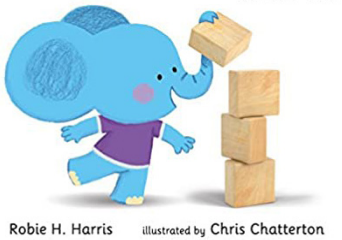


CRASH! BOOM!

A MATH TALE



Storytime Activity Guide

Crash! Boom! A Math Tale

written by Robbie H. Harris and illustrated by Chris Chatterton

Elephant finds a container of square and rectangle wooden blocks and decides to stack the blocks until they are as tall as himself. Elephant stacks the blocks to match their height and CRASH! BOOM! the blocks fall down! Elephant feels frustrated, but tries again and discovers different ways of stacking the blocks as they play.

Did you know?

A good foundation in **early math** prepares children for “math thinking,” and for later academic success. Early Math includes number sense, classifications and patterning, measurement, mathematical reasoning, and geometry (shapes). While reading *Crash! Boom! A Math Tale*, practice counting the blocks together, pointing out numbers in print, identifying shapes, and using relational language (taller, shorter, longer, bigger) to develop your child’s early math skills.



Words to Practice

Up
Tall
Short
More
Down
Flat

Talk about it!

- What shapes do you see in the book? Where in this room do you also see those shapes?
- Point out the shape of Elephant’s ears, eyes, and cheeks? Compare them to the shape of the blocks. What makes them different?
- How many blocks did Elephant stack with the taller side facing up? How many blocks did they stack with the shorter side facing up?

Find More Online

Scan this QR code to for a Read Aloud of this book and more free resources.



qrco.de/CrashBoom

Create

Use plastic containers or recyclables as blocks. Invite your child to see how high they can stack the containers to build a tower!

Materials Needed:

- Empty plastic containers
- Recyclables like tissue and cereal boxes, empty yogurt or pudding cups, toilet paper rolls, egg cartons, etc.



1. Gather your plastic containers or recyclables and find a flat surface for you and your child to build.
2. With your child, sort the containers by shape, height, width, or type of material (i.e. cardboard, plastic, etc.).
3. Before your child starts building, ask, "Which containers will help you build the tallest tower? Why do you think that?" and "How will you stack the containers to build the tallest tower?"
4. As they build, compare and describe the shape of the containers they are using. Together, count how many containers of each shape they are using and how many containers they are using in total.
5. If their tower falls, have your child try again. Ask, "What will you try now? What will help keep your tower strong and tall?"
6. Keep the fun going! Create more complex structures!



Play: Taller or Shorter Than Me?

Look around the room with your child. Together, identify furniture or something in the room you think is as tall as them. For example, "I think you are as tall as the table." Find out if they are just as tall, taller, or shorter than the furniture or thing. Take turns predicting and comparing your and your child's height to other things in the room.

