

ELTE

FACULTY OF PRIMARY AND
PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION

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Language and beyond:

Holistic development through songs, rhymes,
and games in the young learners' EFL classroom

24 June 2024, Summer Academy, EJF, Baja

ABSTRACT

This interactive teacher training methodology workshop targets both pre- and in-service educators of young learners in the field of English as a Foreign Language (EFL). It aims to encourage teachers to utilise shorter genres of children's literature, which include classic to contemporary songs, rhymes, poems, tongue twisters, chants, riddles, jokes, playful movement and dance activities, as well as traditional and party games. These literature pieces can serve as powerful tools in holistic development, nurturing linguistic, cognitive, physical, social, emotional, cultural, psychological, and creative growth in children. Children's literature has the potential to enhance students' language skills and competences while also broadening their understanding of the world around them. The workshop offers practical ideas for creating motivating and enjoyable EFL lessons for young learners.

CONTEXT

TEYL and CLIL Teacher Education at ELTE TÓK



WOOCCLAP: WARMER

Go to wooclap.com and use the code **BAJA**

Which character best describes your mood today?



FEELINGS ARE FEELINGS – ALL FEELINGS ARE WELCOME ☺



<https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/listen-watch/songs/feelings-are-feelings>

WOOCLAP: We started brainstorming some benefits... Why use children's literature? Collect more ideas 😊

What can you achieve with songs, rhymes, jokes and wordplay in the EFL classroom?

1 Linguistic aims

♥ 1

Grammar structures

♥ 1

Vocabulary with fun

♥ 1

Vocabulary

Dialogues and communication

Sentences

Vocabulary, learning songs,
speaking.

