

Nursery Rhyme planning tips!

Include nursery rhyme books or rhyme cards in your book corner to support literacy.

Share new rhyme lyrics with parents to encourage singing at home.

Plan a focussed rhyme session every week.

Use musical instruments to support children to hear the rhythm in rhymes.

Use rhymes to support routine times of the day.

Challenge children to help you create new songs to familiar tunes.

Learn the Makaton signs for nursery rhymes together to make them accessible to all.

Develop a nursery rhyme bag/basket.

Create a singing area where children can listen to and perform songs and rhymes.

Create your own class actions to songs and rhymes.

Introduce and **learn new** rhymes and songs regularly.

Why are Nursery Rhymes still relevant?

Rhymes teach children **how language works**, they support understanding of where words and sentences begin and end.

The repetition of words and the rhythm within nursery rhymes **supports language acquisition**.

Rhymes introduce children to **new words and sounds** which they may not hear in day-to-day speech.

Using actions to express words helps children make connections and **develop muscle control and coordination**.

Singing rhymes supports children's **sound discrimination**.

Singing together is a fun, bonding experience which has a positive impact on mental health and wellbeing. It supports language development and helps prepare children for learning to read and write.

Nursery rhymes **introduce interesting uses of language**, such as alliteration and onomatopoeia, which will support children's writing.

Rhymes and songs can be a useful tool to **support parental engagement**.

Nursery rhymes **introduce number and mathematical concepts**.

Singing nursery rhymes supports children's **listening and attention** and enables them to **access group learning opportunities**.

Learning nursery rhymes **supports memory development** in preparation for learning to read.

The rhythm, repetition and actions **support multilingual learners and those with communication difficulties** to acquire language and engage with their peers.