

# Rhyme Time

*Fun learning with your toddler*



Yukon Literacy  
Coalition

## Dear Parents, Guardians and Teachers:

All those nonsensical verses from your childhood really do matter. They matter, because they rhyme. Rhyming is fun. And it's a very important part of reading success.

### Why Is Rhyming Important?

1. Rhyming teaches children how language works. It helps them notice and work with the sounds within words.
2. Rhymes help children experience the rhythm of language. As they recite nursery rhymes they learn to speak with animated voices. Someday they'll read with expression, too.
3. When children are familiar with a nursery rhyme or rhyming book, they learn to anticipate the rhyming word. This prepares them to make predictions when they read, another important reading skill.
4. Rhyming is also important for writing. It can help children understand that words which share common sounds often share common letters. For example, the rhyming words cat and bat both end with -at.
5. When listening to rhyming songs and poems, children create a mental picture, expanding their imaginations.
6. Because rhyming is fun, it adds joy to the sometimes daunting task of learning to read.

We hope you and the children enjoy exploring this book together.

## Go Bananas!

Peel bananas

*(Pretend to peel a banana in your hand)*

Peel, peel bananas

Chop bananas

*(With one arm straight out, "chop" it with opposite hand)*

Chop, chop bananas

Eat bananas

*(Pretend to eat a banana)*

Eat, eat bananas

Go bananas!

*(Wiggle whole body around)*

## Ring the Bell

Ting the bell

*(Tug at a lock of the child's hair)*

Knock at the door

*(Knock gently on her forehead)*

Peek in

*(Look in her eyes)*

Lift up the latch

*(Push up on the end of her nose)*

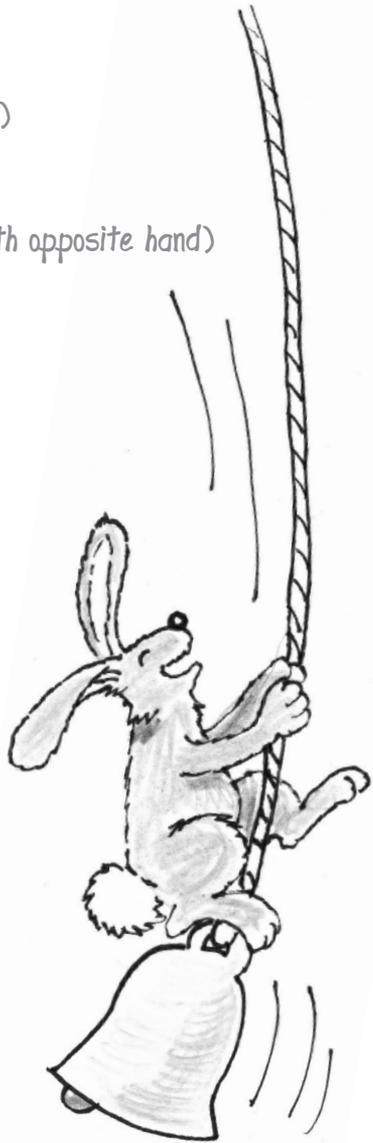
Walk in

*(Walk your fingers on her lips)*

Let's go down cellar and eat apples

*(Run your fingers down the child's body to her tummy.*

*Then tickle.)*



## Here is the Beehive

Here is the beehive

*(Make a fist)*

Where are the bees?

*(Shrug shoulders)*

Hidden away where nobody sees

*(Tap fist with finger)*

Soon they come creeping out of the hive

One, two, three, four, five

*(hold up fingers)*

Bzzzzzzzzz..... they're alive!

*(Wiggle fingers)*



## Mother and Father and Uncle John

Mother and Father and Uncle John

*(Bounce baby on your knees)*

Went to the market one by one

Mother fell off

*(Tilt baby to one side)*

And Father fell off

*(Tilt baby to the other side)*

But Uncle John went on and on and on and on...

*(Bounce baby again)*

## Where is Thumbkin?

Where is Thumbkin?

*(Stick up one thumb)*

Where is Thumbkin?

