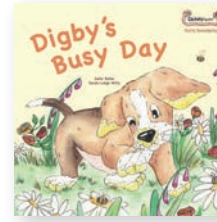


Digby's Busy Day



We hope you and your child enjoy these activities and resources.

They're designed to boost your child's speech and language development and early phonics skills.

Sound play helps children develop an awareness of the building blocks of words - rhyme, syllables and individual speech sounds. It gives children the foundation skills for phonics.

We include a lolly stick puppet, colouring sheet and you can also download an MP3 audiobook version - ideas on how to get the most out of these resources are also included.

Have fun and enjoy learning together!

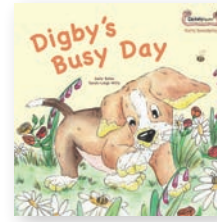
Contents

- Let's read the story together
- Eyes, ears, nose and toes
- Rhyme time - I wiggle my fingers
- A listening walk
- Bzz - sound target 'z'
- Rhyme time - A bee sat on my nose

- Resources
- Lolly stick puppets
- Colouring sheet

- MP3 audiobook also available

Let's read together



Find somewhere cosy to sit with your child so you can easily look at the book together.

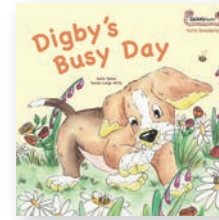
- Start with the cover and point to the words as you read the title *Digby's Busy Day*.
- As you look at the 'Some things to look out for...' pages talk about the pictures, point at and name the ones that your child doesn't know.
- As you talk about what you can see your child may join in: 'Oh look at those lovely flowers ... and I can see lots of ...'
- 'Now let's listen to the story' – as you read the story give your child plenty of time to look at the pictures.



Again and again!

- Children like to hear the same story again and again and it helps them learn new words.
- Your child will enjoy talking with you about the story.
- You don't need to read the whole book each time (though your child may want you to!). You can focus on, and talk about, 1 or 2 pages.
- Pause at the end of repetitive or predictable phrases so your child has the opportunity to complete them: 'his big snuffly ...'
- Before you turn the page can your child remember what Digby does next ...?

Ears, nose and toes!



Digby wiggles his ears, his nose and his toes!

Can you do what Digby does? Try out Digby's actions one at a time - work out together how to do them.

Digby also:

- Sees with his eyes
- Smells with his nose
- Hears with his ears



What can you and your child see, smell and hear?

When you've practised these Digby actions you might need to have a little snooze. Do you snore like Digby and the puppies?

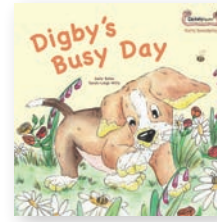
Now you can try out the wiggle wiggle rhyme.

Rhyme time!

I wiggle, wiggle wiggle
my fingers. (wiggle fingers)
I wiggle, wiggle, wiggle
my toes. (wiggle toes)
I wiggle, wiggle, wiggle
my shoulders. (wiggle
shoulders)
I wiggle, wiggle, wiggle
my nose. (wiggle nose)
Now no more wiggles
are left me (shake head)
I'm sitting as still as still
as can be! (sit still)

(You can end with standing or lying rather than sitting)

A listening walk



Tell your child you're going to listen very carefully on your walk - *'I wonder what we'll hear ...?'*

Create a 'listening scavenger hunt'. Make a list together with pictures of things you might hear on your walk.

Start walking and then stop and ask your child to be very quiet and still. What can they hear?

What you hear will depend on where you walk but might include:

- Cars, buses, motorbikes or maybe a helicopter
- Dogs barking or birds singing
- People talking, laughing or shouting.
- Bees buzzing - can they hear the bzz bzz?

When you get back how many different sounds can your child remember?

How many?

You can also go for a counting walk.

