

Fingerplays and Circle Songs



FINGERPLAYS

My Hands

My hands upon my head I place
On my shoulders, on my face;
On my hips I place them, so.
Now I raise them up so high,
Make my fingers fairly fly.
Now I clap them, one, two, three,
Then I fold them quietly.

Two Hands

2 hands go clap, clap, clap.
2 feet go tap, tap, tap.
One body jumps up from the chair.
2 arms reach high in the air.
2 fists go thump, thump, thump.
2 feet go jump, jump, jump.
One body turns all around,
Sits back down and doesn't make a sound.

Jack

This is Jack;
(hold up thumb and fist)
He lives in a box.
(tuck thumb in fist and place other hand
flat on top)
Lift the lid
(remove hand)
And out Jack pops!
(flip thumb up)

Arms

I put my arms up high.
I put my arms down low,
I make my arms real stiff,
And then I let them go.

I swing my arms like this,
I swing my arms like that,
I make my arms very round,
And then I make them flat.
(use appropriate movements)

Hands on Shoulders

Hands on shoulders, hands on knees,
Hands behind you if you please.
Touch your shoulders, now your nose,
Touch your hair, now your toes.
Hands up high in the air.
Down at your sides; now touch your hair.
Hands up high as before –
Now clap your hands, one, two, three, four.

Two Little Eyes

Two little eyes to look around,
Two little ears to hear each sound.
One little nose to smell what's sweet,
One little mouth that likes to eat.
(point to each feature as it's mentioned)

Hands on Shoulders

Hands on shoulders
Hands on face
Hands on ears
Hands on waist
Hands on knees
Hands on toes-
Hands on nose!

If You're Happy

If you're happy and you know it, clap your
hands. (clap hands twice)
If you're happy and you know it, clap your
hands. (clap hands twice)
If you're happy and you know it, then your
face will surely show it;
If you're happy and you know it, clap your
hands.

...Stomp your feet
...Wiggle your nose
...Pat your head
...Shout hurray!

One Little Bear

1 little bear playing peek-a-boo;
Along came another and then there were 2.

2 little bears climbing a tree;
Along came another, and then there were 3.

3 little bears fishing from shore;
Along came another, and then there were 4.

4 little bears said, "Let's find a beehive;"
Along came another, and then there were 5.

5 little bears eating honey in the sun;
Along came some bees (buzz-z-z-z)
and then there were none. (hands disappear
behind back)

(suit actions to words)

My Wiggles

I wiggle my fingers,
I wiggle my toes,
I wiggle my shoulders,
I wiggle my nose.
Now the wiggles are out of me,
And I'm just as still as can be.

(suit actions to words)

We Can Jump

We can jump, jump, jump
We can hop, hop, hop
We can clap, clap, clap
We can stomp, stomp, stomp
We can nod our heads for yes,
We can bend our knees a little bit,
And sit down slow.

(suit actions to words)

O Bunny

Here's a bunny with ears so funny,
And here is a hole in the ground.
A noise he hears and perks up his ears
And runs to his hole in the ground.

This is the Way We Wash Our Hands

(Tune: Mulberry Bush)

This is the way we wash our hands, etc.
...comb our hair,
...brush our teeth,
...shine our shoes.

Tiny Turtle

I have a tiny turtle,
His name is tiny Tim.
I put him in the bathtub
To see if he could swim.
He drank up all the water
And ate up all the soap,
And now he's sick in bed
With a bubble in his throat.
Pop!

(clap)

(suit actions to words)

Pancake

Mix a pancake,
Stir a pancake,
Put it in a pan.

Shake a pancake,
Flip a pancake,
Catch it if you can.