*(Stick up other thumb)*

Here I am

*(Wiggle thumb)*

Here I am

*(Wiggle other thumb)*

How are you this morning?

*(Wiggle thumb as if it is talking)*

Very well I thank you

*(Wiggle other thumb as if it is talking)*

Run away

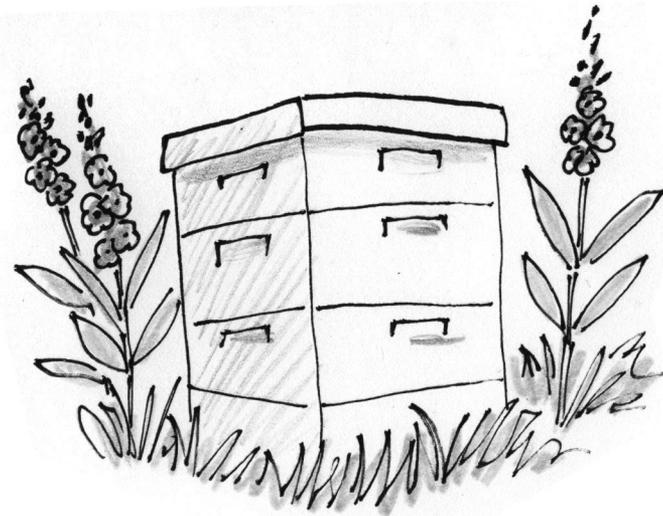
*(Put thumb behind your back)*

Run away

*(Put other thumb behind your back)*



Repeat the verse using each of your fingers -- pointer, mid man, ring man and pinky.



## Row, Row, Row Your Boat

*(Sit your child in your lap and rock back and forth, or lie child on the floor and move arms or legs in rowing motion)*

Row, row, row your boat  
Gently down the stream  
Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily  
Life is but a dream



## A Smooth Road

A smooth road, a smooth road,  
a smooth road, a smooth road

*(Sway baby gently on your knees)*

A bumpy road, a bumpy road,  
a bumpy road, a bumpy road

*(Bounce baby gently on your knees)*

A rough road, a rough road,  
a rough road, a rough road

*(Bounce baby harder)*

**A HOLE!**

*(Drop baby between your legs while holding onto him)*

## On My Foot There is a Flea

On my foot there is a flea

*(Touch foot)*

Now he's climbing up on me

*(Creep fingers up leg)*

Past my belly

*(Creep fingers past belly)*

Past my nose

*(Creep fingers past nose)*

On my head where my hair grows

On my head there is a flea

*(Touch head)*

Now he's climbing down on me

*(Creep fingers down)*

Past my belly

*(Creep fingers past belly)*

Past my knee

*(Creep fingers past knee)*

On my foot

*(Touch foot)*

Take that you flea!

*(Slap foot gently as if you are squishing a flea)*



## I Have a Little Bicycle

Do this rhyme with your baby lying on your lap with her legs toward you. Move her legs or arms as if she is riding a bike.

I have a little bicycle

*(Move legs)*

I ride it to the shop

And when I see a red light

I know it's time to stop

*(Stop moving legs)*

I have a little bicycle

*(Move legs)*

I ride it to the gate

And when I see a yellow light

I know it's time to wait

*(Stop moving legs)*

I have a little bicycle

*(Move legs)*

I ride it to and fro

And when I see a green light

I know it's time to go, go, go, go, go...

