## Summer Sports Read-Aloud Outline

Do you remember learning to swim, ride a bike or play baseball? Read about all kinds of summer sports and then PLAY for a super sporty Read-Aloud!



# Froggy Plays T-Ball by Jonathon London

Ages 3 and up

Froggy is learning T-ball! Will his big dreams become reality? There is a series of "Froggy" books available. They offer fun illustrations, a modest amount of text and a nice humorous slant to life. Other sports adventures include *Froggy Plays Soccer* and *Froggy Learns to Swim*.



## **Sergio Makes a Splash** by Edel Rodriguez

Ages 4 and up

Sergio the penguin loves water but doesn't know how to swim! What will he do when his class takes a field trip to the ocean? A fun and effective illustration style make Sergio books a good read aloud choice. (Also try **Sergio Saves the Game**.)



## **Duck on a Bike** by David Shannon

Ages 5 and up

As Duck tries riding a bike, the other animals think it is the "silliest thing they have ever seen." Then THEY get a chance to go for a bike ride and their tune changes! Colorful art makes this book a pleasure.



# Good Sports: Rhymes About Running, Jumping, Throwing, and More by Jack Prelutsky, illustrated by Chris Raschka

Ages 5 and up

This book is full of kid-friendly verses that capture the range of emotions that come from competing: "the thrill of victory" to the "agony of defeat."

## Additional summer sports books

#### *Madlenka, Soccer Star* by Peter Sis (Ages 4 and up)

Madlenka is Peter Sis' daughter. This is the story of her first soccer ball. Living in Manhattan, at first she imagines the mailbox, a parking meter, neighborhood cats, etc., will be her soccer companions. Then her friend Cleopatra joins her. Let the game begin!

# New Red Bike! by James E. Ransome (Ages 4 to 5)

Tom loves his new bike and rides it up and down, around and over to a friend's house. His friend loves Tom's bike, too. Excellent large watercolor illustrations, great for a read aloud setting.

#### **Friends** by Helme Heine (Ages 5 and up)

A lovely, funny book about three friends who do everything together. They happen to ride a bike – one steers and the others each take a pedal – but the bike is incidental to the story of the friends' day.

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# **Outdoor sports activities**

- 1. **Swimming gear relay**. Divide the participants into two groups, one at each end of the course. The first runner puts on swim trunks, swimming cap, goggles, floaties (or other swimming accessory) and runs to a team member at opposite end of the relay course. The first runner takes off the costume and the next runner puts on the costume and runs to the opposite end of the relay course. The race continues until all the participants have put on the costume, run the relay course and taken off the costume.
- 2. **Soccer ball concentration**. Stand in a circle and kick a soccer ball from one person to another. Each time a player kicks the ball, he or she names a sport or a piece of sporting equipment. How long can your group continue without long pauses?
- 3. **Sports charades**. Can the group guess what sport you're acting out? Remember, no props and no sounds!
- 4. **Ball toss**. Form pairs and begin to toss a ball back and forth. Take a step back and toss, then another step back, etc. Which pair is the farthest apart when it finally misses a catch? Do it again, this time kicking a ball. On a HOT day, this is fun using water balloons.

# **Indoor sports activities**

### 1. Relays

- The swim gear relay is just as much fun indoors. To use space effectively, put teams on opposite corners of the room.
- Try a beanbag over-and-under relay. Divide the children into lines of 4 to 5. The first person passes the beanbag between his legs to the child behind him. The second person passes the beanbag over her head to the next person in line. The relay continues over-and-under. The last person then runs to the front of the line and the relay continues until each person has been at the front of the line. When each team finishes, they sit down.
- 2. Play **hopscotch**, using masking tape to create a course.
- 3. Play **soccer ball concentration** by tossing a beanbag or a soft ball.

#### **Conversation starters**

Froggy plays T-ball, Sergio swims and Duck rides a bike. Is one of those your favorite sport? Tell us what you love about it.

Why are professional sports scheduled for certain seasons?

Which summer sport would you like to try? Why?

Do you prefer water or land sports? Why?