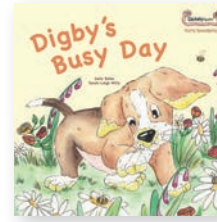
How many can you see?

- Cars
- Buses
- Dogs
- Trees
- Flowers
- Birds
- Bees

You can add colours or sizes.

This game also gives your child lots of opportunities to hear and say the 'z' sound.

Bzz - sound target 'z'



1. The sound target for *Digby's Busy Day* is 'z'. It's important as a sound to indicate a plural for example in *shoes* and *bees*.
2. 'Z' is a later sound to develop and most children will be saying it correctly by 4 ½.
3. Younger children may use a 'd' sound instead of 'z' saying '*dip*' instead of '*zip*' and '*bud*' instead of '*buzz*'.
4. If your child says the wrong sound don't correct them and ask them to say it again. Just model the word for them - 'yes, it's a pair of shoes.'
5. Shared reading of *Digby's Busy Day* gives the children lots of opportunities to both hear and practise saying words with 'z'.



Rhyme time!

Pretend a bee is on your finger and pretend to make it fly

Bzzzz bzzzz bzzzz

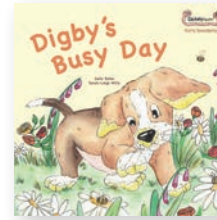
What do you suppose?
A bee sat on my nose!

Then what do you think?
He gave a wink!
Wink one eye

And he said, "I beg your
pardon!"
I thought you were a
garden!

Bzzzz bzzzz bzzzz

Resources



Lolly stick puppets

These can be enjoyed in many different ways:

- to support an activity
- to retell the story or create a new story

Cut out the Bee... not too small!



Colouring sheet

- as a stand alone activity
- as a shared activity - take it in turns to tell each other what to colour