*(Move legs faster)*

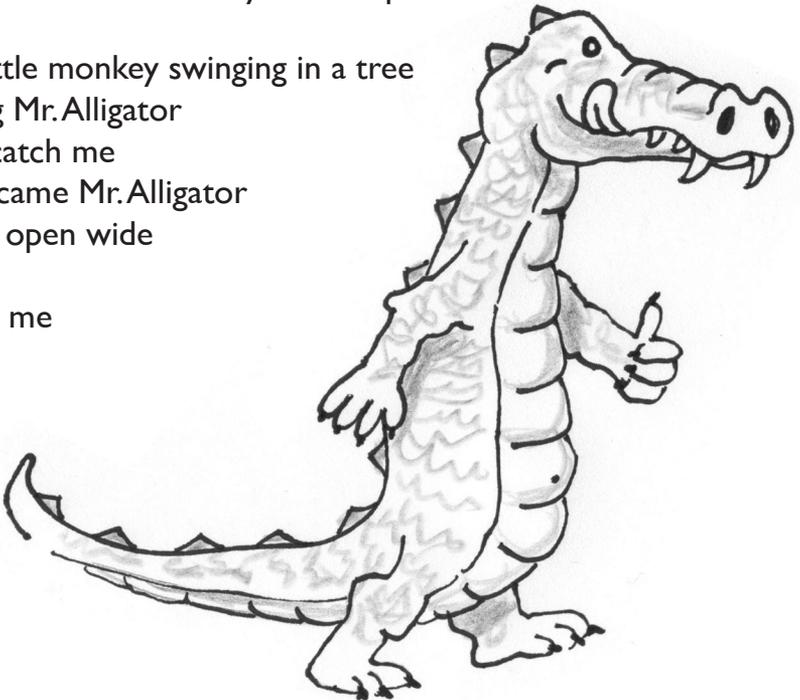


## Three Little Monkeys

Three little monkeys swinging in a tree  
Teasing Mr.Alligator  
Can't catch me  
Along came Mr.Alligator  
Mouth open wide  
Snap!  
The first little monkey was deep inside.

Two little monkeys Swinging in a tree  
Teasing Mr.Alligator  
Can't catch me  
Along came Mr.Alligator  
Mouth open wide  
Snap!  
The second little monkey was deep inside.

One little monkey swinging in a tree  
Teasing Mr.Alligator  
Can't catch me  
Along came Mr.Alligator  
Mouth open wide  
Snap!  
Missed me



## Round and Round the Garden

Round and round the garden

*(Circle your child's tummy with your hand)*

Like a teddy bear

One step, two step

*(Walk fingers up your child's arm)*

Tickle you under there

*(Tickle under your child's arm)*

Round and round the lighthouse

In the wind and rain

One step, two step

Tickle you there again



## Hokey Pokey

You put your right foot in

You put your right foot out

You put your right foot in and you shake it all about

You do the hokey pokey and you turn yourself about

That's what it's all about

*Repeat with left foot, right arm, left arm, head, tongue and whole self.*

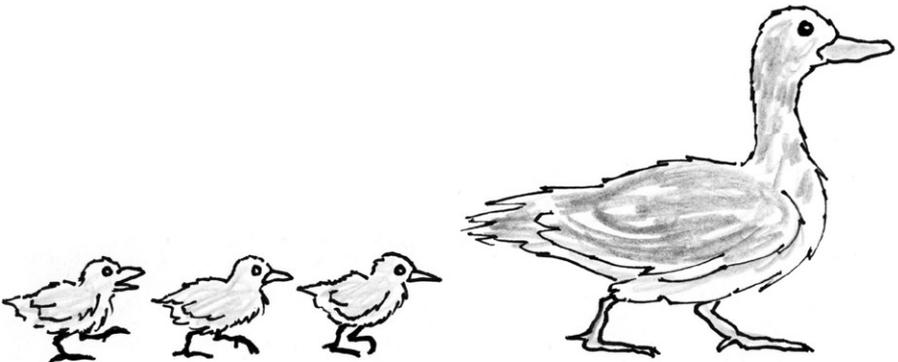
## Four Little Ducks

Four little ducks went out to play  
Over the hills and far away  
Mother duck said, “quack quack quack quack”  
But only three little ducks came quacking back

Three little ducks went out to play  
Over the hills and far away  
Mother duck said, “quack quack quack quack”  
But only two little ducks came quacking back

Two little ducks went out to play  
Over the hills and far away  
Mother duck said, “quack quack quack quack”  
But only one little duck came quacking back

One little duck went out to play  
Over the hills and far away  
Mother duck said, “quack quack quack quack”  
And all four ducks came quacking back



## Open Them, Shut Them

Open them shut them  
Open them shut them  
Give them a little clap, clap, clap

Open them shut them  
Open them shut them  
Lay them in your lap, lap, lap

Creep them creep them  
Creep them creep them  
Right up to your chin, chin, chin

Open up your little mouth but do not let them in, in, in!



