

## Jump & Splash: Life in the pond

Begin with the welcome song: Hello Michael, hello Jaden, hello Krista, I'm glad you came today. Hello Susie, hello Chris, hello Rebecca, I'm glad you came today (Sing each child's name as you kiss, tickle or high five them with your frog or turtle puppet).

Have a number of books about ponds and the animals that live in ponds displayed for the children to see. If you have a small number of children, make lily pads or use carpet squares and pretend they are lily pads.

After singing the song, place your frog puppet on a "lily pad." Ask the children where they might find a lily pad for a real frog. Once the children have guessed pond, write the word on the top of a flip chart. Ask the kids what other animals might live in a pond. Write the animal names as they guess them. Help them think of others by looking at the cover of *Jump, Frog, Jump*, *Turtle Splash!* or other books you have displayed.

After looking at the cover of the book *Jump, Frog, Jump* tell the children that they are going to be the frog in this story. Have them practice jumping on the words Jump, Frog, Jump! Read the story with children jumping on cue to the words Jump, Frog, Jump!

Have the "frogs" sit back down on their lily pads. Have the children tell you which animals were mentioned in the book. Look at your list and circle the ones you saw and add any new ones.

Show "Kiboomu Kids" version of 5 Green and Speckled Frogs on your screen or ipad.

( [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ziGG\\_L9C12o](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ziGG_L9C12o)). When finished watching, give each child their own frog and log cutouts to do the rhyme along with you while you show it on the flannel board.

Have the children put their cutouts in a baggie to use at home and include a small printout of the rhyme.

Tell the children you have another book about a pond where turtles are counting down instead of frogs. Read *Turtle Splash* by Cathryn Falwell. Review animals near this pond and check your flip chart to circle animals in the book and add new ones.

Play a quick game of musical lily pads where each child has to run to a lily pad when the music stops (they can only run to someone else's pad, not theirs). Do this a few times as you listen to music.

Have the "frogs" return to their lily pads and give each child a coloring page with a pond scene. Allow the children to color as they watch *In the Small, Small Pond* by Denise Fleming and *Life in the Pond* on Bookflix.

At the end of the Bookflix presentation, do one final look at your list, remind children of some of the animals they met at the pond today and sing the goodbye song (this is just the welcome song with goodbye instead of hello) and give each child a goodbye kiss, tickle or high five with the frog puppet.

**Share early literacy parent tip.**

**Early Literacy Tip: When you read a book to your child, occasionally running your finger under the printed words helps her know that it is the text you are reading, not the pictures. You may have noticed me doing this with *Jump, Frog, Jump!* and *In the Small, Small Pond* on the repetitive phrases in the stories.**

Encourage the children to finish their coloring and check out any of the books you have on ponds while you clean up.

Materials:

Bookflix – *In the Small, Small Pond* and *In the Pond*

*Turtle Splash! Countdown at the Pond* by Cathryn Falwell

*Jump, Frog, Jump!* by Robert Kalan

ipad

Projector

“Kiboomu Kids” version of 5 Green and Speckled Frogs

5 Green and Speckled Frog rhyme bags with poem for each child

Flip chart and marker

Frog or Turtle puppet

Pond coloring page