Here We Go Digging for Dinosaur Bones
The 2021 CLEL Bell Award Book for SING

by Susan Lendroth, illustrated by Bob Kolar
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Dinosaur-obsessed little ones will love going through a paleontologist's motions of digging, sifting and cleaning bones. Set to the familiar tune of "Here We Go 'Round the Mulberry Bush," this engaging book will have everyone singing all the way to the dinosaur factoids at the end! Singing helps children develop vocabulary and increases awareness of the smaller sounds in words.

Activity Ideas for Here We Go Digging for Dinosaur Bones

• What other song could you sing this book to? Piggyback songs, or songs that use familiar melodies, are a great way to change how your child hears the lyrics and processes the syllables. What other activities could you use this familiar tune for? Try getting ready for bed ("this is the way we brush our teeth"), going to school ("this is the way we walk to class") or going grocery shopping ("this is the way we pick our veggies").

• Learning happens while having fun! Play is how children first experience the world. The children in this book are discovering how an archaeological dig works. Set up your own archaeological dig. Bury toys or rocks in rice, sand or snow or freeze them in ice and see how many your children can find. Hide magnetic letters and numbers and sort them when they're all found. Is there a dinosaur name that starts with that letter? What else starts with the same letter?

• The end of the book includes interesting facts about dinosaurs. Make a trip to the library to find facts and stories about the same subject. Did you know that every library that uses the Dewey Decimal System shelves their nonfiction dinosaur books with the same number, 567.9? Nonfiction books help kids understand that they can find out so much information about their interests in books. Look for books about drawing dinosaurs, too!

The CLEL Bell Picture Book Awards are given to books that provide excellent support of early literacy development in young children. For more information and for other activity sheets, visit http://www.ciel.org and select the CLEL Bell Awards tab.

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