## If You're Happy and You Know It

If you're happy and you know it  
Clap your hands  
If you're happy and you know it  
Clap your hands  
If you're happy and you know it  
And you really want to show it  
If you're happy and you know it  
Clap your hands

*Repeat using:*

*If you're sad and you know it, cry a tear  
If you're mad and you know it, stomp your feet  
If you're glad and you know it, shout "hurray!"*

## Twinkle Twinkle Little Star

Twinkle twinkle little star  
How I wonder what you are  
Up above the world so high  
Like a diamond in the sky  
Twinkle twinkle little star  
How I wonder what you are



## Sleeping Bunnies

See the little bunnies sleeping 'til it's nearly noon  
Come and let us gently wake them  
With this happy tune

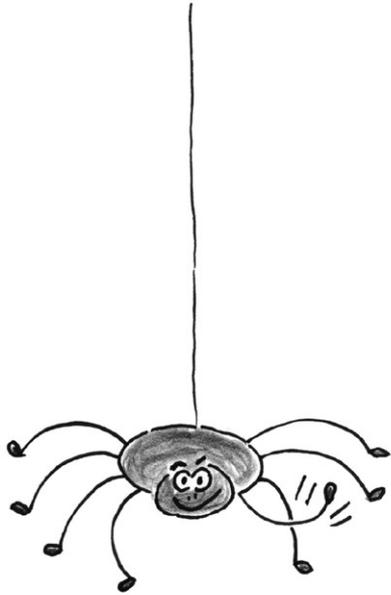
Oh, so still...Are they ill?  
NO!!

Hop little bunnies, hop, hop, hop  
And STOP!



## Rock a Bye Baby

Rock a bye baby  
On the treetop  
When the wind blows  
The cradle will rock  
When the bough breaks  
The cradle will fall  
And down will come baby  
Cradle and all



## Itsy Bitsy Spider

The itsy bitsy spider climbed up the water spout  
Down came the rain and washed the spider out  
Up came the sun and dried up all the rain  
And the itsy bitsy spider climbed up the spout again

## Mommy Loves Baby

*This lullaby has the same tune as Rock a Bye Baby. You can substitute other people or names, such as "auntie" or "sister" into this song.*

Mommy loves baby, yes she does  
Daddy love baby, yes he does  
Grandma loves baby, Grandpa does too  
We all love baby, yes we do

## **Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear**

*Do the actions along with this rhyme.*

Teddy bear, teddy bear, turn around  
Teddy bear, teddy bear, touch the ground  
Teddy bear, teddy bear, touch your nose  
Teddy bear, teddy bear, touch your toes  
Teddy bear, teddy bear, show your shoe  
Teddy bear, teddy bear, that will do  
Teddy bear, teddy bear, turn out the light  
Teddy bear, teddy bear, say good night

## **I'm a Little Teapot**

I'm a little teapot  
Short and stout  
Here is my handle  
Here is my spout  
When I get all steamed up  
Hear me shout  
Tip me over and pour me out



## Hush Little Baby

Hush little baby don't say a word,  
Mama's going to buy you a mockingbird

And if that mockingbird won't sing  
Mama's going to buy you a diamond ring

If that diamond ring turns brass  
Mama's going to buy you a looking glass

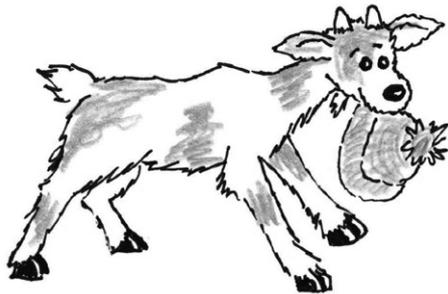
If that looking glass gets broke  
Mama's going to buy you a billy goat

If that billy goat won't pull  
Mama's going to buy you a cart and bull

If that cart and bull turn over  
Mama's going to buy you a dog named Rover

If that dog named Rover won't bark  
Mama's going to buy you a horse and cart

If that horse and cart fall down  
You'll still be the sweetest little baby in town



