



Pathways to Home Learning

Rhyme Time!



EYFS Pathways to Home Learning: Autumn 1

Development Matters focus – this is the school focus for this half term

Reading	Writing
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hear and say the initial sound in words• Link sounds to letters• Use vocabulary and forms of speech that are increasingly influenced by experience of books	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Give meaning to marks as they draw, write and paint• Hear and say the initial sound in words• Link sounds to letters• Use some clearly identifiable letters to communicate meaning• Write labels

The singing and repetition of rhymes can help benefit a child's learning and development in many ways:

- **They are easy to repeat**
- **They help practise the rhythm of language**
- **They introduce new vocabulary and expand imagination**
- **They tell a story and teach about the emotions of the characters**
- **They get your child moving and improve their rhythm**
- **They improve memory, concentration, spatial intelligence and thinking skills**
- **They improve listening skills**
- **Music helps develop children with better self-control, higher self-esteem and confidence**
- **They are fun!**

Vocabulary to explore in conversation

Word in nursery rhyme	Meaning
<p><i>fiddle</i> <i>tuffet</i> <i>curds and whey</i> <i>rye</i> <i>dainty</i> <i>parlour</i> <i>Knave</i> <i>'clean away'</i> <i>beat...full sore</i> <i>vowed</i> <i>nutmeg</i> <i>crimson</i> <i>jet black</i> <i>fair</i> <i>piper</i> <i>roaring</i> <i>merry</i> <i>soul</i> <i>rare</i> <i>compare</i> <i>horn</i> <i>haystack</i> <i>sixpence</i> <i>stile</i></p> <p><i>delve</i> <i>a-courting</i> <i>in waiting</i></p>	<p>a violin a clump of grass like cheese and milk grain, like wheat small and pretty a room where people can meet guests a boy or young man took them all away smacked hard promised the seed of the nutmeg tree red darkest black pretty a man who played a musical pipe shouting/screaming cheerful in this context, a person something you do not often see notice how things are similar or different a musical instrument like a trumpet a big pile of hay an old coin steps that allow you to climb safely over a fence or wall reach inside and search for something being romantic with being a servant or maid</p>

The ideas and suggestions that follow could be used with any rhyme, modern or traditional. You will find the traditional rhymes below in the accompanying booklet:

Hey diddle, diddle

Little Miss Muffet

Sing a song of sixpence

The Queen of Hearts

I had a little nut tree

Tom, Tom, the piper's son

Old King Cole

Little Boy Blue

There was a crooked man

One, two, buckle my shoe

What to do with a nursery rhyme!

1. Read/sing the rhyme together with your child.
2. Discuss unfamiliar words (see 'Vocabulary to explore in conversation' above for definitions).
3. Draw your child's attention to the rhyming words.
4. Encourage your child to draw some pictures and make up some actions to go with the rhyme. This will help them to remember it. When they know it really well, they could perform it for the people in your house and show grandparents/extended family on a video call.
5. Encourage your child to think of some 'body instruments' and use them for one of their performances e.g. clapping, finger clicking, stamping; make a shaker out of a plastic container filled with rice; use a wooden spoon and a saucepan as a drum (not too loudly! 😊)
6. Choose words from a nursery rhyme and find real words and then nonsense words which rhyme with it.
7. Encourage your child to tell the story of the rhyme. Start like this: 'Once upon a time...'
8. Your child might want to draw a picture to go with their story.
9. Encourage your child to act out the rhyme.
10. Your child might enjoy making a scene from the rhyme with their toy.