2 Non-linguistic aims

♥ 1

Songs and movement

♥ 1

Break down barriers

♥ 1

Motivation,

Meaningful for children

Emotions

Have fun

3 Other comments

♥ 1

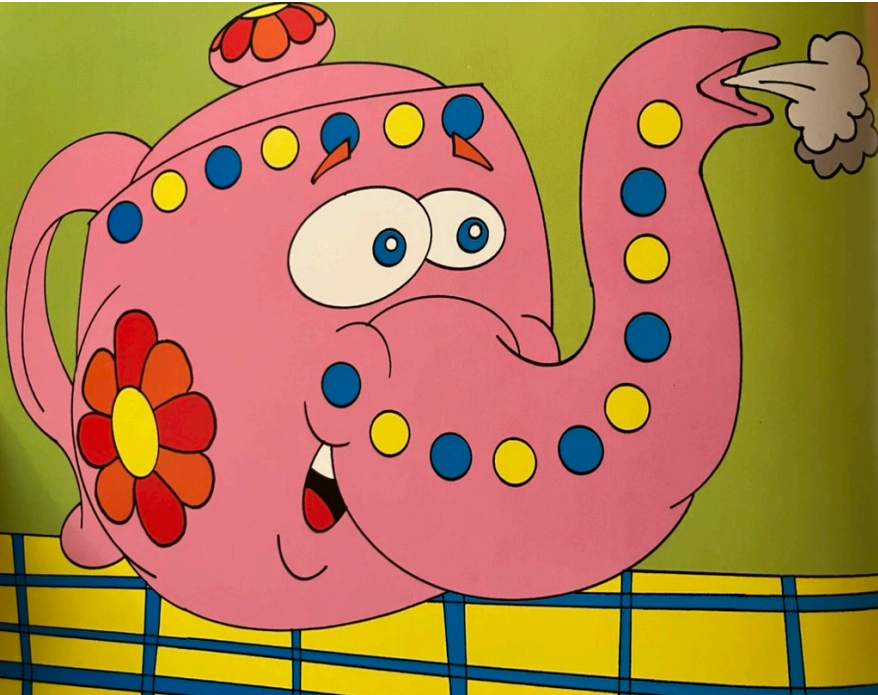
You can integrate them with all
topics

♥ 1

Children like to be active with
songs

You can find appropriate pieces for
different levels

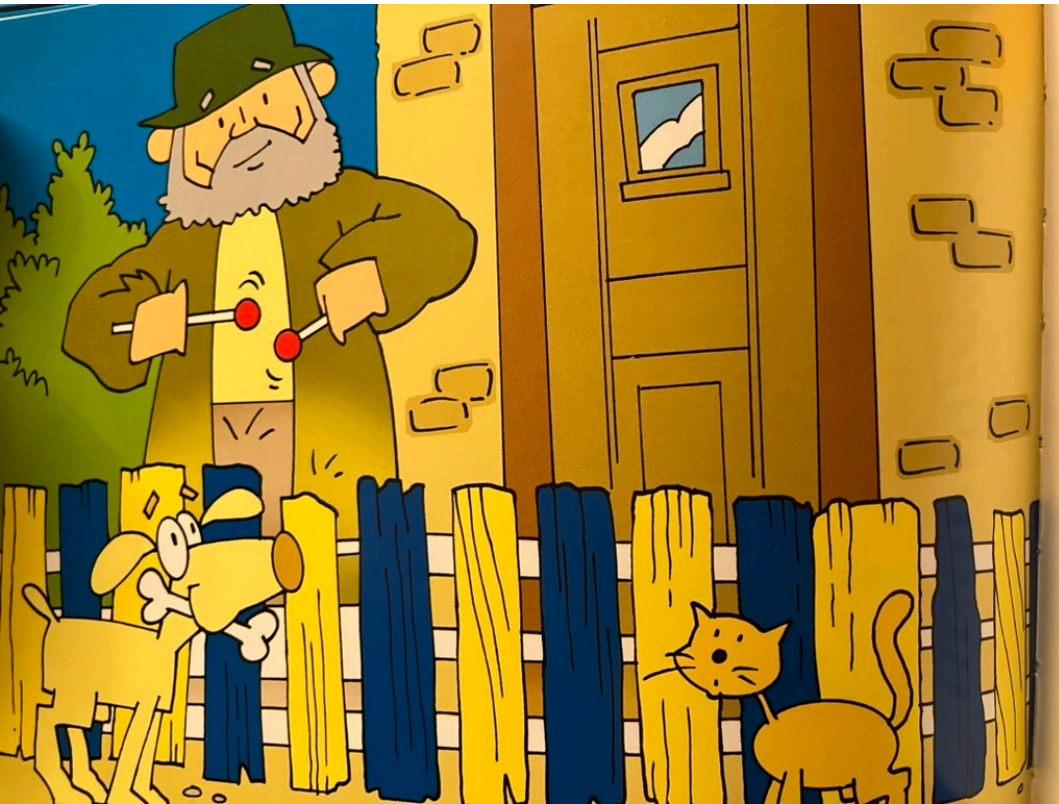
They are fun! 😄



GUESS THE CHL PIECES ☺

ACTIVATING BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE





GUESS
THE CHL PIECES ☺



Tongue Twisters

- . The big bug bit the little beetle, but the little beetle bit the big bug back.
- . Whether the weather is warm, whether the weather is hot, we have to put up with the weather, whether we like it or not.
- . I can think of six thin things, but I can think of six thick things too.



Tongue Twisters



How can a clam
cram in a clean
cream can?



I scream, you
scream, we
all scream for
ice cream.



Red lorry, yellow
lorry, red lorry,
yellow lorry.



Six sick hicks nick
six slick bricks
with picks and
sticks.



If a dog chews
shoes, whose shoes
does he choose?



A proper
copper coffee
pot.



She sells
seashells by
the seashore.



Peter Piper
picked a peck of
pickled peppers.



I saw Susie
sitting in a shoe
shine shop.



Tongue-twisters



Red lorry,
yellow lorry



I scream
you scream
we all scream
for ice cream



Fresh fried fish, fish
fresh fried, fried fish
fresh, fish fried fresh



She sells
seashells by
the seashore



Three free throws

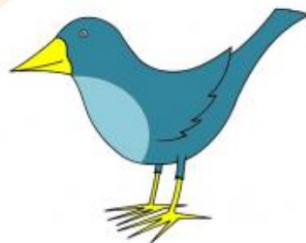
Give papa a cup of proper
coffee in a copper coffee cup



FLUENCY ABD FUN



Big black bug



Blue bluebird



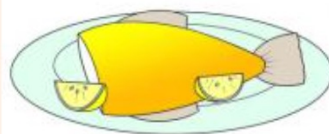
Bye bye



Cup of coffee



Eleven elves



Tongue twisters: Fresh fried fish

Fresh fried fish



Friendly fleas and
fireflies



Greek grapes



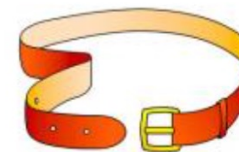
I scream, you
scream



Kitten in the kitchen



Quick kiss



Red leather, yellow
leather

A Man Said to Me

Anon

A man said to me,

"Can you sing?"

I said, "Sing?"

He said, "Yes."

I said, "Who?"

He said, "You."

I said, "Me?"

He said, "Yes."

I said, "When?"

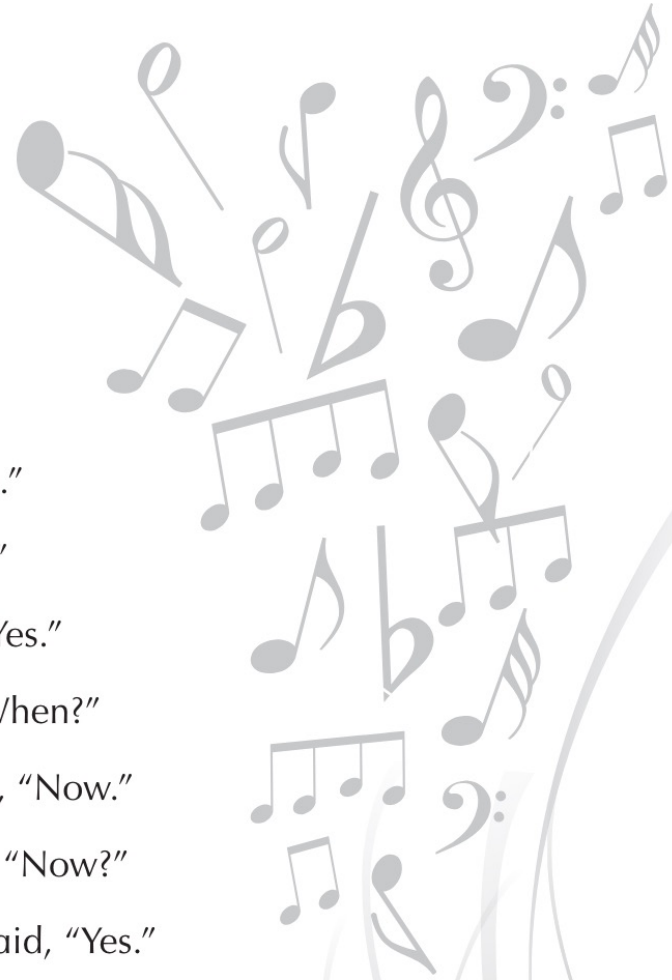
He said, "Now."

I said, "Now?"

He said, "Yes."

I said, "No?"

He said, "Oh."



YOU LiTTle MONKey!

