

Dem Bones

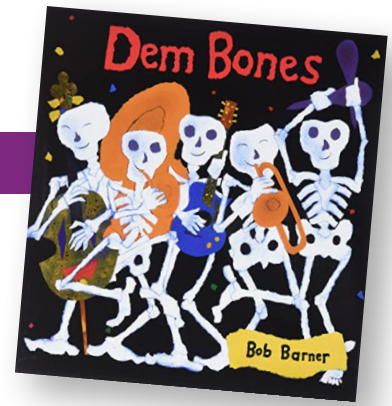
A RIF GUIDE FOR FAMILIES

Themes: Bones, Monement, Music, Self-Expression

Book Brief: A skeleton band supplies words and music to the well-known song based on the African American spiritual.

Author:
Bob Barner

Illustrator:
Bob Barner



TIME TO READ!



Before: This story is helpful for building vocabulary on different body parts and bones within your body. Before reading, flip through some of the pages and ask your child what the skeletons are doing on each page.

During: As you read, encourage your child to identify the bones and their locations in their body. Ask, “Where is this bone in your body?” and encourage them to point to the location on their body. Support their vocabulary by repeating the name of the bone as they point.

After, ask questions:

- Which bones did you see?
- What does the _____ bone help us do?
- What was your favorite bone to learn about?

CONVERSATION STARTERS

Story Awareness means the ways that stories are organized. Help your child develop story awareness by giving opportunities for them to respond to stories you read. This book uses a unique format that brings together a traditional song while also learning facts about different bones in their body. As you read, pause after each line in the song and its connected “bone fact” and ask your child to explain how this bone helps our bodies. You may notice that your child learns the rhythm of the song while also re-telling newly learned information.

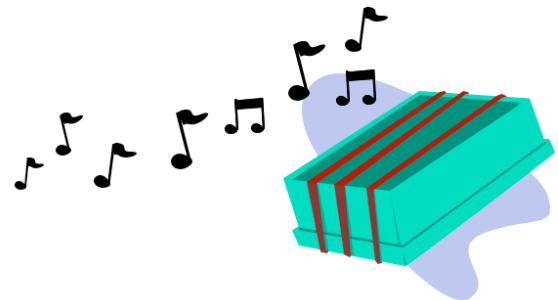
RELATED ACTIVITIES

BOX GUITAR

Materials: shoe box, three rubber bands

Remove the lid from a shoebox and stretch three rubber bands across it. Strum the rubber bands and play along as you sing the song Dem Bones.

You may also want to listen to the song online to hear the rhythm: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pbl4BNkAq_U



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



OTHER BOOKS AUTHORED BY BOB BARNER

- **My Dog Has Fleas (2021)**
- **Go, Go, Go (2020)** *also available in Spanish
- **Fish Wish (2019)**