

Go Bananas!

Ages 5-10

Literacy Activity: Building Vowels & Vocabulary with Bananas

Included:

Pete the Cat and the Bad Banana by James Dean

A Little Boy Came Down to Breakfast by Michael Rosen

I Like to Eat, Eat, Eat Apples and Bananas lyrics

Go Bananas Chant

Vowel Flash Cards

30 3x5 Cards

Black Felt Tip Sharpie Marker

From Home:

Blank Sheet of Paper

A Banana

Videos:

(Watch the videos by using the links below or find them under the Children's Programming tab on the library's website: www.bigrapidslibrary.org)

Pete the Cat and the Bad Banana: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LFRsIPT5mw>

A Little Boy Came Down to Breakfast: [https://michaelrosen.fandom.com/wiki/A_Little_Boy_Came_Down_To_Breakfast?](https://michaelrosen.fandom.com/wiki/A_Little_Boy_Came_Down_To_Breakfast?file=A_Little_Boy_Came_Down_To_Breakfast_-_Kids%27_Poems_and_Stories_With_Michael_Rosen)

[file=A_Little_Boy_Came_Down_To_Breakfast_-_Kids%27_Poems_and_Stories_With_Michael_Rosen](https://michaelrosen.fandom.com/wiki/A_Little_Boy_Came_Down_To_Breakfast?file=A_Little_Boy_Came_Down_To_Breakfast_-_Kids%27_Poems_and_Stories_With_Michael_Rosen)

I Like to Eat, Eat, Eat Apples and Bananas: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4U1nR0MfxJc>

Pre-writing Activity:

The Longest Sentence in the World about a Banana

Act It Out and Play Activity:

Go Bananas Chant

Activity Directions:

1. Unpack your Go Bananas kit and lay all items out on the table.
2. You will need one banana for each person participating.
3. Read the book *Pete the Cat and the Bad Banana*. (In addition, you can watch the *Pete the Cat and the Bad Banana* video.)
4. Using your blank sheet of paper, make a list of all the words in the book that describe bananas.
5. Read the poem, "A Little Boy Came Down to Breakfast" by Michael Rosen.
6. Using two bananas, take turns acting out the poem. Choose who is going to be the narrator, the boy, the mum, and the brother. Have fun, get silly, but be careful not to really stick the banana into your ears...just pretend!
7. Lay out the Vowel Flash Cards and the "I Like to Eat, Eat, Eat Apples and Bananas" lyrics. You can use the lyrics and/or sing along with the video. Can you match the vowels to the song?
8. Let's create the World's Largest Sentence about a Banana. You will need your list of words describing bananas (step four), your pack of 3x5 cards, and your marker.
 - First, you (or your adult) write the word **BANANA** on one of the cards and lay it on a table or the floor. You will be moving around words until you get the sentence where you want it and have used all 30 cards if you can!
 - Next, write down the words from your paper; one word per card.
 - Now it's time to start asking some questions about your banana to add more words to your card collection. Questions like: what color is it? And what do you do with it? And how does it taste? What other questions can you come up with?
 - As you write the words describing your banana on the cards, put them down next to your **BANANA** card. Each time you add a new word, read the whole sentence together out loud to see how it sounds.
 - You may need to add some connecting words like: *we, it, the, when, tasted, before* so your sentence makes sense.
 - Can you use all 30 cards to make one long sentence?
9. Now it is time to EAT your banana! Make it more fun by reading the Go Bananas Chant!