MP3 audiobook

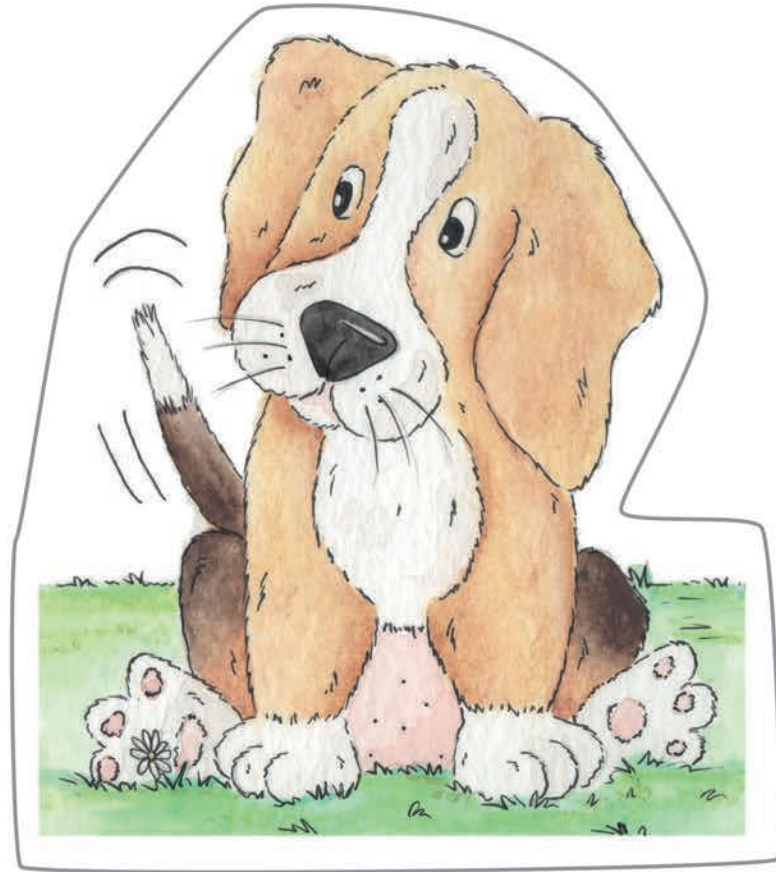
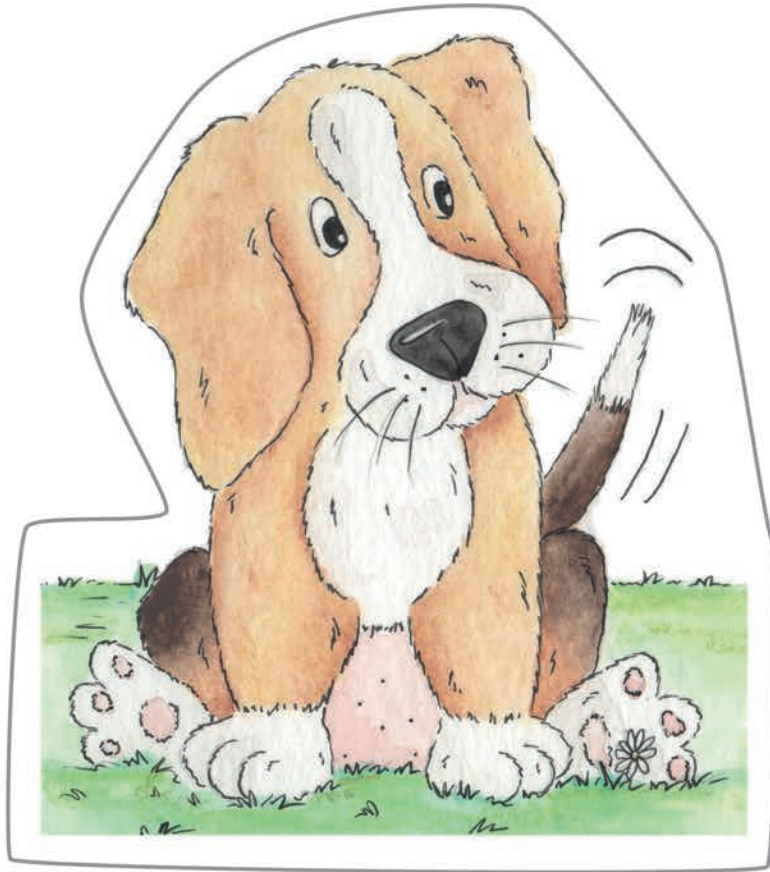
- Children enjoy listening to stories again and again so a digital audiobook can be very useful!
- The read through version is good to listen to with or without the book.
- The read along version is best used with the book and your child may enjoy being independent and able to turn the pages at the right time.