AND OTHER POEMS FOR
YOUNG CHILDREN



BY JOHN FOSTER
ILLUSTRATED BY JAN LEWIS

You little monkey!

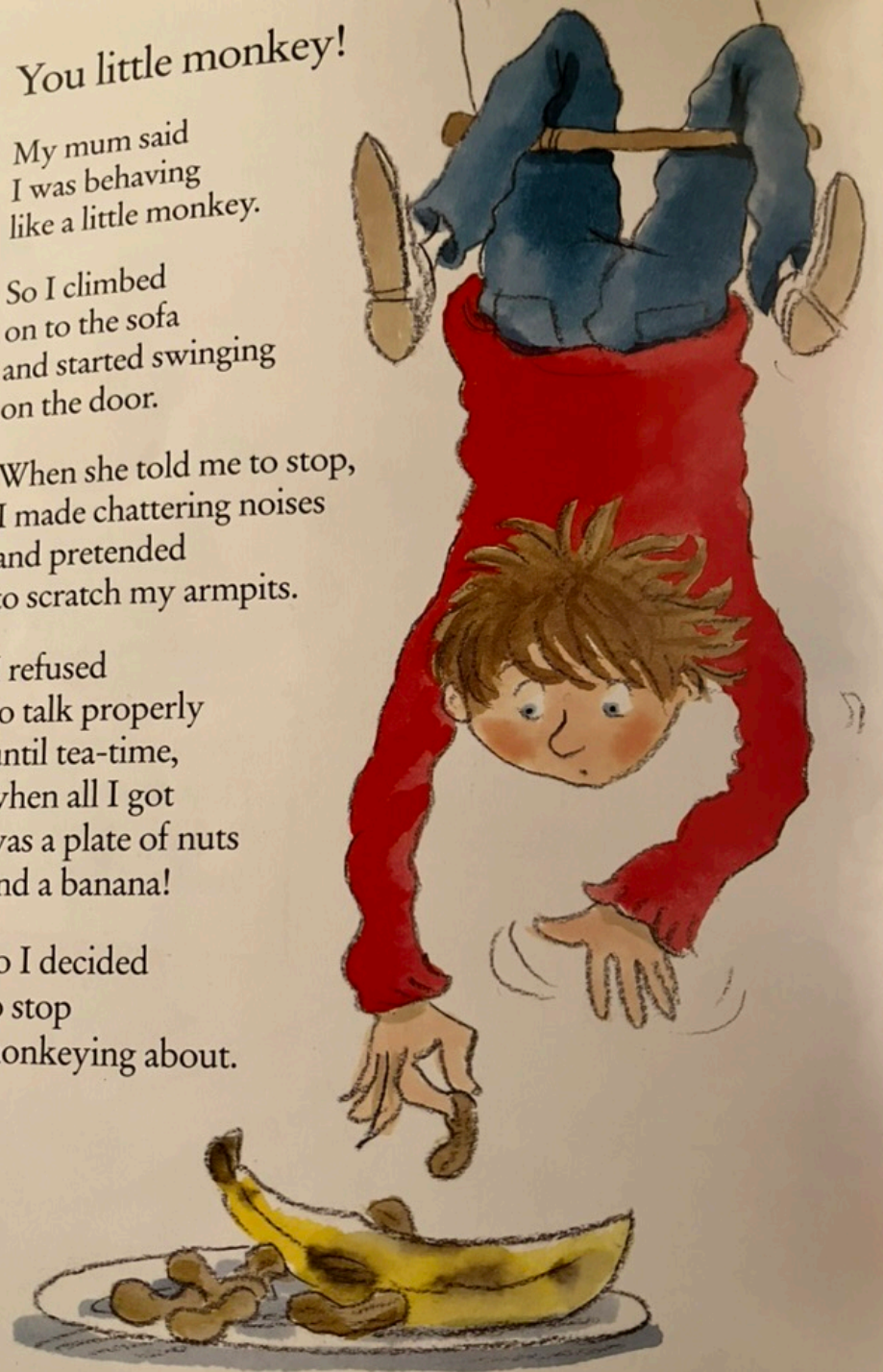
My mum said
I was behaving
like a little monkey.

So I climbed
on to the sofa
and started swinging
on the door.

When she told me to stop,
I made chattering noises
and pretended
to scratch my armpits.

I refused
to talk properly
until tea-time,
when all I got
was a plate of nuts
and a banana!

So I decided
to stop
monkeying about.



Grandma

Grandma is navy blue.
She is a comfy cushion.
Grandma is a soft whisper.
She is a path through a winter wood.
Grandma is a warm scarf.
She is a cup of tea by the fire.
Grandma is a sleeping cat.
She is autumn sunshine.



Grandma

Grandma is navy blue.

She is a comfy cushion.

Grandma is a soft whisper.

She is a path through a winter wood.

Grandma is a warm scarf.

