

Celebrate Poetry

Poems and rhymes are a great way for children to have fun playing with words and learning new vocabulary.

Through rhymes and poems, children understand that there are words which are similar in sound but with different meanings.

Children learn about patterns and sequences, and they can have fun playing with language to make up nonsensical rhymes. Giving children a sense of joy and delight with language will support them with later reading and writing.

Learning aims

- Communication and language
- Literacy
- PSED
- Expressive arts and design.

Resources

- Comfortable space
- Card
- Pen
- Hole punch
- String
- Visual images for the poems and rhymes.



Activity Outline

- Celebrate poetry by sharing your children and families' favourite poems and rhymes. Ask families to bring in their favourite poems (either written down or recorded on a smart phone and sent to you).
- Create a poetry corner (make the space new and exciting) and provide a range of poems and rhyme books. Ask the children to vote for their favourite rhymes and sit together to recite them.
- Create your own class 'our favourite poems and rhymes' book; keep it in your book area and make it available to parents to borrow.
- Spend some time making up nonsensical rhymes and encourage children to make up their own, e.g. "Zim Zam Zum, I can't find my mum, Zim Zam Zad, I will have to ask my dad, Zim Zam Zow, Oh look! I see her now".

Working with babies

Share a range of rhyme books with babies; sing along to their favourite songs and rhymes. Create treasure baskets linked to their favourite rhymes.