## It's Cold Outside

*This song has the same tune as Farmer and the Dell. Parents can use it to help get their children dressed in the winter.*

Let's put on your boots  
Let's put on your boots  
High ho, it's cold outside  
Let's put on your boots

*Substitute with mitts, hat,  
snow pants, etc.*



## Zoom, Zoom, Zoom

Zoom, zoom, zoom  
We're going to the moon  
Zoom, zoom, zoom  
We're going to the moon  
If you'd like to take a trip  
Climb aboard my rocket ship  
Zoom, zoom, zoom  
We're going to the moon  
5, 4, 3, 2, 1... BLASTOFF!



## Three Little Kittens



Three little kittens lost their mittens,  
And they began to cry  
Oh mother dear, we sadly fear our mittens we have lost  
What! Lost your mittens, you naughty kittens  
Then you shall have no pie  
Mee-ow, mee-ow, mee-ow  
No, you shall have no pie

The three little kittens they found their mittens  
And they began to cry  
Oh mother dear, see here, see here, our mittens we have found  
Put on your mittens, you silly kittens  
And you shall have some pie  
Purr-rr, purr-rr, purr-rr  
Oh, let us have some pie



The three little kittens put on their mittens  
And soon ate up the pie  
Oh mother dear, we greatly fear our mittens we have soiled  
What! Soiled your mittens, you naughty kittens  
Then they began to sigh  
Mee-ow, mee-ow, mee-ow  
Then they began to sigh



The three little kittens they washed their mittens  
And hung them out to dry  
Oh mother dear, do you not hear, our mittens we have washed  
What! Washed your mittens, then you're good kittens  
But I smell a rat close by  
Mee-ow, mee-ow, mee-ow  
We smell a rat close by

## Once I Caught a Fish Alive

One, two, three, four, five,  
Once I caught a fish alive  
Six, seven, eight, nine, ten  
Then I let it go again

Why did you let it go?  
Because it bit my finger so  
Which finger did it bite?  
This little finger on the right

One, two, three, four, five  
Once I caught a crab alive  
Six, seven, eight, nine, ten  
Then I let it go again



## Hey Diddle Diddle

Hey diddle diddle  
The cat and the fiddle  
The cow jumped over the moon  
The little dog laughed  
To see such sport  
And the dish ran away with the spoon

## **Oh where, Oh Where Has My Little Dog Gone?**

Oh where, oh where has my little dog gone  
Oh where, oh where can he be  
With his ears cut short and his tail cut long  
Oh where, oh where can he be?

## **Head and Shoulders, Knees and Toes**

Head and shoulders, knees and toes,  
knees and toes, knees and toes  
Head and shoulders, knees and toes,  
Eyes, ears, mouth and nose

Feet and tummies, arms and chins,  
arms and chins, arms and chins  
Feet and tummies, arms and chins,  
Eyes, ears, mouth and shins

Hands and fingers, legs and lips,  
legs and lips, legs and lips  
Hands and fingers, legs and lips,  
Eyes, ears, mouth and hips

Head and shoulders, knees and toes,  
knees and toes, knees and toes  
Head and shoulders, knees and toes,  
Eyes, ears, mouth and nose



## How Much is that Doggy in the Window?

How much is that doggie in the window (arf arf)  
The one with the waggle tail?  
How much is that doggie in the window (arf arf)  
I do hope that doggie's for sale.

I must take a trip to California  
And leave my poor sweetheart alone  
If he has a dog he won't be lonesome  
And the doggie will have a good home

How much is that doggie in the window (arf arf)  
The one with the waggle tail?  
How much is that doggie in the window (arf arf)  
I do hope that doggie's for sale

I read in the papers there are robbers (roof roof)  
With flashlights that shine in the dark  
My love needs a doggie to protect him  
And scare them away with one bark

I don't want a bunny or a kitten  
I don't want a parrot that talks  
I don't want a bowl of little fishies  
He can't take a goldfish for a walk

How much is that doggie in the window (arf arf)  
The one with the waggle tail?  
How much is that doggie in the window (arf arf)  
I do hope that doggie's for sale