Houses

Here is a nest for the robin,
(cup both hands)
Here is a hive for the bee,
(fists together)
Here is a hole for the bunny,
(finger and thumb form circle)
And here is a house for me.
(fingertips together make roof)

The Train

Here's the train going down the track
(rotate arms)
Now it's going forward, now it's going back
(rotate arms forward, then back ward)
Hear the bell ringing
(pull the imaginary bell, say ding-ding)
Hear the whistle blow
(hold fist to mouth and make train
whistle sound)
What a lot of noise it makes as down the track it
goes. (hands over ears then rotate
arms again)

Two Little Blackbirds

Two little blackbirds
Sitting on a hill, (thumb up)
One named Jack (wiggle thumb)
One named Jill. (wiggle thumb)
Fly away Jack, (thumb behind back)
Fly away Jill. (other thumb behind back)

Come back Jack, (thumb in front)
Come back Jill. (other thumb in front)

Variations (spring semester)
Three (four, five) little blackbirds
(help children problem solve how to do this)

Jell-O

Jell-O in a bowl.
Jell-O in a bowl
Wobble, wobble, wobble wobble,
Jell-O in a bowl.
(wiggling)

What Do We Do?

What do the farmers do all day?
Pitch the hay, pitch they hay.
What do the farmers do all day?
Pitch the new mown hay.
(make motions of farmer pitching hay)
What do pilots do in the sky?
Fly so high, fly so high.
What do pilots do in the sky?
Fly their airplanes high.
(with arms held out, make flying
motions)
What do children do outside?
Swing and slide, swing and slide.
What do the children do outside?
Swing and slide all day.
(with one hand make swinging motion
then sliding motion)
What does the engineer do on the track?
Clickety clack, clickety clack
What does the engineer do on the track?
Drives his train down the track .
(make motion of steering a train and
pulling the train whistle)

Beehive

Here is a beehive,
(hold up right hand, fingers curled under)
But where are the bees?
They're hiding inside where nobody sees.
Watch out now! They're all alive!
Let's count them, 1-2-3-4-5.
(raise thumb and fingers, one at a
time)
Buzz-z-z-z-z!
(fingers pointed out and wiggling with
buzzing)

Hickory, Dickory, Dock

Hickory, Dickory, Dock
(bend over, hands together, swing
arms like pendulum)
The mouse ran up the clock
(right hand runs up left arm)
The clock struck one,
(hands over head clap once)
The mouse ran down,
(run fingers down again)
Hickory, dickory, dock, tick, tock.
(swing arms again clap once each for
tick and tock)

The clock struck 2,
The mouse said BOO!

The clock struck 3,
The mouse said WHEE!

The clock struck 4,
The mouse said NO MORE!

The Little Mice

The little mice are creeping, creeping,
Shh...shh...shh...
They don't make a sound
As their feet touch the ground.
The little mice are creeping.
Listen –
Shh...

Wide-Eyed Owl

The wide-eyed owl
(circle eyes with fingers)
Has a long pointed nose
(extended forefinger in front of nose)
And two pointed ears
(hold up fingers on either side of head)
And claws for his toes.
(crook fingers)
When that owl looks at you,
(circle eyes again)
He flaps his wings
(flaps arms up and down)
And says, Whooo, Whooooo.

There Was A Little Turtle

There was a little turtle
(make small circle with hand)
He lived in a box,
(make box with hands)
He swam in a puddle, (wiggle hands)
He climbed on the rocks.
(climb fingers of one hand up over the
other)
He snapped at the mosquito,
(clap hands)
And he snapped at me.
(point at self)
He caught the mosquito,
(hold hand up, palm facing forward;
quickly bend fingers shut)
He caught the flea,
(as above)
He caught the minnow,
(as above)
But he didn't catch me.
(point to self, shaking head)

Five Little Monkeys

Five little monkeys jumping on the bed,
(tap 5 fingers on palm of opposite
hand)
One fell off and bumped its head.
(one finger falls off, then hold head)
Mama (or Daddy) called the doctor and the
doctor said: (hold phone by ear, dial in air)
"No more monkeys jumping on the bed."
(shake finger)

Four little monkeys...

Three little monkeys...etc.

(Include children in setting this one up...girls or
boys as monkeys; Mama or Daddy to call the
doctor)

Robbie the Rabbit

Robbie the rabbit is fat, fat, fat.
(hands out)
His soft little paws go pat, pat, pat.
(pat hands)
His soft little ears go flop, flop, flop.
(hands on head flop hands)
And when Robbie runs, he goes hop, hop, hop.
(hop three times)

Bunny

I'm a little bunny
With ears so funny;
(hold two fingers with right hand)
Here is my hole in the ground.
(place left hand on hip – elbow out)
When a noise I hear,
I perk up my ears
(make right fingers "perk up")
And hop to my hole in the ground.
(make hopping motion with right hand
over to left arm)
I saw a little bunny
(make ears)
And a green, green cabbage head.
(make fist)
"I think I'll eat some cabbage,"
The little bunny said.
So he nibbled and nibbled.
And he raised his ears this way.
Now I think it's time
I should be hopping on my way.

