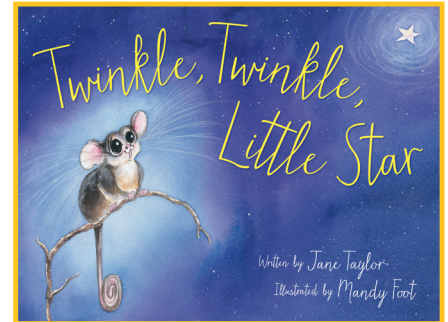


Ap 2016

**TITLE: TWINKLE, TWINKLE LITTLE STAR**

Words by Jane Taylor, illustrated by Mandy Foot

Night has come. The stars are out! Join an endearing little pygmy possum and together discover the magic of the Australian outback! Mandy Foot's striking illustrations bring this classic lullaby to life! Originally taken from a poem written by the 19th century poet Jane Taylor, Twinkle Twinkle Little Star is a familiar and much loved song that Mandy Foot has made truly Australian. Young children will adore her delightful and cheeky Australian animals, which come to life in a rich Australian landscape. Perhaps they will even try to sing along, as the little pygmy possum finds his way home by the twinkling star!



### Key Message for Parents

#### Children Learn From Watching And Copying

During this early developmental stage, (0-2 years) a young child sees and hears everything we do! Being mindful of the words we choose, the things we eat and how we behave will help set a good example. You are your child's first teacher!

By 15 months a toddler will normally have the motor and cognitive skills to begin to mimic our actions. This process of imitation or mimicry is a when a young child observes, processes the information, attempts it themselves, then practices. Of course there must be lots of praise and positive reinforcement as every effort is amazing (and often very cute!)

That is why singing and reading to your baby is very important! Repetition is important too. Your baby will show you which songs or books she/he likes. The more singing and reading you can fit into your day, the better! Perhaps Twinkle Twinkle Little Star will become a firm favourite!

### Learning Outcomes

#### Outcome 5: Children Are Effective Communicators

- Babies learn to communicate through watching and listening. By making time in the day for lots of stories and songs you can optimise their language development. Babies love to listen, so talk to your baby about what you are doing, whether its changing a nappy, feeding, or shopping!
- When communicating with babies, use eye contact and lots smiles. Babies also enjoy a singsong tone of voice, often referred to as 'parentese'.
- The more you communicate with your baby the better they will become at communicating themselves!

Find booklists, tip sheets, nursery rhymes and activity and learning time sheets @

[thelittlebigbookclub.com.au](http://thelittlebigbookclub.com.au)





## Themes of this story include:

- Nursery Rhymes
- Bed Time
- Australian Animals

## Welcome

Ask carers to write nametags for themselves and their babies.

Welcome everyone, introduce yourself, remind adults to turn their mobile phones off and that there will be time for adults to chat after the story and songs.

## Welcome Song (or your preferred song)

Have the words available as a handout or written on a board or butcher's paper for the adults to read and join in.

## Good Morning

*Good morning to you  
Good morning to you  
Good morning everybody  
And welcome to you!*



## Song

Encourage families to sing face to face with their baby. This helps babies to watch your facial expressions and actions, it won't be long before they are mimicking expressions and attempting to copy actions.

## Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star

*Twinkle, twinkle, little star,  
(wiggle your fingers like twinkling stars and raise over your head slowly)  
How I wonder what you are.  
(shrug your shoulders and place your palms open to suggest questioning)  
Up above the world so high,  
(bring your open palms together and make a circle to resemble the world and move it slowly above your head)  
Like a diamond in the sky.  
(turn your round world into a diamond shape with your index fingers and thumbs joining together)  
Twinkle, twinkle, little star,  
(return your hands to wiggling fingers like twinkling stars)  
How I wonder what you are.*



**TIP: Sing this song a few times. Repetition helps babies to learn!**



## Before Reading

Make sure babies and parents are seated comfortably- you might like to sing a “getting ready to listen” song. This one is sung to the tune of Twinkle Twinkle Little Star! Alternatively a bell or triangle could signal story time and gain baby’s attention.

“Let’s get ready, it’s time to look, Settle down and read a book!”

Today’s story is called Twinkle Twinkle Little Star. It is based on the well-known lullaby, which was originally written over 100 years ago by English poet Jane Taylor.

## During Reading

On every page of this book, Mandy Foot has painted a little star. You could play a little game as you read, asking “Where oh where is that star? Is it there – no! Is it there? –No! Oh here it is, Hurray! Encourage parents to clap with their babies as you find the star! You could use a small torch and shine it onto the star for extra effect! Babies will tune into sounds which alternate in pitch, so be mindful when using your “reading voice”. How and when you can change your expression or volume. Try singing the book if you feel confident. Parents might like to join in with you!.

## After Reading

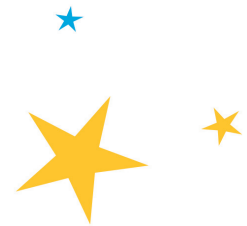
Babies love sensory rhymes! Ask parents to hold their baby’s hand for this one!

*Round and round the galaxy (circle with finger on baby’s palm)*

*Like a little star*

*Twinkle here; twinkle there (tickle hand, tickle arm)*

*Twinkle twinkle everywhere! (Tickle all over!)*



As Twinkle Twinkle Little Star is a lullaby, it might be an opportunity for parents to share or discuss Nighttime or bed time routines! Nighttime routines differ from family to family. Routines evolve over time and they are not set in stone, but tried and true rest time routines include a warm bath, a book, a lullaby and snuggly cuddle at bedtime. What is important for babies is that the routine is calming, consistent, and predictable. Encourage parents to share what works for them!



## Activity Time

### Star Mobile

Parents and carers can create this simple and visually stimulating star mobile, which could be hung in a baby's room!

### Materials needed:

- Silver card
- Star Template
- Hole Punch
- Coloured ribbon
- String



### Instructions:

1. Punch one hole at the top of the star, and several along the bottom.
2. Through the top hole thread the string for hanging the star and through the bottom holes tie coloured ribbons.
3. Parents/Carers can write their babies name or stick a photo in the middle of the star. Perhaps they might write "(baby's name).....is our little star"

### Extension ideas:

- [http://raisingchildren.net.au/baby\\_karaoke/baby\\_karaoke\\_landing.html](http://raisingchildren.net.au/baby_karaoke/baby_karaoke_landing.html)  
This website has an excellent music app which is downloadable for free! So parents will be able to sing and play with their babies wherever they are!
- Babies love boxes! Create a playspace with boxes and blankets perfect for exploring. Hide some toys in them for your baby to discover!
- Create a starry playdoh activity using star cutters and mats - see image below.



Images supplied by Jessie Brown Pre-kindergarten, Belair





## Goodbye

Conclude the session with some suggestions of relevant books that parents might want to borrow. The Little Big Book Club recommends the following books to support learning in this area -

- **The Green Sheep** by Mem Fox and Judy Horacek
- **Good Night Sleep Tight** by Mem Fox
- **My Village - Rhymes From Around The World**
- **The Wheels on the Bus** by Mandy Foot

## Goodbye Song

Depending on the size of your group, you may wish to insert each child's name in the place of 'you' as it develops a more personal relationship between yourself, the child and the family.

Sung to the tune of (Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush) or your preferred choice.

## Goodbye

*This is the way we say goodbye (use a waving action)*

*Say goodbye, say goodbye*

*This is the way we say goodbye*

*To all our library friends (or) (to our friend.....)!*

