

EVERYBODY HOME

Booklist

A House for Hermit Crab -- Eric Carle
My Very First Book of Animal Homes -- Eric Carle
The Very Busy Spider -- Eric Carle
Home for a Bunny -- Margaret Wise Brown
Spot's First Walk -- Eric Hill
Owl at Home -- Arnold Lobel
The Salamander Room -- Anne Mazer
Is This a House for Hermit Crab? -- Megan McDonald
Thomas the Circus Boy -- David Merville
The Way Home -- Judith Benet Richardson
The House in the Night -- Susan Marie Swanson
This is the House That Jack Built -- Simms Taback
The Little Crooked House -- Margaret Wild
The Napping House -- Audrey Wood

Action Wigglers & Songs

HERE IS THE BEEHIVE

Before leading the children in this familiar fingerplay, ask them if they know what a bee's home is called.

Here is the beehive,
Where are the bees?
Hidden away where nobody sees.
Watch and you'll see them come out of their hive,
One, two, three, four, five.

(online source: <http://www.dltk-teach.com/rhymes/bumblebee/song2.htm>)

WHERE IS THUMBKIN?

Substitute the line "now go home, now go home" at the end of each verse.

HOMES

This is a nest for Mr. Bluebird [cup both hands]
This is a hive for Mrs. Bee [fists together]
This is a hole for bunny rabbit [two fingers as rabbit's ears]
And this is a house for me [finger tips together for a roof peak]
(online source: <http://www.preschoolrainbow.org/family-rhymes.htm>)

Music

"A House is a House for Me" on Fred Penner's CD, *A House for Me* (Oak Street Music, ©1992).

Flannel Board Story

IS THIS A HOUSE FOR HERMIT CRAB?

You can tell this rather dramatic story (that fiddler crab is scary!) using props, or pictures on a storytelling board. Props can include a child's plastic sand pail, an empty can, a piece of driftwood, some cotton fishnet, etc. To fill in the gaps if you don't have props for everything, find pictures to print out, using Google image search. For the dark hole, use a piece of brown tagboard with a hole cut in it.

Puppet Stories

HOME FOR A PUPPY

Adapted from Margaret Wise Brown's *Home for a Bunny* by Geri Cupery. Using whatever puppets you have, the puppy travels "down the road and down the road and down the road, looking for a home, a home for a puppy." As he meets each animal, he asks what it is and where it lives (similar pattern to "The Wide-Mouth Frog." Children can participate if you hand out the puppets for them to hold up in front of the group (librarian is the puppy, a girl from the audience, wearing a fun cap, plays the part of the girl who finds the puppy and takes him home. Or tell the whole story yourself, pulling out the different puppets one by one. Another option: adapt it into a reader's theater script.

THE VERY BUSY SPIDER

Tell the story using chalk, chalkboard and puppets. Librarian plays the part of the spider. Children are asked to volunteer to come up and be all the other farm animals. Stick puppets can be made if you don't have all the animals in the book, or you can substitute (storyteller's license!) -- but a glove puppet works well for the spider, allowing you to draw the spider's web as the story progresses. Practice this a few times so you know how much "web" to draw between each farm animal's appearance.

Craft

Make hermit crabs out of construction paper. Put out sea shells, sequins, glitter, and assorted construction paper cutouts and have the children decorate their crabs, after reading Carle's *Is This a House for Hermit Crab?*

Much Ado About... Summer Reading Program 2009
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