

Songs & Fingerplays

1 2 3 4 5

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Throw your hands up up up up high. Can you touch the sky?

6 7 8 9 10

Clap your hands once. Let's do it again!

1 2 3 4 5

Throw your hands up up up up high.

Can you touch the sky? 6 7 8 9 10

Clap your hands once. And that's the end.

What other actions can we do together?

Elephants at the Zoo

Tune: Farmer in the Dell

The elephants at the zoo, the elephants at the zoo.

They stomp and stomp and stomp and stomp.

The elephants at the zoo.

The lions at the zoo...roar.

The monkeys at the zoo...jump.

Ask and sing: Who else can we see at the zoo? What noises do they make? Can we move like that animal?

Jump Like a Frog

Jump like a frog. Stretch like a cat.

Hop like a bunny. Flap like a bat.

Wiggle like a worm. Slither like a snake.

Be a wet dog and shake, shake, shake!

Baby's Eyes

Blue-eyed babies. *(Point to your eye.)*

Brown-eyed, too. *(Point to your other eye.)*

Pat-a-cake, pat-a-cake. *(Clap your hands.)*

I see you. *(Cover your eyes and uncover.)*

Replace with other colors. Substitute "you" with their name and other people you know.

Big A Little A

Big A *(Open baby's arms wide)*

Little A *(Bring hands together)*

Bouncing B *(bounce and clap hands)*

The cats in the cupboard *(cover baby's eyes)*

So he can't see!

Peek-a-boo! I see you! *(uncover)*

Play this silly game during a diaper change, in the bathtub, or while waiting in line at the store. As they get older, they can help with the actions. Change pronouns as needed (she, he, they, etc.)

Come Under My Umbrella

Tune of The More We Get Together

Come under my umbrella, umbrella, umbrella.

Come under my umbrella. It's starting to storm.

There's thunder and lightning and wind and rain.

Come under my umbrella.

It's starting to storm.

Ask and sing: What else can we go under? A coat? Bridge? Roof?

Little Brown Bear

A little brown bear went in search of some honey *(hands above eyes, look around)*.

He sniffed at the breeze *(sniff air)*

And he listened for bees *(cup hand to ear and listen)*

And would you believe it?

He even climbed trees! *(fingers of one hand climb the opposite arm)*.

When you repeat it, pause longer and longer each time while you "listen."

Hidden Kitten

A kitten is fast asleep under the chair *(hide thumb under one hand)*

And *(insert name here)* can't find her.

He's looked everywhere *(fingers like glasses over eyes)!*

Under the table *(peek under one hand)*

Under the bed *(peek under other hand)*

And then *(name)* found the kitten.

Meow, meow, meow! *(bounce thumb across lap.)*

This Little Cow

(Point to each finger in turn.)

This little cow eats grass. This little cow eats hay.

This little cow looks over the hedge.

This little cow runs away.

And this BIG cow does nothing at all

But lie in the fields all day! *(lay thumb on other palm)*.

Repeat all fingers above and end with:

And this BIG cow chases and chases the flies all day *(draw circles with thumb on other palm)*.

I Eat My Peas with Honey

(Clap hands in rhythm. Repeat with other foods besides peas and do other actions like stomping or knee slapping.)

I eat my peas with honey. I've done it all my life.

I know it may seem funny, but it keeps them on my knife.

Little Seed in the Ground

(Start by crouching on the ground, covering head with your hands.)

Little seed in the ground

Sleeping so still.

Little seed, will you sprout?

Yes, I will! *(Jump up!)*

Repeat, pausing longer each time before you say the final line. This chant also works well with scarves.

I Love it When...

Tune: Did You Ever See a Lassie?

Oh, I love it when you read to me, read to me, read to me.

Oh, I love it when you read to me. Please read some more.

Change up "read" to play with me, sing with me, jump with me, hug me, etc.

I Have a Little Heart

I have a little heart *(Place hand over heart)*
And it goes thump, thump, thump. *(Pat chest 3 times)*
It keeps right on beating
When I jump, jump, jump. *(Jump 3 times)*
I get a special feeling when I look at you. *(Point to another person)*
It makes me want to give you a hug or two. *(Hug yourself)*

I Like Tacos

Tune: Aloutte
I like tacos, tacos, tacos, tacos. I like tacos.
They're the best for me.
Guacamole on my nose? Guacamole on your nose?
On my nose? On your nose!
Oooooohhhh
Repeat with different foods and body parts.

Bats are Sleeping

Tune: Frere Jacques
Bats are sleeping, bats are sleeping.
Upside down. Upside down.
Sleeping in the morning sun.
Waiting for the night to come.
Then they'll fly all around. Then they'll fly all around.

Ball for Baby

Here is a ball for baby, *(hands make ball)*
Big and soft and round.
Here is baby's hammer, *(bounce balled hands)*
See how they can pound.
Here are baby's flowers, *(fingers up straight)*
Standing in a row.
Here is baby's trumpet, *(wiggle fingers)*
See how they can blow.
Here is an umbrella, *(form hands like an umbrella)*
To keep a baby dry.
Here is baby's cradle, *(rock arms back and forth)*
To rock a baby bye.

At Night I See

At night I see the twinkling stars *(fist up and open hands over your head)*
And a great big smiling moon *(circle arms over head)*
My Mommy tucks me into bed *(Pointer finger across the palm of other hand)*
And sings a good night tune. *(Rock your arms)*
Change up "mommy" for any person.

Bend and Stretch

Bend and stretch, reach for the stars.
Here comes Jupiter, there goes Mars.
Bend and stretch, reach for the sky,
Stand on tippy toes, oh so high.