## The More We Get Together

The more we get together  
Together, together  
The more we get together  
The happier we shall be  
For your friends are my friends  
And my friends are your friends  
The more we get together  
The happier we shall be



## The Grand Old Duke of York

Oh, 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 they were up, they were up  
And when they were down, they were down  
And when they were only half-way up  
They were neither up nor down

# Aikendrum

There was a man lived in the moon  
In the moon, in the moon  
There was a man lived in the moon  
And his name was Aikendrum



And he played upon a ladle  
A ladle, a ladle  
He played upon a ladle  
And his name was Aikendrum

And his hair was made of spaghetti  
Spaghetti, spaghetti  
His hair was made of spaghetti  
And his name was Aikendrum

And his eyes were made of meatballs  
Meatballs, meatballs  
His eyes were made of meatballs  
And his name was Aikendrum

And his nose was made of cheese  
Cheese, cheese  
His nose was made of cheese  
And his name was Aikendrum

And his mouth was made of pizza  
Pizza, pizza  
His mouth was made of pizza  
And his name was Aikendrum



## Five Little Speckled Frogs

Five little speckled frogs  
Sat on a speckled log  
Eating some most delicious grubs – yum, yum!  
One jumped into the pool  
Where it was nice and cool  
Now there are four green speckled frogs – glub, glub!



Four little speckled frogs  
Sat on a speckled log  
Eating some most delicious grubs – yum, yum!  
One jumped into the pool  
Where it was nice and cool  
Now there are three green speckled frogs – glub, glub!

Three little speckled frogs  
Sat on a speckled log  
Eating some most delicious grubs – yum, yum!  
One jumped into the pool  
Where it was nice and cool  
Now there are two green speckled frogs – glub, glub!

Two little speckled frogs  
Sat on a speckled log  
Eating some most delicious grubs – yum, yum!  
One jumped into the pool  
Where it was nice and cool  
Now there was one green speckled frog – glub, glub!

One little speckled frog  
Sat on a speckled log  
Eating some most delicious grubs – yum, yum!  
One jumped into the pool  
Where it was nice and cool  
Now there are no green speckled frogs – glub, glub!



## Pop Goes the Weasel

Half a pound of tupenny rice  
Half a pound of treacle  
That's the way the money goes  
Pop! Goes the weasel

Every night when I get home  
The monkey's on the table  
Take a stick and knock it off  
Pop! Goes the weasel

Up and down the city road  
In and out the Eagle  
That's the way the money goes  
Pop! Goes the weasel



## A-Tisket A-Tasket

A-tisket a-tasket  
A green and yellow basket  
I wrote a letter to my love  
And on the way I dropped it  
I dropped it, I dropped it  
And on the way I dropped it  
A little boy he picked it up and put it in his pocket

# B-I-N-G-O

There was a farmer who had a dog  
And Bingo was his name-O

B-I-N-G-O

B-I-N-G-O

B-I-N-G-O

And Bingo was his name-O

There was a farmer who had a dog  
And Bingo was his name-O

(clap)-I-N-G-O

(clap)-I-N-G-O

(clap)-I-N-G-O

And Bingo was his name-O

There was a farmer who had a dog  
And Bingo was his name-O

(clap)-(clap)-N-G-O

(clap)-(clap)-N-G-O

(clap)-(clap)-N-G-O

And Bingo was his name-O

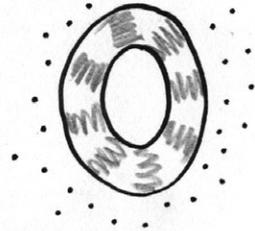
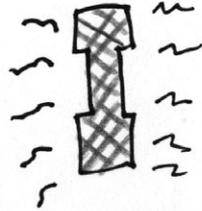
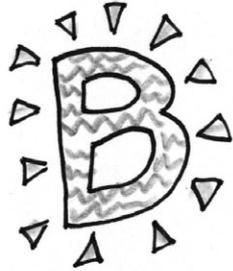
There was a farmer who had a dog  
And Bingo was his name-O

