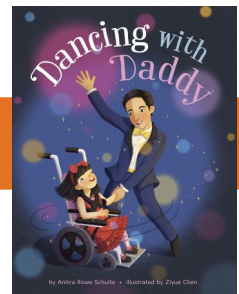
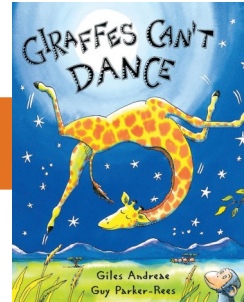
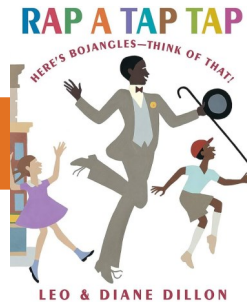


TAKE-HOME FUN!

Early Literacy Tips, Activities & More



tales' tip

Moving to music, dancing, swaying, running, and jumping are all **PLAY** that helps young children feel rhythm and begin to understand how their bodies work. Such movements also help them gain muscle control and improve balance. All of this contributes to a child's gross motor development.

Adapted from Every Child Ready to Read tip cards

activity

Blow up a couple of balloons and put on your favorite song. Show off your cool dance moves, all the while keeping the balloon in the air.

digital fun

[Sesame Street Rhyme with Tap Dancer Savion Glover](#)

Visit: [Collection > Digital Library > Access Video - Just for Kids!](#) on [bcpl.org](#)

READ

[Hilda Must Be Dancing](#)

By Karma Wilson

[Wiggle](#)

By Doreen Cronin

[Firebird](#)

By Misty Copeland

[When Langston Dances](#)

By Kaija Langley

PLAY

Freeze Dance! Play an upbeat, fun song and encourage your child to dance. Periodically, pause the song while it's playing and ask your child to freeze when the music stops.

TALK

You and your child can work together and teach each other made-up dance moves. Talk with your child about the shape their body makes when doing the move. Keep creating by dancing like a favorite animal or vehicle.

SING

Dancing with Bears

1,2,3, 1,2,3, dancing with bears,
1,2,3, 1,2,3, dancing 'round chairs.
1,2,3, 1,2,3, that's what we'll do,
1,2,3, 1,2,3, dancing with you.

Walking, Walking

(tune: Frere Jacques)

Sing each line two times.

Walking, walking, (x2)

Hop, hop, hop. (x2)

Running, running, running, (x2)

Now we stop. (x2)

Tiptoe, tiptoe, (x2)

Hop, hop, hop. (x2)

Dancing, dancing, dancing, (x2)

Now we stop. (x2)

WRITE

Through simple dances, children become aware of patterns and shapes. Physically acting out shapes increases their understanding of the related words. Learning shapes is the first step in learning to **WRITE** letters.

Adapted from Every Child Ready to Read tip cards