Apple Tree

Way up high in the apple tree,
Two little apples smiled at me.
(hold hands above head, form circles
with thumb and forefinger of each
hand. Smile)
I shook that tree as hard as I could,
(shaking motions)
Down came the apples
(let hands fall)
Mmmm, they were good!
(rub stomach)
(You can do cherries, bananas, etc.)

Five Little Kittens

Five little kittens standing in a row,
(lift fingers upward, palm out)
They nod their heads to the children, so.
(bend fingers forward)
They run to the left, they run to the right.
(wiggle fingers to left – right)
They stand up and stretch in the bright sunlight.
Along comes a dog, who's in for some fun.
(move right fist slowly towards left
fingers)
M-e-e-ow, see those kittens run.
(finger behind back)

La Pulga

Al subir una montaña,
Una pulga me pico.
La garre de las orejas
Y se me escapo.

Al subir una montaña, (*As I climb the mountain*)
(Bend one arm up and with the other
hand make a crawling up movement
with the two fingers going up on the
bent arm)

Una Pulga me pico. (*A flea bit me.*)
(With the two fingers that are crawling
up, pretend to pinch yourself on the
wrist of the bent arm. When you pinch
yourself, pretend it hurts)

La garre de las orejas (*I grabbed him by the
ears*)
(Grab your earlobes with both hands
and tug lightly on them)

Y se me escapo. (*And he escaped.*)
(When you say "escapo," clap your
hands once in front, pretending to
snap at the flea.)

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And hop to my hole in the ground.
(make hopping motion with right hand
over to left arm)
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(make fist)
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(Bend one arm up and with the other
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and tug lightly on them)

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(When you say “escapo,” clap your
hands once in front, pretending to
snap at the flea.)

The Frogs

Five little froggies sitting on a well,
(cup hands)

One peeped in and down he fell.
(raise one finger)

Froggies jumped high,
(raise hands and wave)

Froggies jumped low,
(lower hands to floor)

Froggies jumped everywhere to and fro.
(wave hands in all directions)

SONGS

Where is Thumbkin?

(Tune: Are you Sleeping?)

Where is thumbkin? Where is thumbkin?
Here I am, here I am; how are you today, Sir?
Very well, I thank you.
Run away. Run away.

Where is mother?...
Where is father?...
Here is brother (sister)?...
Where is baby?...
Where is family?...

Bingo

There was a farmer who had a dog and Bingo
was his name-o.
B-I-N-G-O, B-I-N-G-O, B-I-N-G-O
And Bingo was his name-o.

There was a farmer who had a dog and Bingo
was his name-o.
(clap) I-N-G-O, (clap) I-N-G-O, (clap) I-N-G-O
And Bingo was his name-o.

(continue, using (clap, clap)-N-G-O
(clap, clap, clap)-G-O
(clap, clap, clap, clap)-O
(clap, clap, clap, clap, clap)

The Teapot

I'm a little teapot, short and stout,
This is my handle, (one hand on hip)
This is my spout. (extend opposite arm
sideways, hand out)
When I get all steamed up, I will shout,
Just tip me over and pour me out.
(bend to side in pouring motion)

Bumble Bee Song

I'm Bringing home a baby bumble bee,
Won't my family be so proud of me.
"Cause I'm bringing home a baby bumble bee,
Fuzzy Wuzzy, was he, Woops, he stung me!
(while singing song, cup hands and
swing them, then pull them apart on
"woops")

Down by the Station

Down by the station, early in the morning
See the little puffer bellies all in a row.
See the engine driver pull the little handle,
"Chug, chug, toot, toot" Off we go!

Peter (Patty) Hammers

Peter hammers with one hammer, one hammer,
Peter hammers with one hammer all day long.
(make pounding motion with one fist.)