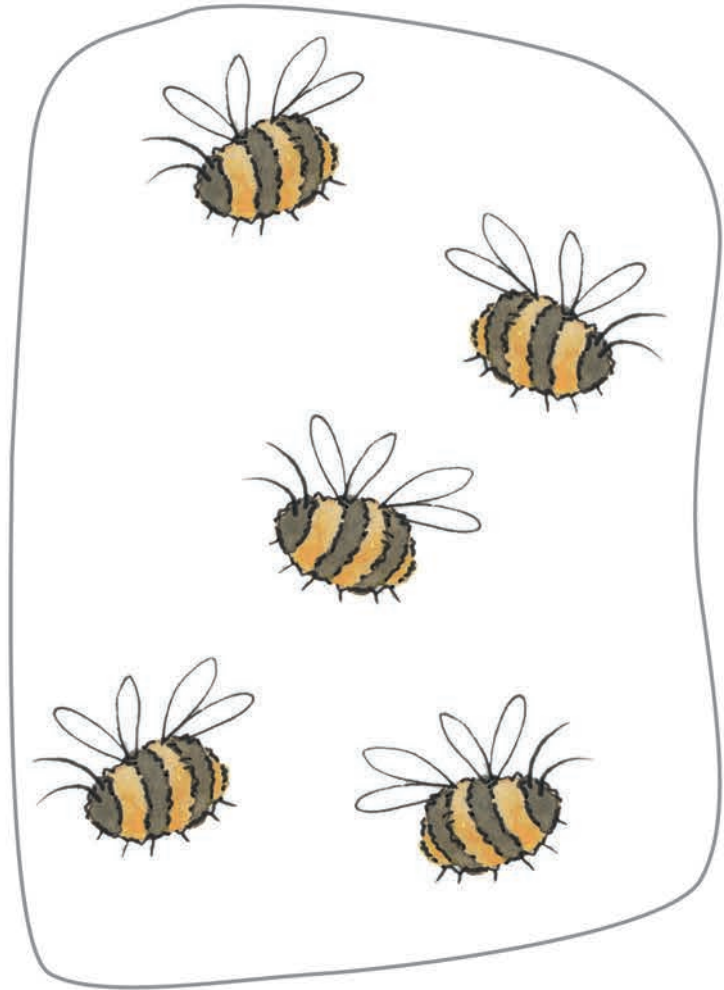
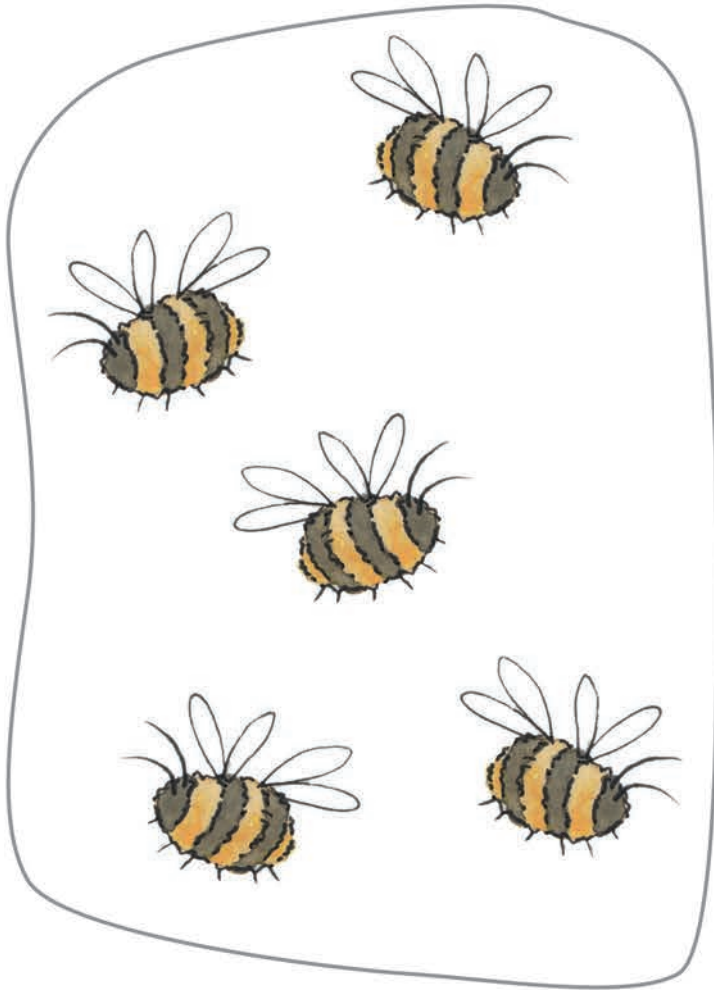


