

MATERIALS

Book: *The Wheels on the Tuk Tuk* by Kabir Shegal and Surishta Sehgal (based in India)

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Build language skills and cultural awareness
- Engage pre-K-2nd grade students in age-appropriate cooperative play

STEPS TO LEADING MUSICAL STORY TIME (12–15 minutes)

1. Set-Up: Have students sit so they can see the book
2. Introduce the activity:
 - Ask students if they know the song “Wheels on the Bus.” *What sort of things happen on the bus? How does the song go?*
 - Tell students about a different version called “Wheels on the Tuk Tuk,” which is the same song based on a bus (called a *tuk tuk*) from India.
 - Start from the beginning of the book, singing to the tune of “Wheels on the Bus” and replacing ‘bus’ with ‘*tuk tuk*.’
3. With each new page, introduce the new vocabulary word and a physical movement to accompany each step in the story.
4. It is not important to cover every page. Little is lost by skipping a page or two. The objective is to build cultural awareness and language skills while having fun!

Directions and Movement Prompts on Page 2

Best for pre-K-2nd grade

DEFINITIONS AND MOVEMENT PROMPTS *Definitions are also located on the final pages of the book.*

Word / Definition	Text from Book	Movement Prompt
Tuk tuk (“took took”): A small form of public transportation found throughout India	“People in the street jump on and off . . .”	Jump on and off an imaginary <i>tuk tuk</i> by rocking forward for on, backwards for off.
Rupee : The form of currency in India	“Rupees . . . ching, ching, ching . . .”	Shake your pretend money in your hand.
Namaste-ji : A standard Indian greeting that means “I bow to the divinity within you [sir or madam].”	“. . . riders say Namaste-Ji . . .”	Greet one another in the fashion of the common Indian greeting, palms pressed together and small head bow.
	“. . . squish together . . .”	Hold hands for “squish together”
	“. . . bobble-bobble-bobble . . .”	Bobble up and down as if on a <i>tuk tuk</i>
Cows : Cows are a sacred animal in India treated with enormous respect	“. . . stops for Moo-moo-cow”	Moo like cows
Yogi : An individual who has mastered Yoga, the practice of controlling one’s body and mind through meditation and breath control. “Ohhm” is meant to represent the sound of the universe.	“. . . yogi chants . . .”	Say “Ohhhmmmm” together while pressing palms of hands together (as shown in book)
Chai : A type of tea made with milk, sugar, and spices.	“. . . wa-la sip sips Chai . . .”	Pretend to sip tea
Poppa-doppa-doms : Crispy, disk-shaped, fried snacks made from fried lentils	“. . . poppa-doppa-doms . . .”	Pretend to eat poppa-doppa-doms
Elephant : Elephants represent wisdom, strength, and loyalty	“Elephant’s trunk . . .”	Use arms to imitate an elephant’s trunk
	“. . . wiper goes swish-swish-swish . . .”	Use arms to imitate windshield wipers
Diwali : The Indian Festival of Lights, celebrating the victory of light over darkness	“Di-wali fireworks . . .”	Use hands to imitate small fireworks explosions