This book is based on a familiar song about a log and a variety of things at the bottom of a lake.

For the first reading, curl up with your child and read the book together. Enjoy. For the next readings, here are some ideas for activities to do with your child. Don’t try to do everything each time you read it. And most of all, have fun and enjoy sharing the story with your child.

Starting Up:
• Read the title and have your child point to the log in the illustration.
• What is popping out of the hole? How can we tell this story takes place under the water?

Reading the Story:
• Sing the song, using the music in the back of the book.
• Focus on the repeated words. Show how they look on the page and practice saying them over and over. Ask, “Do you hear rhyming sounds?” “Do you hear repeating sounds?”
• Once your child is familiar with the basic story, focus on the little asides spoken by the turtle. What fun!

After the Story:
• Ask your child questions about the story.
  • What had a hole in it that was at the bottom of the lake?
  • What happened when the big fish came along at the end?
  • What was your favorite thing in the lake?
• Learning on the Go:
  • This song is perfect to adapt for bath time. Pretend the tub is the lake and introduce different things into it: stack up bath toys, washcloth, soap, etc., as you sing about each one.
  • If you play an instrument, let your child try it. Or create homemade instruments such as a coffee can drum or shakers made with dried beans inside. Sing and accompany yourselves!

These Reading Activities are Presented in Collaboration with the Library of Congress, loc.gov