



# Nursery Rhymes



Singing nursery rhymes is a lovely way to spend time with young children and it is so important in their language development. This is why....

## Structure of words

By listening to and joining in with nursery rhymes children develop an understanding of the syllables and sounds that make up words. Clap along as you sing a nursery rhyme to help the syllables stand out more.



## Understanding words

Through nursery rhymes children are introduced to lots of different words and this will extend their vocabulary. They begin to notice that words sound the same but are different eg cat and hat. Noticing these word patterns will help them later as they learn how to read.

## Rhythms of speech and intonation

Nursery rhymes help to teach children about the structure of language and how we emphasise certain words. For example, in Incy, Wincy Spider we emphasise 'washed the spider out'. This helps children to recognise speech patterns and that emphasis is used in everyday language.



## Saying sounds clearly

Singing nursery rhymes helps your child say sounds clearly. For example, in the nursery rhyme 'Hey Diddle Diddle' the sound 'd' is repeated lots of times. When children join in with this rhyme, they will try to make this sound several times and so are practising how to say the sounds clearly.



So as well as being lots of fun nursery rhymes play a key role in your child's language development. You can sing them at anytime, anywhere and they don't cost anything! Enjoy singing!