MISSOURI BUILDING BLOCK
PICTURE BOOK AWARD

Mel Fell
By Corey R. Tabor

Related Books:
The Little Butterfly That Could by Ross Burach
Hooray for Birds! by Lucy Cousins
Little Scoot by Rebecca Kai Dotlich, Illustrated by Edson Ikê.
Flight School by Lita Judge
Don't Feed the Coos! by Jonathan Stutzman, Illustrated by Heather Fox
Fly! by Mark Teague
The Chicken Who Couldn’t by Jan Thomas
Fly by Brittany J. Thurman, Illustrated by Anna Cunha
Owl Babies by Martin Waddell, illustrated by Patrick Benson
Knowing the Name of a Bird by Jane Yolen & Jori van der Linde.

Rhymes:
“I Saw a Little Bird”
I saw a little bird go hop, hop, hop
I told the little bird to stop, stop, stop
I went to the window to say “How do you do?”
He wagged his little tail and far away he flew!

Source: Storytime Katie (https://storytimekatie.com/2011/03/09/birds-2/)

“Here is a Nest”
Here is a nest for a robin, (cup both hands)
Here is a hive for a bee, (fists together)
Here is a hole for a bunny, (finger and thumb make a circle)
And here is a house for me! (fingertips together over head to make a roof)

Source: King County Library System-Tell Me A Story (https://kcls.org/content/here-is-a-nest-for-a-robin/)

The Missouri Building Block Picture Book Award is sponsored by the Missouri Library Association and administered by the Youth Services Community of Interest. To learn more about MLA or to download more activity sheets, please visit http://molib.org.
“Fly Your Fingers Up”
Fly your fingers up
Fly your fingers down!
Fly your fingers to the side
And fly them all around!
Perch them on your shoulders
Perch them on your head!
Perch them on your belly then
Put them all to bed!

Source: Verona Story Time (https://veronastorytime.com/birds-everybody-story-time/)

**Songs:**
“Birds Fly High”
*Sung to “Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star”*
Birds fly high and bees fly low,
Caterpillars crawl and river flow,
Cats meow and cows go 'moo'.
Puppies bark and babies 'coo'.
So many things to see and hear,
I use my eyes and I use my ears.

Source: Step By Step Child Care (https://stepbystepcc.com/animals/birds.html)

“If You’re Brave and You Know It”
*Sung to “If You’re Happy and You Know It”*
If you’re brave and you know it, clap your hands. (clap, clap)
If you’re brave and you know it, clap your hands. (clap, clap)
If you’re brave and you know, then your face will surely show it.
If you’re brave and you know, clap your hands. (clap, clap)

If you’re brave and you know it, stomp your feet. (stomp, stomp)
If you’re brave and you know it, stomp your feet. (stomp, stomp)
If you’re brave and you know, then your face will surely show it.
If you’re brave and you know, stomp your feet. (stomp, stomp)

If you’re brave and you know it, say “I am!” (say “I am!” and flex arms over head)
If you’re brave and you know it, say “I am!” (say “I am!” and flex arms over head)
If you’re brave and you know, then your face will surely show it.
If you’re brave and you know, say “I am!” (say “I am!” and flex arms over head)

Source: Jen in the Library (https://jeninthelibrary.com/2019/11/08/not-so-scared-preschool-storytime/)
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Activities:
Nest Building Sensory Bin – Gather crinkly paper, pipe cleaners, craft feathers, plastic eggs and any other material that would be make good nest building materials, place them in a sensory bin and let the children explore the materials and build their own nests.

Brave Birds-Many birds are brave because they know they can fly away and hide in trees or bushes if something tries to get them! Have the kids practice being brave like Mel by playing a favorite outdoor game like tag or hide and seek, but have them pretend they are birds flying away from something and choose a tree or other shelter for the “base” where all the birds are safe.

Feed the Birds-Create your own bird feeders by spreading peanut butter or vegetable shortening on the outside of a paper towel tube. Roll the tube in birdseed until the outside is covered. Then thread a string through the center of the tube and tie the two ends together. To keep the shortening or peanut butter firm, and not runny, hang the feeder out of direct sunlight on a tree, fence, or other place birds can enjoy.