(clap)-(clap)-(clap)-G-O

(clap)-(clap)-(clap)-G-O

(clap)-(clap)-(clap)-G-O

And Bingo was his name-O



There was a farmer who had a dog  
And Bingo was his name-O  
(clap)-(clap)-(clap)-(clap)-O  
(clap)-(clap)-(clap)-(clap)-O  
(clap)-(clap)-(clap)-(clap)-O  
And Bingo was his name-O

There was a farmer who had a dog  
And Bingo was his name-O  
(clap)-(clap)-(clap)-(clap)-(clap)  
(clap)-(clap)-(clap)-(clap)-(clap)  
(clap)-(clap)-(clap)-(clap)-(clap)  
And Bingo was his name-O



## **Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush**

Here we go round the mulberry bush  
The mulberry bush  
The mulberry bush  
Here we go round the mulberry bush  
So early in the morning

## She'll be Coming 'Round the Mountain

She'll be coming 'round the mountain when she comes,  
(when she comes).

She'll be coming 'round the mountain when she comes,  
(when she comes).

She'll be coming 'round the mountain, she'll be coming 'round  
the mountain,

She'll be coming 'round the mountain when she comes,  
(when she comes).

She'll be driving six white horses when she comes  
(when she comes)

She'll be driving six white horses when she comes  
(when she comes)

She'll be driving six white horses, she'll be driving six white  
horses

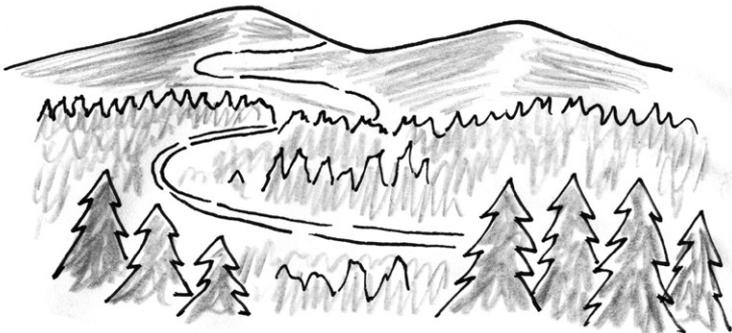
She'll be driving six white horses when she comes  
(when she comes)

We'll all go out to meet her when she comes

We'll all go out to meet her when she comes

We'll all go out to meet her, we'll all go out to meet her

We'll all go out to meet her when she comes.



## Everybody Knows That I Love My Toes

Everybody knows that I love my toes  
Everybody knows that I love my toes  
I love my eyes, my ears, my elbows and my nose  
But everybody knows that I love my toes

Everybody knows that I love my lips  
Everybody knows that I love my lips  
I love my eyes, my ears, my elbows and my hips  
But everybody knows that I love my lips

Everybody knows that I love my Mum  
Everybody knows that I love my Mum  
I love my eyes, my ears, my elbows and my thumb  
But everybody knows that I love my Mum

Everybody knows that I love my toes  
Everybody knows that I love my toes  
I love my eyes, my ears, my elbows and my nose  
But everybody knows that I love my toes



## Hot Cross Buns

Hot cross buns  
Hot cross buns  
One ha' penny, two ha' penny  
Hot cross buns  
If you have no daughters  
Give them to your sons  
One ha' penny, two ha' penny  
Hot cross buns

## This Little Piggy

This little piggy went to market  
This little piggy stayed home  
This little piggy had roast beef  
This little piggy had none  
And this little piggy cried wee wee wee all the way home



## Jack and Jill Went Up the Hill

Jack and Jill went up the hill  
To fetch a pail of water  
Jack fell down and broke his crown  
And Jill came tumbling after  
Up Jack got and home did trot  
As fast as he could caper  
And went to bed and bound his head  
With vinegar and brown paper

## Little Bo-Peep

Little Bo-Peep has lost her sheep  
And doesn't know where to find them  
Leave them alone, and they'll come home  
Wagging their tails behind them



