

Rhyme Time

Why Sharing Rhymes Is Important?

Sharing Songs and Rhymes helps children to:

- develop communication skills such as turn taking, listening and attention
- learn new words and phrases
- develop anticipation through repetition
- have fun with beats and rhythms
- explore sound patterns in words including rhymes, syllables and alliteration.

How Do You Develop Rhymes?

- ELC settings and schools can identify a **rhyme of the week**. This can be shared throughout the setting and with families and practised daily. e.g. through group times, when putting on shoes and coats, moving from one area to another, when tidying up.
- Links should be made with **families** to support children's engagement with songs and rhymes. e.g. copy sent home, displayed in the setting for families to see, shared through blogs, websites and social media.
- Use props and pictures when sharing rhymes and include opportunities to enable children to **revisit familiar rhymes** through their play.

Rhyme of the Week

Day 1	Introduce the Rhyme <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ share the rhyme as part of group time – use actions and props❖ share the rhyme with families.
Day 2	Rhyme and Rhythm <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ share the rhyme as part of group time – use actions and props❖ when saying the rhyme, making a steady beat by tapping your thighs with your hands. When saying the rhyme, march, keeping to the beat.
Day 3	Rhyme: Word Boundaries <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ share the rhyme as part of group time – use actions and props❖ jump out the rhyme – indoors and out – when saying the rhyme, jump each time you say a word... you could try jumping using hula hoops.
Day 4	Rhyme: Pause and Wait <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ share the rhyme as part of group time – use actions and props❖ when saying the rhyme, pause before the rhyming words, developing anticipation and encouraging children to fill in the gaps, e.g. <i>"Humpty Dumpty sat on the wall, Humpty Dumpty had a great..."</i>
Day 5	Rhyme: Syllables <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ share the rhyme as part of group time – use actions and props❖ when saying the rhyme, clap for each syllable in each word, e.g. Hump---ty