

Mother Goose Practice Activities

Directions: Join with a family member or friend and create an outline for a Mother Goose Nursery Rhyme. To accomplish this:

1. Read a few famous Nursery Rhymes together. Good examples are:
 - a. Jack Be Nimble
 - b. Humpty Dumpty
 - c. Little Miss Muffit
 - d. Jack and Jill
2. After reading a few Nursery Rhymes, decide on the character for your story.
 - a. Who is the main character?
 - b. Will there be any minor characters be?
3. Next, decide on a setting for your story.
 - a. Where could your story take place?
4. Decide on the problem of the story.
 - a. What is the problem the main character encounters?
 - b. How does the main character solve the problem in the end?

*Remember, try to keep this solution simple and to the point. Have fun with this!
5. As a challenge, write this story using rhyming words and a distinct beat or rhythm.

Mother Goose Tales are stories used to help teach children **language skills**, **counting skills**, and improve **imagination skills**. Specifically, they helped children learn to count, the alphabet, days of the week, and to share important beliefs.

Language Skills

- Help children learn by segment words.
- Learn distinct rhymes and beats.
- Learn to stress certain sounds and intonations.

Counting Skills

- Use of number counting within the rhymes.

Imagination Skills

- Use of imaginative words and ideas in order to spark creativity and stretch the imagination.

Structure

- Compact structures.
- Establish scene and quickly establish plots all at once.
- A whole story can be revealed in as little as four lines.
- Some have surprise endings with clever resolutions.
- Use of wit (cleverness) and whimsy (fun).