Wiggle Waggle Went the Bear

Wiggle, waggle went the bear.
Catching bees in his underwear.
One bee out, one bee in.
One bee bit him on his big bearskin!

4 Little Stars

Four little stars winking at me.
One shot off then there were three.
Three little stars with nothing to do.
One shot off then there were two.
Two little stars afraid of the sun.
One shot off then there was one.
One little star alone is no fun.
It shot off now there are none.

E-A-R-T-H

Tune: "B I N G O"
We all live on this great planet and Earth is its name-o.
E-A-R-T-H E-A-R-T-H E-A-R-T-H
And Earth is its name-o.
We all live on this great planet and Earth is its name-o.
(Clap) A-R-T-H (Clap) A-R-T-H (Clap) A-R-T-H
And Earth is its name-o.
Continue to repeat until all letters are replaced with a clap.

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 BLAST OFF!
Repeat and change up the numbers - try counting down from 10 or 20!

5 Little Aliens

5 little aliens went out to play over the moon to the Milky Way.
Mama alien went MERP MERP MERP
4 little aliens came floating back. 1 2 3 4!
Repeat 4 3 2 aliens.
1 little alien went out to play over the moon to the Milky Way.
Father alien went FLOOP FLOOP FLOOP
The 5 little aliens came floating back. 1 2 3 4 5!
Replace "mama" and "father" with whomever you wish.
What other sounds can the aliens make?

I Saw a Snake

I saw a snake go by today
Riding in his Chevrolet.
He was long and he was thin.
And he didn't have a chin.
He had no chin, but what the heck.
He had lots and lots and lots of neck.

You are a Precious Child

This is a fun one to do during diaper changes, bath time, bedtime, or getting a child into a car seat. Pretend to sprinkle dust or sprinkle actual water.
You are a precious child, a creature oh so rare.
I have some magic fairy dust, I'll sprinkle here and there.

These are Fingers

These are *(child's name)* fingers. These are *(name)* toes.
This is *(name)* tummy button. 'Round, round it goes!

Picked a Strawberry

Tune: Clementine

Picked a strawberry, picked a strawberry,
That was growing in the sun,
Then I washed it and I ate it,
And I picked another one.

What other berries can we pick?

Sweet Peppers

Five little sweet peppers all in a row

Not going to eat one no, no, no. *(shake finger and head side to side)*

But they look so sweet from head to toe

Crunch, munch...uh oh!

Continue until...

No little sweet peppers all in a row

Wasn't going to eat one, no, no, no

But they looked so sweet that it's sad to tell

Crunch, munch... oh well!

Hickety Pickety

Hickety pickety bumble bee

Won't you say your name for me

(NAME HERE) (NAME HERE)

What a beautiful name!

Do friends and family member's names together. Switch up the adjective "beautiful," too, if you wish. Clap the beat or the syllables in the words.

Yo Te Amo

Yo te amo, yo te amo

All day long I sing this little song to you

Yo te amo, yo te amo

Darling I love you

Wo ai ni... (Mandarin Chinese)

Je t'aime... (French)

Mahal kita... (Tagalog)

Ich liebe dich... (German)

Sarang hae... (Korean)

Daisuki... (Japanese)

Hip, Hip, Hippy Hop

Tune: Row Your boat

Hip, hip, hippety hop. Hippety, hippety hop.

We'll hop around the room today until it's time to stop.

Make the ASL sign for "Stop" at the end.

What other actions can you do? Clap? Tap? If you're in the store or car or other place, feel free to switch to that from the word "room."

Funky, Spunky Monkey

Tune: Itsy, Bitsy Spider

The funky, spunky monkey climbed up the coconut tree.

Down came the coconut and bonked him on the knee.

Along came his Mama and kissed away the pain.

And the funky, spunky monkey climbed up the tree again.

Feel free to replace "Mama" with any person. Switch it up: instead of climbing, how else could the monkey try getting up the tree? What other body parts rhyme with "tree?"

Tommy Thumb

Tommy Thumb is up *(point thumbs up)*

And Tommy Thumb is down. *(thumbs down)*

Tommy Thumb is dancing

All around the town. *(wiggle and move thumbs in circle)*

Dance them on your shoulders. *(thumbs on shoulders)*

Dance them on your head. *(on head)*

Dance them on your knees *(on knees)*

And tuck them into bed. *(put thumbs in armpits)*

The Conductor

The conductor in the orchestra goes swish, swish, swish

Swish, swish, swish. Swish, swish, swish.

The conductor in the orchestra goes swish, swish, swish

All through the concert.

The flutes in the orchestra go twee, twee, twee...

The cymbals in the orchestra go crash, crash, crash...

The audience at the orchestra goes clap, clap, clap...

What other instruments and sounds can we add?

5 Pink Pigs

5 pink pigs rolling in the mud

Goes squishy squashy, squishy squashy

It sure felt good!

Farmer *(name)* took one pig out and cleaned them up nice.

Now there are 4 pink pigs rolling in the mud.

4 pink pigs...

3 pink pigs...

2 pink pigs...

1 pink pig.

My Bubbles

Tune: My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean

My bubbles flew over the ocean,

My bubbles flew over the sea,

My bubbles flew over the rainbow,

Oh come back, my bubbles, to me.

Come back, come back, oh come back my bubbles to me!

Grandma's Glasses

These are Grandma's glasses. *(make circles with hands)*

This is Grandma's hat. *(tap head)*

This is the way she folds her hands *(fold hands)*

And lays them in her lap. *(put hands in lap)*

Here are Grandpa's glasses. *(make circles with hands)*

And here is Grandpa's hat. *(tap head)*

And here's the way he folds his arms *(fold arms)*

And takes a little nap. *(lean forward and snore)*

Would you like more song suggestions?

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