Peter hammers with two hammers...
(make pounding motion with two fists)

Peter hammers with three hammers...
(make pounding motion with two fists and
one foot)

Peter hammers with four hammers...
(make pounding motion with two fists and
both feet)

Peter hammers with five hammers...
(make pounding motion with both fists,
both feet and nod head)

Peter's very tired now, tired now, tired now...
(pillow hands under head and lean to one
side, resting)

Peter's wide awake now...
(make pounding motion again with both
feet, both hands, nodding head)

Eentsy Weentsy Spider

The eensty weensty spider
Went up the waterspout.
(let opposite thumbs and index fingers
climb up each other)
Down came the rain
(let the hands sweep down)
And washed the spider out.
Out came the sun
(form circle over head with arms)
And dried up all the rain.
So the eensty weensty spider
Went up the spout again.
(repeat first action)

Two Little Ducks

Two little ducks that I once knew,
(hold up two fingers)
Fat ducks, skinny ducks, there were two.
(with palms facing, hold hands far apart,
then bring them close together)
But the one little duck with the feathers on his
back,
(emphasize one with index finger)
He led the other with a quack, quack, quack.
(bend arms at elbows, tuck hands in
armpits, flap arms up and down)
Down to the river they would go,
(keep hands in wing position above and
wibble wobble whole body)
Wibble, wobble, wibble, wobble, to and fro.
But the one little duck with the feathers on his
back,
(emphasize one)
He led the other with a quack, quack, quack.
(bend arms at elbows, etc.)

Little Peter Rabbit

(Tune: Battle Hymn)

Little Peter Rabbit had a fly upon his nose,
Little Peter Rabbit had a fly upon his nose,
Little Peter Rabbit had a fly upon his nose,
And he flipped it and he flopped it until it flew
away.

Slippery Fish

SLIPPERY FISH, SLIPPERY FISH, sliding
through the water.
SLIPPERY FISH, SLIPPERY FISH
Gulp - Gulp - Gulp
Oh No! It's been eaten by a ...

OC-TO-PUS, OC-TO-PUS, squiggling in the
water.
OC-TO-PUS, OC-TO-PUS
Gulp - Gulp - Gulp
Oh No! It's been eaten by a ...

TUNA FISH, TUNA FISH, racing through the
water.
TUNA FISH, TUNA FISH
Gulp - Gulp - Gulp
Oh No! It's been eaten by a ...

GREAT WHITE SHARK, GREAT WHITE
SHARK, lurkin in the water.
GREAT WHITE SHARK, GREAT WHITE
SHARK
Gulp - Gulp - Gulp
Oh No! It's been eaten by a ...

HUMONGOUS WHALE, HUMONGOUS
WHALE, spouting in the water.
HUMONGOUS WHALE, HUMONGOUS
WHALE
Gulp - Gulp - Gulp
BURP!! PARDON ME!!

Five Little Speckled Frogs

Five little speckled frogs
Sat on a hollow log
Eating the most delicious bugs
Yum, yum.
One jumped into the pool
Where it was nice and cool
Now there are four speckled frogs on the log.

Finger Family

1. TOMMY THUMB is up and TOMMY THUMB is down
TOMMY THUMB is dancing around the town
Dance him on your shoulders, dance him on your head
Dance him on your _____
And tuck him into bed
2. POLLY POINTER
3. TOBY TALL
4. RUBY RING
5. BABY FINGER
6. FINGER FAMILY

*Use different body part each verse to fill in blank. I.e. belly, nose, ears, elbows, toes, etc.

Cinco Patitos

(Five Little Ducks)

Cinco patitos se fueron a jugar
(Five little ducks went out to play)
Lejos de su casa y lejos de mama
(Far from the house and far away)
La mama les llama (Mama duck called)
Cuak, cuak, cuak (Quack, quack, quack)
Quatro patitos volvieron para atras.
(Four little ducks came back.)

Quatro papitos se fueron a jugar...
(Four little ducks went out to play...)
(etc.)

Tres patitos volvieron para atras.
(Three little ducks came back.)

Tres patitos se fueron a jugar...
(etc.)

Dos patitos volvieron para atras.

Dos patitos se fueron a jugar...
(etc.)

Un patito volvio para atras.