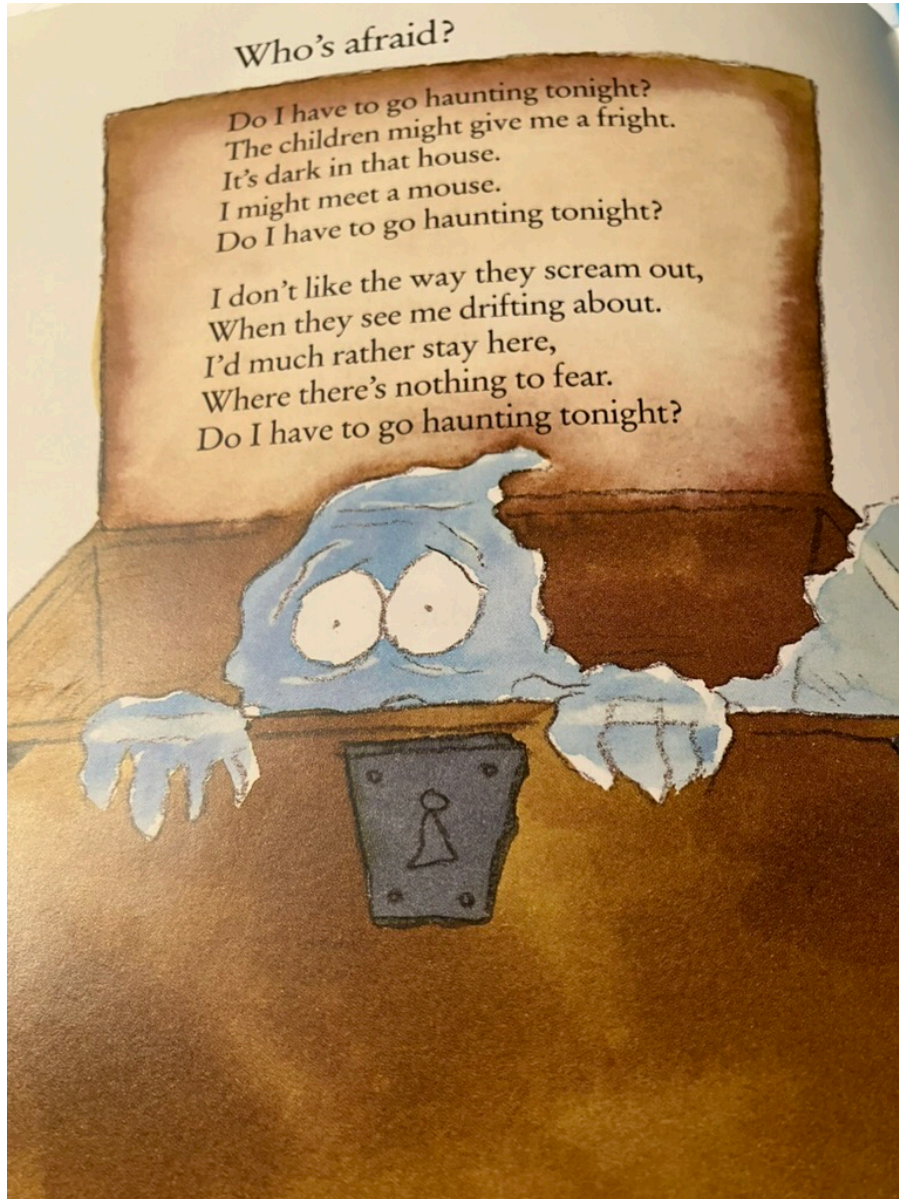
She is a cup of tea by the fire.

Grandma is a sleeping cat.

She is autumn sunshine.

GRANDMA IS...

SHE IS...

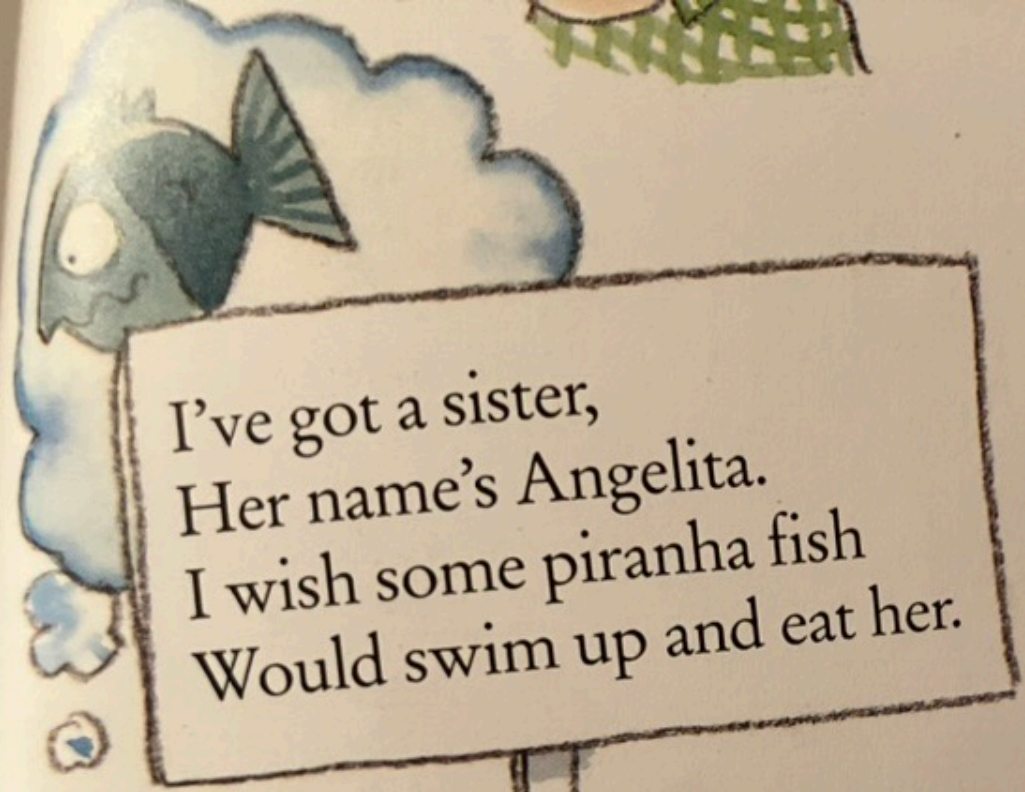


Who is afraid?

