



Fun and Games with Songs

It is important to share songs and rhymes with your children. Say and read nursery rhymes so that your child hears words that rhyme. Rhyming is the beginning of understanding that words are made up of smaller parts. Babies and young toddlers often have short attention spans, but rhymes and songs are perfect for quick sharing.

This Little Piggy

This little piggy went to market.
This little piggy stayed home.
This little piggy had roast beef.
This little piggy had none.
And this little piggy cried,
“Wee, wee, wee!”
All the way home.

(can be done on fingers or toes)
touch and wiggle thumb
touch and wiggle index finger
touch and wiggle middle finger
touch and wiggle ring finger

touch and wiggle pinky

The Itsy, Bitsy Spider

The itsy, bitsy spider
Went up the water spout.
Down came the rain
And washed the spider out
Out came the sun
And dried up all the rain,
And the itsy, bitsy spider
Went up the spout again.

put finger to opposite thumb and pretend to crawl up
wiggle fingers from the top of “spout” down to lap
move hands/arms across lap

show spider again going up

If You’re Happy and You Know It

If you’re happy and you know it,
Clap your hands.
If you’re happy and you know it,
Clap your hands.
If you’re happy and you know it,
Then your face will surely show it,
If you’re happy and you know it
Clap your hands.

Suggestions for other verses:

stamp your feet
pat your legs
wiggle your ears

Where is Thumbkin?

Where is Thumbkin?
Where is Thumbkin?
Here I am. Here I am.
How are you today, sir?
Very well, I thank you.
Run away, run away.
Where is pointer?

Hands behind back

Bring right hand out from behind back with thumb
Move right thumb as if it’s talking
Move left thumb as if it’s responding
Clap
Motions are repeated for each of the five fingers

Teapot

I'm a little teapot short and stout.
Here is my handle, here is my spout
When I get all steamed up,
Hear me shout
Tip me over and pour me out.

bend knees
put hand on hip with elbow out
the other hand should go out to be a spout

pretend to tip over

Baa Baa Black Sheep

Baa Baa Black Sheep, have you any wool?
Yes sir, yes sir, three bags full,
One for the master, One for the dame,
And one for the little boy who lives down the lane.
Baa Baa Black Sheep, have you any wool?
Yes sir, yes sir, three bags full.

The Wheels on the Bus

The wheels on the bus go round and round,

Round and round, round and round.
The wheels on the bus go round and round,
All through the town.
The people on the bus go up and down
Up and down, up and down.
The people on the bus go up and down,
All through the town.

bend arms and make them go around
like wheels

sit up and down

Other verses:

The wipers on the bus go swish, swish, swish.
The horn on the bus goes beep, beep, beep.
The money on the bus goes clink, clink, clink
The driver on the bus says, "move on back."

use your hands as wipers back and forth
pretend to beep a horn
pretend to put money in
motion thumb over shoulder to move on
back

The baby on the bus goes waa, waa, waa.

rub your eyes as a child would when
crying

Head and Shoulders

(touch body parts as singing)

Head, shoulders, knees and toes, knees and toes,
Head, shoulders, knees and toes, knees and toes,
Eyes and ears and mouth and nose,
Head, shoulders, knees and toes, knees and toes.

Ankles, elbows, feet and seat, feet and seat,
Ankles, elbows, feet and seat, feet and seat,
Hair and hips and chin and cheeks,
Ankles, elbows, feet and seat, feet and seat.

Head, shoulders, knees and toes, knees and toes,
Head, shoulders, knees and toes, knees and toes,
Eyes and ears and mouth and nose,
Head, shoulders, knees and toes, knees and toes.