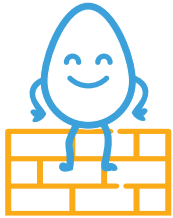


CONVERSATION STARTERS



Rhyme Time

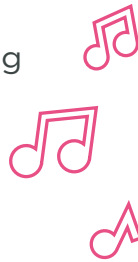


Spend some time saying and singing rhymes together in your first language.

There may be some rhymes from your childhood that you could introduce or rhymes that your child's early childhood centre use that you could share.

WHAT YOU NEED

- Familiar childhood nursery rhymes such as Humpty Dumpty, Little Miss Muffet, Open/Shut them, Round and round the garden, Ring Around the Rosie or Hey-diddle-diddle.
- Rhymes in your family's first language.
- Book of rhymes
- [Links to recorded rhymes.](#)



ROUTINES AND TIMES OF THE DAY THAT WILL SUPPORT LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION

- Rhymes can be shared at any time during the day.
- When household tasks are being carried out- dishes are being washed, the clothes are being hung out, during bath time.
- Most frequently rhymes can be as part of a bedtime routine or when we find a few minutes in our day to have a quiet snuggle together.

TIPS TO REMEMBER WHEN TALKING WITH YOUR CHILD

- Sing familiar rhymes often.
- Repeat rhymes frequently and sometimes hesitate at the end of sentences for children to add the final words.
- Enjoy the shared moments without unnecessary distraction.
- Use actions if rhymes lend themselves to this, e.g. open shut them or five little ducks.

WHAT LEARNING IS HAPPENING

- When we share rhymes with infants and toddlers, they learn to hear and match words that sound the same.
- They hear the rhythm and lilt of the spoken word which supports their learning of language.
- Using actions often helps to reinforce the spoken word.
- This shared time can be a moment of connection between adult and child.
- Children's memory and recall skills are developed as they first, join in with single words and then, recite the whole rhyme after frequent practice.

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

- [The importance of rhyme in early literacy development - The Imagination Tree.](#)