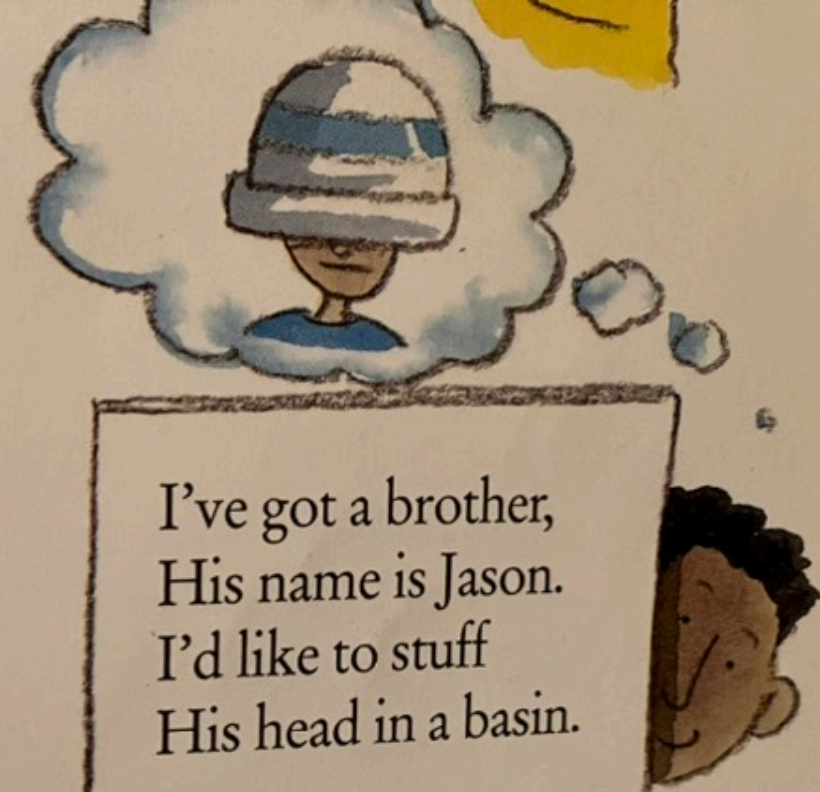
Do I have to go haunting tonight?
The children might give me a
It's dark in that house.

I might meet a ...
Do I have to go haunting tonight?

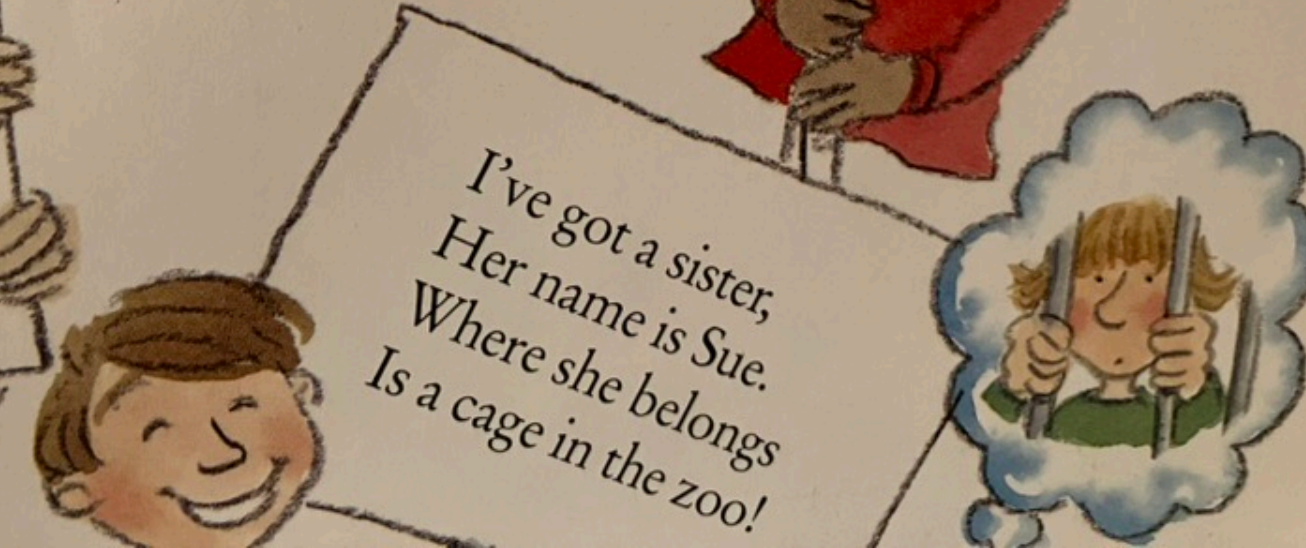
I don't like the way they scream out,
When they see me drifting ...
I'd much rather stay here,
Where there's nothing to ...
Do I have to go haunting tonight?



I've got a sister,
Her name's Angelita.
I wish some piranha fish
Would swim up and eat her.

