

Enjoying rhymes and songs provides children with opportunities for developing sound awareness which is important for when they later begin to learn to read.

READ

Children like books about familiar things – families, food, animals and especially other children!

BEFORE READING:

- Spend time talking about the cover of the book:
- Read the blurb on the back cover, can you find the paint on the walls, the tyre tracks on the carpet and the peas on the floor?
- Open up to the second page and introduce all the characters in the book. Talk about what each child is holding. What do you think they are going to do?

DURING READING:

- As you read the story, place emphasis on the rhyming words.
- It won't be long before children start joining in with the rhyming words, especially if you pause and give them the chance to fill in the 'blank'.

AFTER READING:

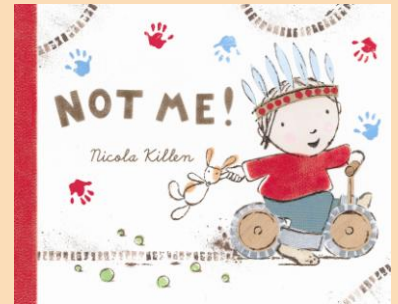
- Can you think of other words that rhyme?
- Can you think of any words that rhyme with the children's names?

SING

Children learn about language through positive interactions. Singing, rhyming and finger plays are fun ways for children to engage with language.

Nursery Rhymes are a fabulous resource. They not only help children learn about language but they are fun, free, and can be used anywhere, anytime and in a variety of ways:

- A fun way to feed a distracted toddler.
- A lullaby before bedtime.
- While you are waiting at the checkout at the supermarket.
- While driving in the car.
- Sung as you dance around the room together.
- Add music and fun to everyday play, for example, sing *Polly Put the Kettle on* while having a 'tea party'.



This book was featured in Feb 2012 as part of our **Rhyme and Rhythm** Theme.

Notes

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Nursery Rhymes can easily be adapted to the needs, customs and values of your children:

- Change to fit the gender of the child, eg, *Little Bob Peep has lost his sheep...*
- Replace words to include a child's first language.
- Sing rhymes from different countries.
- Adapt them, eg, Little Miss Muffet scared the spider away.

PLAY

Use rhymes as an inspiration for play. Pick a rhyme and plan the day's activities around it:

BAA BAA BLACK SHEEP:

- Play with farm animals and sing while you play.
- Paint with black paint on white paper.
- Make a collage with wool and cotton wool.
- Use sand or water play to experiment with the concept of full.
- Make finger puppets to act out the rhyme.
- Explore the number three.

THE WHEELS ON THE BUS:

- Use chairs to make a bus for dramatic play.
 - Provide a uniform for the bus driver.
 - Make tickets for the passengers to buy.
 - Let the passengers act out the characters in the song.
- Make buses out of recycled materials. Don't forget the wipers and the horn! Make people to put in the bus.
- Add toy vehicles to the doll's house or block play.
- Provide models of buses, cars etc... for observational drawings.

CREATE

Make your own tyre tracks:

- Play with plastic cars and trucks in wet sand and observe the marks they make.
- Dip the wheels of plastic vehicles in paint and make colourful tracks on paper.

Visit www.thelittlebigbookclub.com.au for instructions on how to create your own Messy Art.

More Books With Rhyme and Rhythm:

- Boom Bah* by Phil Cummings
I Love to Dance by Anna Walker
Baby Gets Dressed by Katrina Germein
Let's Go, Baby-o! By Janet and Andrew McLean

Useful websites and links:

For printable activities:

www.thelittlebigbookclub.com.au

