

Chants & Rhymes

Rhythm and memory have effects upon our ability to comprehend, speak and read. Much of the early learning of language is dependent on the rhythmic presentation of words. Poor readers have been found to have difficulty with the ability to hold an auditory rhythmic pattern in memory. The gift of rhythmic sense to young children enhances their future reading abilities. Songs, raps and chants help in developing rhythm. Try these with your child:

- **2, 4, 6, 8 meet me at the garden gate. If I'm late, do not wait, 2, 4, 6, 8**
- **One for the money, two for the show; three to get ready and four to go!**
- **One potato, two potato, three potato, four -- five potato, six potato, seven potato more!**
- **To market, to market, to buy a fat pig. Home again, home again, jiggety-jig. To market, to market to buy a fat hog. Home again, home again, jiggety-jog.**
- **The man in the moon looked out of the moon, looked out of the moon and said, "It's time for all children on the earth to think about getting to bed!"**
- **Stop, look and listen before you cross the street. Use your eyes, use your ears, and then you use your feet.**
- **(Use child's name) _____ over the ocean, _____ over the sea, _____ caught a blackbird, but you can't catch me!**
- **Juba this, Juba that, Juba chased a yellow cat. Juba up, Juba down, Juba running all around.**
- **I like to pet my puppy. He has soft fur. If I don't pull his tail, he won't say GR-R-R!**
- **Silly little Teddy Bear, stood up in a rocking chair. Now he has to stay in bed, with a bandage around his head.**