

ACT IT OUT WITH ME!



MATERIALS:

- ❁❁ **MR. TAXI or MR. TAXI'S WILD RIDE!**
- ❁❁ **Simple props relating to book characters**
- ❁❁ **Options: Costumes / Hats / Accessories**

ACTIVITY:

Together, after reading and engaging in *MR. TAXI* or *MR. TAXI'S WILD RIDE*, act it out! Let each child play a different role! Begin by looking closely at the pictures in the book and practice the reoccurring phrases ("Sure! Said Mr. Taxi ... etc.") so that they can actively participate! As you narrate sentence by sentence, have the children repeat what you've just said. After only a few practices, they will surely be able to repeat the reoccurring phrases without your guidance! After getting the children in their places and ready to go ... call **ACTION!** (If you are acting out with one child, follow the same guidelines below and allow them to recite the reoccurring sentences independently once they have learned!) High Five!

Here's an example:

Grown-up Says: "Good morning, Mr. Taxi!"	Child Repeats: "Good morning, Mr. Taxi!"
Grown-up Says: "We've got some friends to meet!"	Child Repeats: "We've got some friends to meet!"
Grown-up Says: "So could you make some space for us?"	Child Repeats: "So could you make some space for us?"
Grown-up says: "We each would like a seat."	Child Repeats: "We each would like a seat."

All children together: "Sure!" said Mr. Taxi, as he honked his horn ... **BEEP! BEEP!** I'll make more room for each of you!" And they off *zipped* down the street! (Hand motions would be great here!)

At the end (final page,) all children call out together: **BEEP! BEEP!**

***To extend this activity, encourage them to create another character and what they might ask Mr. Taxi to do!

WHAT CHILDREN LEARN:

Acting provides an opportunity for children to learn positive speech patterns and oral expression. At a young age, children are able to imitate or make sounds presented in stories and repeat simple refrains. It helps them understand others and put themselves "in another person's shoes." While honing working-memory and developing sequencing skills, it also teaches them to take turns verbally and provides an opportunity for practicing effective communication by listening and responding to others.