Setting the Stage
SEQUENCE YOUR STORYTIME
Introduction

Sometimes we want calm

And sometimes we want storm
Agenda

- Self-regulation
- Peaks and valleys
- Being intentional with elements
- Planning transitions
- Try it out
Self-regulation: Routines and Cues
Planning transitions

- How do we lead kids from one element to the next in an intentional way?
Peaks and Valleys

- Peaks: Moments of strong stimuli
- Valleys: Moments of slight stimuli
What happens between each peak?
Calming rhymes
Naming elements:
Why use this rhyme at this time?

- Rhyme
- Song
- Book
- Flannel story

- Active rhyme
- Sitting rhyme
- Standing rhyme
- Calming rhyme
- New rhyme
- Familiar rhyme
- Movement book
- Routine flannel
- Settling rhyme
Using reliable transitions
Being intentional with order

- Repetition
- Outline
- Transitions
- Your style
- New material
- Build anticipation
What should go before what’s next?
Baby Storytime

- Bonding song
- Good Morning routine: Body awareness toes to head
- Routine rhyme
- Repeat book (keeping the momentum going to increase participation)
- Bounce
- Lift
- Lullaby
- Book
- Tickle
- Song
- Shakers
What should go before what’s next?
Toddler Storytime

- Hello song
- Routine rhyme: Roly Poly
- Book
- Standing rhyme: I’m Tall as a Tree
- Sitting (familiar) rhyme: The Baby in the Cradle
- New flannel: Silly Willy
- Scarf rhymes (routine): Popcorn Kernels, etc.
- Song: I Put My Scarf on My Head
- Settling (familiar) rhyme: Open Shut Them
- Routine flannel: Miss Mouse
- Movement book
When the plan doesn’t work
Share how you set the stage

- **Brainstorm**: Jot down some different rhymes you like to use, noting whether they lead kids to peaks or valleys.

- **Small group share**: Share your ideas and discuss how you use the rhymes in storytime. Which rhymes bring focus and make the group cohesive?

- **Large group share**: What do you do when...
Pacing with Music

- Routine opening and closing
- Start with songs everyone can do
- Space out songs with a tactile element vs. song without a tactile element
- Vary slow and fast movement
- Plan peaks and valleys to avoid over stimulation

One Little Finger (Soundplay Australia, YouTube)
Questions and Discussion
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Rhymes shared during discussion portion

What rhyme do you do to get the kids to a seated position?

- Everybody Take a Seat (Library)
- Two Little Hands Go
- Hello, Hello
- Everybody Shout
- Hands Go Up
- Tall as a Tree
- Lead the group in stretches