



Welcome to Toddler Storytime!

Here are some of the songs and fingerplays we love to use!

Welcome Song

Welcome, welcome everyone,
Now we're here, let's have some fun.

The more we get together, together, together,
The more we get together, the happier we'll be.
'Cause your friends are my friends,
And my friends are your friends.
The more we get together, the happier we'll be.

Open, Shut Them

(an action song)

Open, shut them,
Open, shut them,
Give a little clap, clap, clap.
Open, shut them,
Open, shut them,
Place them in your lap, lap, lap.

The Wheels on the Bus

(an action rhyme)



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.

(make circling motion with hands)

The wipers on the bus go swish, swish, swish,
Swish, swish, swish. Swish, swish, swish.
The wipers on the bus go swish, swish, swish,
All through the town.
(move hands back and forth like windshield wipers)

Additional verses:

The doors on the bus go open and shut...
The horn on the bus goes beep, beep, beep...
The babies on the bus go, "wah, wah, wah..."
The parents on the bus go, "shh, shh, shh..."
The people on the bus go up and down...

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear

(an action song)

Teddy bear, teddy bear, turn around.
(turn around)
Teddy bear, teddy bear, touch the ground.
(touch the floor)
Teddy bear, teddy bear, touch your shoe.
(touch shoe)
Teddy bear, teddy bear, I love you!
(hug child)
Teddy bear, teddy bear, turn around.
(turn around)
Teddy bear, teddy bear, sit on the ground.
(sit down)

Where Is Thumbkin?

(sung to: "Are You Sleeping?")

Where is thumbkin? Where is thumbkin?
(start with hands behind back)
Here I am!
(bring one thumb out)
Here I am!
(bring other thumb out)
How are you today, sir?
(nod a thumb)
Very well, I thank you.
(nod the other thumb)
Run away!
(put one hand behind back)
Run away!
(put other hand behind back)

The Itsy-Bitsy Spider

(an action song)



The itsy-bitsy spider went up the water spout.
(crawl fingers up high)
Down came the rain and washed the spider out.
(drop fingers quickly)
Out came the sun and dried up all the rain,
(form circle with arms)
And the itsy-bitsy spider climbed up the spout
again.
(crawl fingers back up high)



Five Little Monkeys

(an action rhyme)

Five little monkeys jumping on the bed.
One fell off and bumped his head.
Mama called the doctor, and the doctor said:
"No more monkeys jumping on the bed!"

****Repeat with four monkeys, three monkeys, etc.**

No more monkeys jumping on the bed.
None fell off and bumped their heads.
Mama called the doctor, and the doctor said:
"Put those monkeys straight to bed!"



This is the Way the Children Ride

(sung to: "The Mulberry Bush")

This is the way the children ride,
Children ride, children ride.
This is the way the children ride,
Bouncy, bouncy, bouncy.
(bounce child slowly on your knees)

This is the way the jockey rides,
Jockey rides, jockey rides.
This is the way the jockey rides,
Gallop, gallop, gallop.
(bounce child faster)

Hickory Dickory Dock

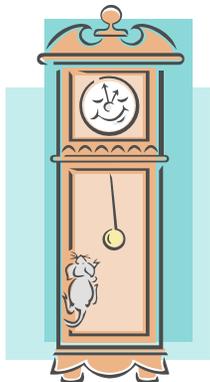
(an action rhyme)

Hickory, dickory, dock,
The mouse ran up the clock.
The clock struck one,
The mouse ran down.
Hickory, dickory, dock.

Additional Verses:

...The clock struck two,
The mouse said, "boo..."

...The clock struck three,
The mouse said, "whee..."



Here is the Beehive

(an action rhyme)

Here is the beehive,
(cover a closed fist with other hand)
But where are the bees?
Hiding inside so nobody sees!
(shake head)
Soon they'll come creeping out of the hive:
One, two, three, four, five! Buzzzz!
(count fingers, opening inner hand, then tickle baby!)



The Grand Old Duke of York

(a bounce)

The grand old Duke of York,
He had ten thousand men.
He marched them up to the top of the hill,
And he marched them down again.
And when you're up, you're up,
And when you're down, you're down.
And when you're only half-way up,
You're neither up nor down!

I'm a Little Teapot

(an action song)

I'm a little teapot, short and stout.
Here is my handle,
(one hand on hip)
Here is my spout.
(other arm out)
When I get all steamed up, hear me shout:
"Tip me over, and pour me out!"
(lean over toward spout)



Early Literacy Tip:

Incorporating the five early literacy practices—reading, writing, talking, singing, and playing—into your daily routine is the best way to prepare your toddler for future reading success.

For more tips, check out the parent and caregiver page on our website:
<https://wclibrary.info/research/parents.asp>