mouse and use a tree trunk or grass to creep on. Build anticipation by leaving gaps before tickles and before dicky birds reappear!
Action Rhymes & songs	There's A Worm At The Bottom Of My Garden. Dingle Dangle Scarecrow.	Movement encourages everyone to get active and have lots of fun.	Link the dicky birds with what they like to eat- worms! Have fun with silly verses. Encourage fun e.g. lifting babies up high and getting older children to jump and join in with the actions in Dingle Dangle Scarecrow.
	*The Wind Blows Hard	Weather songs and rhymes can help with understanding about changes in season.	Enjoy the actions to this windy rhyme (see below) and encourage others to copy and join in .

Story	Stick Man By Julia Donaldson & Axel Scheffler	Strong rhyme, rhythm and lots of repetition promotes language development. Children can be encouraged to think about their feelings as Stick Man faces danger.	Try leaving a pause before the repeated phrases to allow joining in. Lots of opportunities to extend play from the story using the outdoor environment (e.g. making stick men, tree houses, playing Pooh Sticks)
Action songs	Ten Red Apples Sleeping Bunnies	Introduces early numeracy Encourages listening skills	Encourage face to face communication. Use your hands to show 5 + 5. Try singing fast and slow, loud and quiet in Sleeping Bunnies to build excitement.
Lullabies with finger puppets	Twinkle Twinkle	Lullabies calm and soothe both children and adults. They encourage closeness and cuddles and can be used anytime of the day!	Point up to the sky or hang your star up high somewhere nearby. Model good eye contact. Older children can "rock their teddy".
Final song	The Goodbye Song	Tells everyone the Bookbug Session is ending.	Wave, smile and use names if you know them.

*The Wind Blows Hard

The wind blows hard and the wind blows strong (pretend to blow)

The leaves fall down and flutter along (make fluttering movements with fingers)

They make big piles on every street (mime a big pile)

Crunching and rustling under my feet. (stomp your feet – in a pile of leaves if there are any!)