## One, Two, Buckle My Shoe

One, two, buckle my shoe  
Three, four, open the door  
Five, six, pick-up sticks  
Seven, eight, lay them straight  
Nine, ten, a big, fat hen  
Eleven, twelve, dig and delve  
Thirteen, fourteen, maids a-courting  
Fifteen, sixteen, maids in the kitchen  
Seventeen, eighteen, maids a-waiting  
Nineteen, twenty, my plate's empty

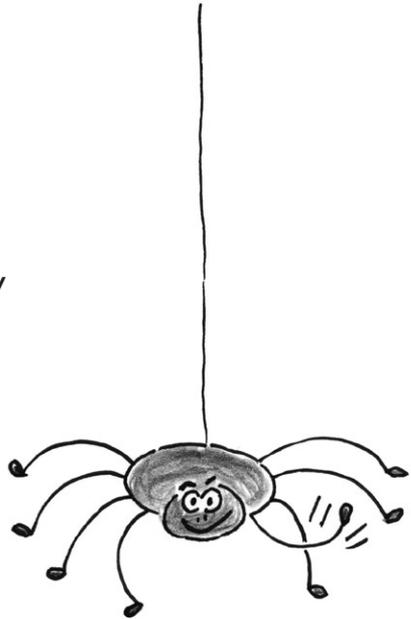
## Frère Jacques

Frère Jacques, Frère Jacques  
Dormez-vous? Dormez-vous?  
Sonnez les matines  
Sonnez les matines  
Ding, daing, dong, ding, daing, dong

Are you sleeping, are you sleeping  
Brother John? Brother John?  
Morning bells are ringing  
Morning bells are ringing  
Ding, dang, dong, ding dang, dong

## Little Miss Muffet

Little Miss Muffet  
Sat on a tuffet  
Eating her curds and whey  
Along came a spider  
Who sat down beside her  
And frightened Miss Muffet away

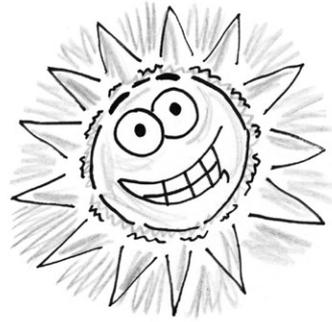


## Oh, Mr Sun

Oh, Mr. Sun, Sun, Mr. Golden Sun  
Please shine down on me

Oh Mr. Sun, Sun, Mr. Golden Sun  
Hiding behind a tree  
These little children are asking you  
To please shine down so we can play with you

Oh Mr. Sun, Sun, Mr. Golden Sun  
Please shine down on  
Please shine down on  
Please shine down on me



## Horsey Horsey

Horsey horsey don't you stop  
Just let your feet go clippity clop  
Let your tail go swish and your wheels go round  
Giddy-up we're homeward bound



## Yukon Literacy Coalition

*www.yukonliteracy.ca*

The Yukon Literacy Coalition (YLC) is a community based organization committed to increasing literacy and essential skills for all learners throughout the Yukon. Offering an ever-expanding selection of outreach programming, the YLC is very excited to continue building and creating resource material for the communities of Yukon to use and enjoy. In the summer, look for our *Literacy Wall Tent*, and *Book Bike*, and join us in our summer home of fun and learning at the Pioneer Hotel in Shipyards Park. Drop by the Family Literacy Centre (2nd Floor of the Canada Games Centre).

For more information about YLC and the work we do, please visit [www.yukonliteracy.ca](http://www.yukonliteracy.ca) or go to our Facebook page at *Yukon Family Literacy*.

YLC thanks the City of Whitehorse and the Yukon Territorial Government for its ongoing support.



*Illustrations and design: Tanya Handley, [www.bearbait.ca](http://www.bearbait.ca)*

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Family literacy is all the ways that parents and their children learn together. Family and community literacy offers opportunities for adults to access literacy programming in a non-threatening, supportive environment. It sets the foundation for children to gain the literacy skills they will need to participate in a successful future and it teaches parents tools that support lifelong learning for themselves and their children.

To find out more about family literacy, visit us at our Yukon Family Literacy Centre (2nd floor of the Canada Games Centre in Whitehorse), call (867)668-8698, or go to our Facebook page - *Yukon Family Literacy Centre*



**Family  
Literacy  
Centre**