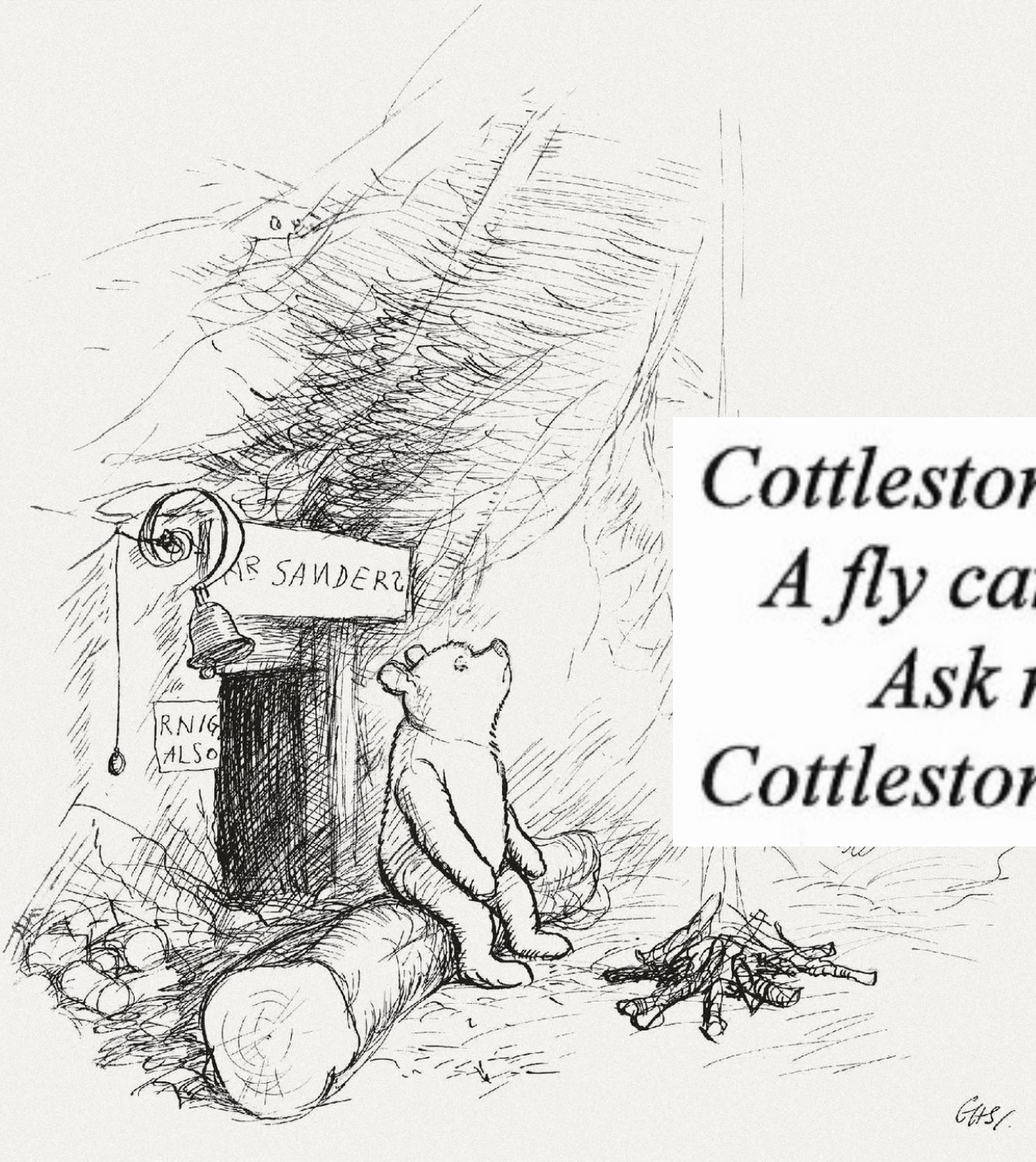


I've got a brother,
His name is Jason.
I'd like to stuff
His head in a basin.



I've got a sister,
Her name is Sue.
Where she belongs
Is a cage in the zoo!

NONSENSE RHYMES



*Cottleston, Cottleston, Cottleston Pie,
A fly can't bird, but a bird can fly.
Ask me a riddle and I reply:
Cottleston, Cottleston, Cottleston Pie.*

The Man in the Wilderness

Asked me
How many
strawberries
Grow in the sea?
I answered him
As I thought
good,
As many as red
herrings
Grow in the
wood.

Fuzzy Wuzzy was a bear,
Fuzzy Wuzzy had no hair,
Fuzzy Wuzzy wasn't very
fuzzy,
Was he?

I Have a Little Frog

His name is Tiny Tim
I put him in the bathtub
To see if he could swim.

Boa Constrictor

by Shel Silverstein

Oh, I'm being eaten
By a boa constrictor,
A boa constrictor,
A boa constrictor,
I'm being eaten by a
boa constrictor,
And I don't like it —
one bit.

The Pobble Who Has No

Toes - *by Edward Lear*

The Pobble who has no toes
Had once as many as we;
When they said,
"Some day you may lose
them all;"
He replied,
"Fish fiddle de-dee!"

Eletelephony

by Laura E. Richards

Once there was an
elephant,
Who tried to use the
telephant
— No! No! I mean an
elephone
Who tried to use the
telephone —

The Owl and the Pussy-Cat

by Edward Lear

The Owl and the Pussy-cat went to sea
In a beautiful pea-green boat.
They took some honey, and plenty of money,
Wrapped up in a five-pound note.

There was an old man of Darjeeling
Who travelled from London to Ealing.

It said on the door:

‘Please don’t spit on the _____.’
So he carefully spat on the _____.

LIMERICKS

RHYMING PATTERN: AABBA

There was a young cannibal called Ned
Who used to eat onions in _____.
His mother said, ‘Sonny,
It’s not very _____,
Why don’t you eat people instead?’

A careless explorer named Blake
Fell into a tropical _____.
Said a fat alligator,
A few minutes _____,
‘Very nice, but I still prefer cake.’

From Kovács & Trentinné: Task-based Reader...

CLASSIC
CHILDREN'S
SONGS AND
RHYMES

WITH A TWIST



Ring a Ring o Roses, or Ring Around the Rosie, may be about the 1665 Great Plague of London. The bubonic plague killed 15% of Britain's population, hence "atishoo, atishoo, we all fall down (dead)."