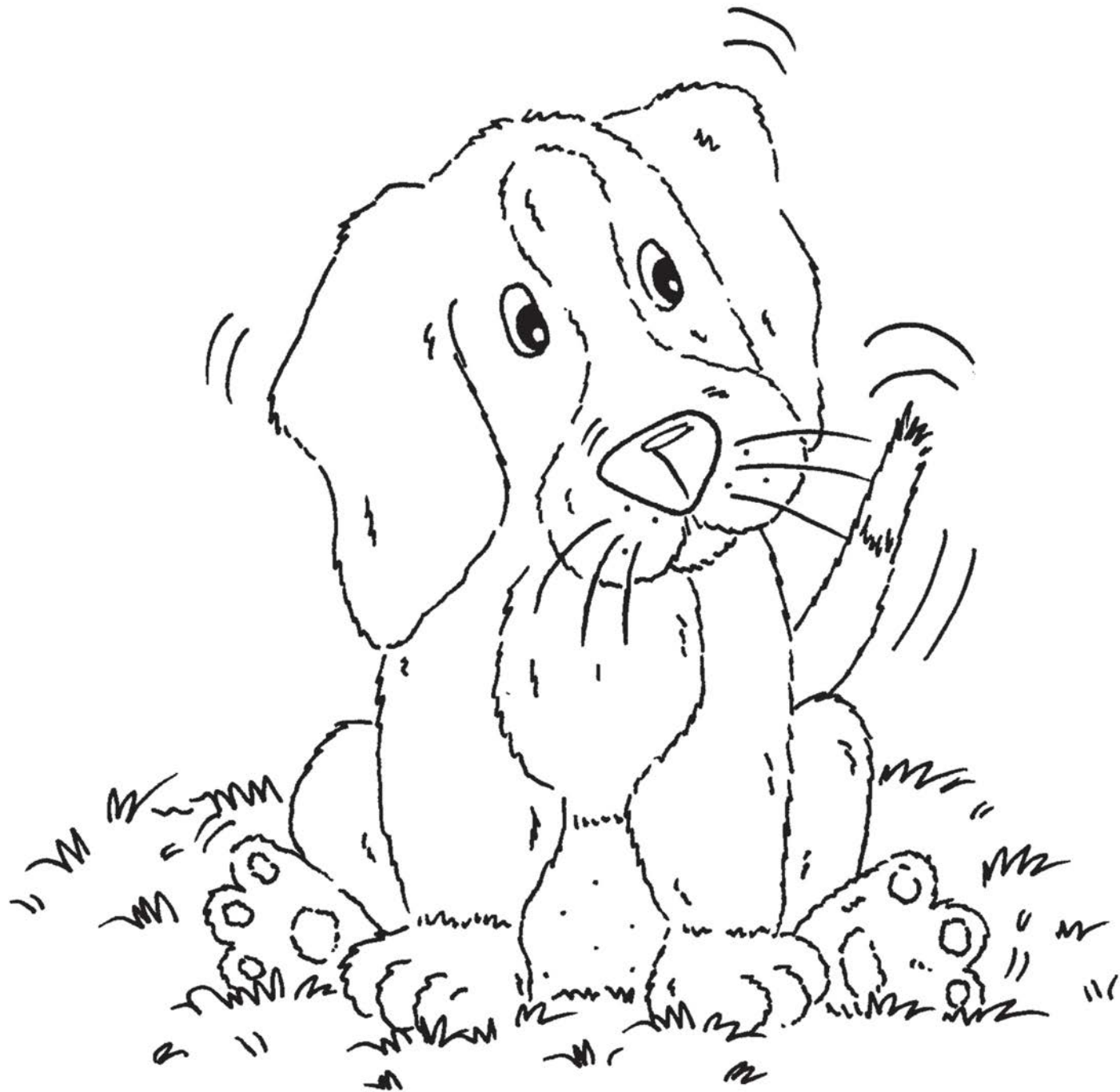
Retelling the story

- Lolly stick puppets make retelling the story, or creating a new one, much more fun!
- By 3 years children can typically answer 'who', 'what' and 'where' questions.
- Then by 4 years they will be able to tell you about how the characters feel about what's happening and 'why' something has happened.

Cut out Digby... *but be careful!*







Cut out the Bee... *but be careful!*

