welcome RHYMES PRESENTED BY THE EDMONTON PUBLIC LIBRARY



This book belongs to:

This booklet is also available electronically in five world languages: Chinese, French, Spanish, Tagalog and Vietnamese

Visit: epl.ca/WorldLanguageWelcomeBaby





Congratulations on picking up a free library card and board book for your baby! EPL wants to help you have fun with your baby and build a foundation for a love of reading.

These rhymes will not only delight your baby and help to increase your special bond, but they will also help to develop Early Literacy skills—the building blocks for language and literacy development.

Early Literacy is everything that children know about reading and writing before they can read and write. Early Literacy skills are important for future success, so you've already helped your child by picking up a library card and this booklet. Reading and rhyming with your baby now will help her for the rest of her life!

Here are simple practices that you can add into your everyday routine to help children develop early literacy:

Read Reading together is the single best way to help children develop early literacy skills. Read together every day and talk about the books you read.

Talk Talking with children helps children learn new information and new words. Give your baby lots of opportunities to talk, respond to what your baby says and follow his/her lead.

Play Children have many chances to express themselves and explore the meaning of words during play. Play is one of the primary ways children learn. All you need is a little space, simply props and imagination!

Sing Singing helps children hear sounds that make up words and is a great way to capture their attention. Your singing voice is a powerful tool. Use it to calm a child or help establish a routine.

Write Writing for children usually begins with scribbles which develop into letters as they improve their motor skills.

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RHYMES AND SONGS

Bouncing rhymes are wonderful for rhythm! Hold your baby facing you so that she can see your mouth making the words as you bounce.

Rickety, rickety rocking horse

Rickety, rickety rocking horse (Lift one knee at a time)

Over the fields we go

Rickety, rickety rocking horse

Gitty up, gitty up! (Two strong bounces)

WHOA! (Hug baby and lean back)



Grandfather Clock

The grandfather clock goes tick tock tick tock (Rock back and forth slowly)

The kitchen clock goes tick tock tick tock (Rock a bit faster)

But mama's wristwatch goes ticka ticka ticka

Tickle!



Trit Trot

Trit, trot to Boston, (Bounce baby)

Trit, trot to Lynn,

Take care, Baby,

Don't fall IN!

(Drop baby between knees)

Trit, trot to London,

(Bounce baby)

Trit, trot to Dover.

Look out, Baby

Don't fall O-VER! (Tip baby to one side)



To Market, To Market

To market, to market, to buy a fat pig. (bounce baby)

Home again, home again,

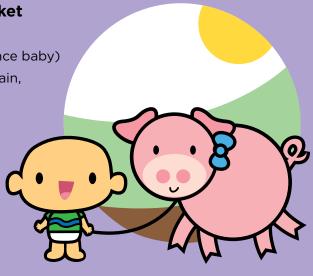
Jiggety-Jig.

To market, to market, to buy a fat hog.

Home again,

home again,

Jiggety-Jog.





Songs are a great way to learn language! Singing lets children understand how the little sounds in language work, which helps them on the path to becoming readers! To your child, you have the most beautiful voice in the world. Babies don't mind if you sing off key—they are just happy that you are sharing music with them!

Peek-a-Boo

Peek-a-boo-hoo. Peek-a-boo-hoo (Do peek-a-boo motion)

I see you, I see you (Point to self then to baby)

I see your little nose (Touch nose)

I see your little toes (Touch toes)

Peek-a-boo

I see vou (Do peek-a-boo motion)

Tune: Frère Jacques



Itsy-bitsy spider

The itsy-bitsy spider climbed up the water spout.

Down came the rain and washed the spider out.

Out came the sun and dried up all the rain,

So the itsy-bitsy spider went up the spout again.



Hands Upon Your Head

Hands upon your head,

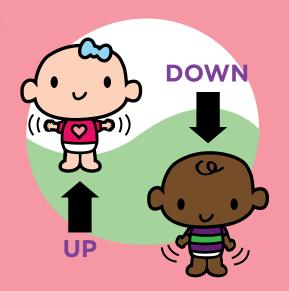
Hands upon your head.

Up and down and up and down.

Hands upon your head.

(Repeat with other body parts)

Tune: Farmer in the Dell



Some of the first words a child learns are body parts. Rhymes that include touching faces and moving fingers help children learn words and give you a chance to cuddle with your child. Babies love to have their faces touched, and rhymes encouraging loving physical contact help children feel safe, loved and ready to learn!