Baa, baa.
black sheep,
Have you
any wool?

Yes, marry, have I,
Three bags full;
One for my master,
And one for my dame,

And one
for the
little boy
Who
lives
in the
lane.



Yes, sir, yes, sir,
Three bags full...

Baa Baa Black Sheep is about the medieval wool tax, imposed in the 13th Century by King Edward I. Under the new rules, a third of the cost of a sack of wool went to him, another went to the church and the last to the farmer.

Black wool – negative or positive
Rewritten: None for the little boy...
Modern controversies (PC)

Feb 15 1927

Dear Mr Ford

The first phonograph in the world was made under my direction by one of the workmen at my laboratory at Menlo Park New Jersey in the early fall of 1877

I was the first person who spoke into the phonograph---and I recited the well known verse.

" Mary had a little lamb.

His fleece was white as snow

And everywhere that Mary went

The lamb was sure to go "

These were the first words ever recorded and reproduced in the phonograph

Yours sincerely

Thos A Edison

To Henry Ford
Dearborn Michigan

INTERESTING FACT

From Kovács & Trentinné: Task-based Reader...

POEM COMPLETION (1)

THIS MORNING MY DAD ...



POEM COMPLETION (2)

THIS MORNING MY DAD
SHOUTED...



This morning my dad shouted

This morning my dad shouted.

This morning my dad swore.

There was water through the ceiling.

There was water on the floor.

There was water on the carpet.

There was water down the stairs.

The kitchen stools were floating

So were the dining chairs.

This morning I've been crying.

Dad make me so upset...

This morning my dad shouted

This morning my dad shouted.
This morning my dad swore.
There was water through the ceiling.
There was water on the floor.
There was water on the carpets.
There was water down the stairs.
The kitchen stools were floating
So were the dining chairs.

This morning I've been crying.
Dad made me so upset.
He shouted and he swore at me
Just 'cause things got so wet.
I only turned the tap on
To get myself a drink.
The trouble is I didn't see
The plug was in the sink.



CLIL INTEGRATION

JACK, BE NIMBLE

Jack, be nimble,
Jack, be quick;
Jack, jump over
The candlestick.

Formation:

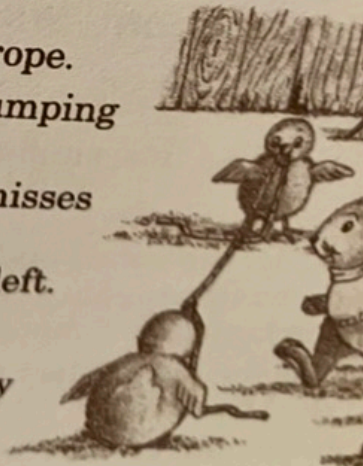
Two people hold a rope, one person at each end. The rope is held a few inches off the floor. Children stand in a line, single file, facing the rope.

Action:

- One by one, children jump over the rope.
- The rope is raised slightly, and the jumping begins again.
- Keep raising the rope. When a child misses the jump, he is out.
- The game continues until one child is left.

Variation:

For very young children, jumping over any soft object (e.g., beanbag, small pillow, stuffed animal) is fun.



HIDE THE THIMBLE

Children always love to hunt for hidden treasures.

Formation:

Children are shown a small object (in years past, a thimble), which is then hidden. They leave the room while someone hides the object, and then they return to find it. (Use larger objects for younger children.)

Action:

- The children re-enter the room and begin to look for the object.
- When a child sees the object, he quietly sits down.
- The game continues until all have located the object. (If children cannot find the object, help them out by playing Hot and Cold—instructions on page 21.)
- The child who first saw the object gets to hide it for the next game.

Variation: Huckle Buckle Beanstalk

During the search, when a child sees the object, he calls out, "Huckle buckle beanstalk!" and then sits down.



RIDDLE

As I was going to St Ives,
I met a man with seven wives,
Each wife had seven sacks,
Each sack had seven cats,
Each cat had seven kits.
Kits, cats, sacks, and wives,
How many were going to St Ives?

SOLUTION: Only one, the narrator vs. 2,802: the narrator, the man and his seven wives, 49 sacks, 343 cats, and 2,401 kits.



HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT

POEM REWRITING

It Was Raining When She Saw Him (by C. Graham)

It was raining when she saw him.
It was raining when they met.
It was pouring when they fell in love,
the streets were dark and wet.

It was raining when they parted.
There were dark clouds in the sky.
It was raining when he left her,
when he turned and said “Good-bye”.

Cottleston Pie

Cottleston Cottleston Cottleston Pie,
A fly can't bird, but a bird can fly.
Ask me a riddle and I reply
Cottleston Cottleston Cottleston Pie.

Cottleston Cottleston Cottleston Pie,
Why does a chicken? I don't know why.
Ask me a riddle and I reply
Cottleston Cottleston Cottleston Pie.

Cottleston Cottleston Cottleston Pie,
A fish can't whistle and neither can I.
Ask me a riddle and I reply
Cottleston Cottleston Cottleston Pie.

There are lions and roaring tigers,
and enormous camels and things,
There are biffalo-buffalo-bisons,
and a great big bear with wings.
There's a sort of a tiny potamus,
and a tiny nosserus too -
But I gave buns to the elephant
when I went down to the Zoo!

There are badgers and bidgers and bodgers,
and a Super-in-tendent's House,
There are masses of goats, and a Polar,
and different kinds of mouse,
And I think there's a sort of a something
which is called a wallaboo -
But I gave buns to the elephant
when I went down to the Zoo!

If you try to talk to the bison,
he never quite understands;
You can't shake hands with a mingo
he doesn't like shaking hands.
And lions and roaring tigers
hate saying, "How do you do?" -
But I give buns to the elephant
when I go down to the Zoo!

At the ZOO

(A.A. MILNE)

“...- If not - said Paul – I’ll sing you a song. Listen.
And Paul started to sing: Oh, my darling, oh, my darling, oh, my darling Clementine...
- Good Heavens, but this is terrible! – cried the dragon. – Stop singing, Paul, for Heaven’s sake!
But Paul did not stop singing, he went on: Oh, my darling...
- Please, dear Paul – begged the dragon – please, stop singing! I have fourteen ears! It’s terrible!
I’ll give you back the king’s daughter if you stop singing!
- Will you? – asked Paul.
- Yes, I will! Yes, I will!
And so Paul stopped singing and the dragon gave him back the king’s daughter.”

Andy Rouse, Miss Owl’s Tales

ACTIVITIES TO DO WITH SONGS

Before:

ask the children

- to predict the topic of the song or the rhyme
- to predict the characters
- to predict the mood (happy or sad)
- to guess the words on the basis of the title
- to discuss the topic in L1
- to recall other poems or songs on the same topic
- to ...

During:

ask the children

- to hum the tune
- to move or walk to the music or rhythm
- to check their predictions
- to close their eyes and 'feel' the song
- to accompany it with gestures and movements
- to accompany it with self-made musical instruments
- to sing it in different ways (loudly, silently, slowly...) and moods (happily, sadly, sleepily...)
- to ...

After:

ask the children

- to vote for the easiest, most difficult, nicest, etc. line
- to draw an illustration
- to prepare a big book (with the words and illustrations)
- to create a dance or a clapping pattern
- to write a new stanza or a variation
- to create a background story
- to dramatise it
- to teach it to someone else
- to ...

USEFUL WEBSITE

[Home](#)[Poems](#)[Lessons](#)[Author](#)[Blog](#)[Books](#)[Media](#)[Search](#)

Welcome to Poetry4kids.com

The funny poetry playground of children's author Kenn Nesbitt. Here you will find lots of funny poems for kids, classic children's poems, games, poetry lessons and activities, plus a rhyming dictionary, videos, author visit information, and lots more!

- Kenn Nesbitt, Former Children's Poet Laureate (2013-15)



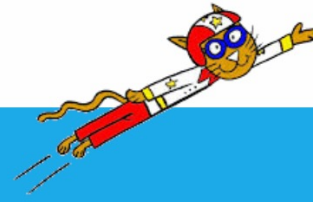
Funny Poems

Find a new favorite funny children's poem!



Kenn Nesbitt's Books

Discover hilarious children's poetry collections



School Author Visits

Learn about Kenn's school visits and Skype assemblies

Member Login

[LOGIN](#)[BECOME A MEMBER](#)

Rhyming Dictionary for Kids

Type any word here to find all the words that rhyme with it

USEFUL WEBSITE



Recent Posts

- Welcome to PoetryMinute
- Dad, Are We There Yet?
- What Makes a Turbine Turn
- The Woodpecker
- Why? Huh? Why?

Poem Categories

Animals Biography Birds Books Cats Colors
Dogs Family Fish Food Free Verse Girls
Haiku Halloween History Holidays Home
Humorous Insects Love Mammals
Mathematics Mollusks Monster Music Nature
Ocean Onomatopoeia People Pets Poetry
Reptiles **Rhyming** School
Science Seasons Sleep Spooky Sports
Technology Water Weather Wordplay Words
Writing

Welcome to PoetryMinute

Welcome to PoetryMinute, poems for elementary school students for every day of the school year, written by today's best children's poets.

The poems on PoetryMinute.org can be read in an average of about one minute, making it easy to share a new poem in the classroom or at home each day. Some are humorous while others are more poignant. Many rhyme, while others are free verse, concrete poems, or verse forms such as haiku or limericks. In creating PoetryMinute, I have tried to provide poems of every variety to help give students an idea of the breadth of modern children's poetry; to see what poetry can be, and to help them discover new styles of poetry to enjoy.

You can find poems on PoetryMinute in many different ways. You can click on the Older Posts and Newer Posts buttons links on each page to read the poems in order, or use the menu to look for **Poems by Author**, **Poems by Date**, or **Poems by Title**. Or you can use the Search box to look for poems by key words or author name.



Each poem also includes biographical information about the author so students can learn more about the poet who created the work, as well a link to the book where you can find the poem and more like it. In many cases, poets have also provided "About this Poem" background information, and even audio or video recordings, giving students even richer ways to experience their poems.

I hope you will take one minute out of your day to share poetry with children and help them to become lifelong lovers of the written word and literary arts.

— *Kenn Nesbitt, Children's Poet Laureate*

The Mirror Man

The Mirror Man
Knows how I feel.

When I am excited,
His eyes light up.
When I am pleased,
He smiles.
When I am happy,
He laughs.

The Mirror Man
Knows how I feel.

When I am cross,
He scowls.
When I am puzzled,
He frowns.
When I am upset,
He cries.

The Mirror Man
Knows how I feel.

When there is something
I want to keep to myself,
I tell the Mirror Man.
I know my secret
Is safe with him.



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Shepard, E. H. - Illustration to page 3 of Winnie-the-Pooh (1926) by artist E. H. Shepard. Scan from Bibliodyssey, PD-US, <https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?curid=34771447>

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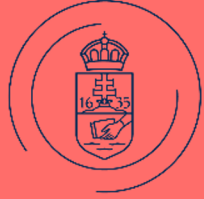
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Images: Microsoft Bing (mirror and child, expression mirror faces)

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Thank you for your
attention.

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