Here is the Beehive

Here is the beehive (Make fist)

But where are the bees?

Hidden away

Where nobody sees.

Look and you'll see them

Come out of the hive,

One, Two, Three, Four, Five, (Open fingers)

Bzzzzzzzzzz. (Tickle)



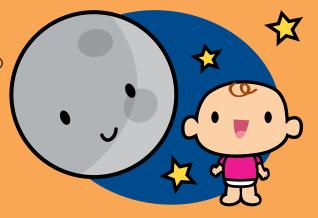
Moon is Round

The moon is round (Circle face with finger)

As round can be

Two eyes, a nose

And a mouth, like me!



Round and Round the Garden

Round and round the garden (Swirl finger in palm)

Goes the teddy bear

One step two step (Walk fingers up to chin)

Tickle you under there (Tickle chin)



Two Little Dicky Birds

(Hold up thumbs)
Two little dicky birds

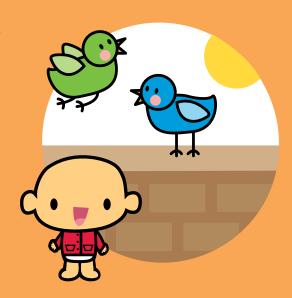
Sitting on a wall

One named Peter

The other named Paul

Fly away, Peter!

Fly away, Paul!



Add songs to your everyday activities to make them more fun—bath times, folding laundry, making dinner or diaper changing.

Songs and rhymes soothe babies (and you!) and can change difficult times into enjoyable ones.



Changing Diapers

Changing diapers, Changing diapers

Lots of fun! Lots of fun!

Now you're not so stinky.

Now you're not so stinky.

Nice clean bum. Nice clean bum.

Tune: Frère Jacques



Scrub Your Dirty Hands

Scrub your dirty hands

Scrub your dirty hands

Scrubba dubba

Scrubba dubba

Scrub your dirty hands

(Repeat with other body parts)

Tune: Farmer in the Dell





Shoe the Little Horsie

Shoe the little horsie (tap on one foot)

Shoe the little mare (tap on other foot)

But let the little colt go

Bare, bare, bare! (Pat bottom)



This is the Way We Wash Our Hair

This is the way we wash our hair

wash our hair

wash our hair

This is the way we wash our hair

On a warm and sleepy evening (Repeat with other body parts)

Tune: Here We Go 'Round the

Mulberry Bush

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Reading, talking, playing, singing and writing

with babies creates a language-rich environment for children. Find fun ways to include these five practices into your routines and encourage a lifelong love of language!



EARLY LITERACY

How do rhymes help my baby?

One of the benefits of nursery rhymes is that they teach babies how stories work—in just a few lines, an entire vivid story unfolds. They also help babies hear the smaller sounds within words. Plus, they're fun and a great excuse to cuddle!

How else can I help my baby?

You are your baby's greatest teacher and spend the majority of time with him. Your baby idolizes you and looks to you for clues on how to act, talk and behave. Reading talking, playing, singing, writing with your baby are the best ways to solidify your strong bond, have fun, and teach him. There are many fun ways to help your baby; visit epl.ca/readtalkplay for videos, book lists and other easy tips.

How important are Early Literacy skills?

Essential! Research on infant brain development shows us that a child's experience in the early years directly impacts later development and learning, including success in high school. So congratulations on already using rhymes and reading – these will help your baby later in life!

How can the Library help?

EPL helps you instill a lifelong love of reading in your child, starting from birth. Our story times for babies, toddlers and preschoolers, as well as our recommendations for great books and activities, will help develop the Early Literacy skills essential for future reading success and enjoyment. Visit your local library or **epl.ca/readtalkplay** for more information on programs, tools, and other resources that can help you at home.

EPL has many fun and easy ways for you to help your baby develop Early Literacy skills. Visit your local EPL branch, call us, or go online to find out about these great programs:

- Baby Laptime
- Sing, Sign, Laugh and Learn
- Family Storytimes

These are just a few of the options; EPL offers over 6800 free programs each year. There is something for everyone and you are invited to attend!

Did you know that the Library has more than books? Take advantage of the many resources that can help you and your baby, including:

- Music
- Audiobooks
- DVDs
- Research
- Online interactive books

The Library can help you and your baby now and in the months and years to come. Before you know it, your baby will be the one reading to you.

Visit epl.ca/readtalkplay or your local branch for more details on EPL's many free resources.

Then everyone began to sing, "Yes, readers can do anything!" ~ *Born to Read* by Judy Sierra

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