

Songs, Chants, Fingerplays, and Poems for Transition Time

SURPRISE APRON

Tune: "The More We Get Together"

Something's in my pocket, my pocket, my pocket.
Something's in my pocket, oh what could it be?
Come and join me.
Then everyone will see.
What's in my pocket, oh what could it be?
Jean Warren

(Teacher wears an apron with large pockets, where she hides a surprise.)

RING, RING, RING YOUR BELL

Tune: "Row, Row, Row Your Boat"

Ring, ring, ring the bell
So everyone can hear.
Time to gather round
Circle time is here.
Jean Warren

(Sit at circle time area. Give a bell to the first child to join you. Have them ring the bell while you sing the song above.)

IF YOU'RE READY FOR A STORY

Tune: "If You're Happy And You Know It"

If you're ready for a story, come sit down.
If you're ready for a story, come sit down.
Let's all gather near, so everyone can hear.
If you're ready for a story, come sit down.
Jean Warren

IF YOU'RE WEARING RED TODAY

Tune: "If You're Happy And You Know It"

If you're wearing red today - follow me.
If you're wearing yellow today - follow me.
If you're wearing blue today - then come along this way.
If you're wearing green today - follow me.

Jean Warren

(Start singing, have children line up behind you as you call out their color. Continue the song with different colors until everyone is walking behind you. Lead everyone to the Circle Time area.)

I WIGGLE MY FINGERS

(A Movement Rhyme)

I wiggle my fingers,
I wiggle my toes,
I wiggle my shoulders,
I wiggle my nose.
Now no more wiggles
Are left in me,
So I can sit as still as can be.

THE ANTS ARE MARCHING

Tune: "When Johnny Comes Marching Home Again"

The ants are marching to the hive, hooray! hooray!
The ants are oh so quiet as they come my way.
Some come fast, some come slow.
All are marching as they go.
Oh, I'm oh so glad, the ants could come today.

Jean Warren

(Children start marching quietly to the Circletime area.)

TWO LITTLE FEET

(A Movement Rhyme)

Two little feet go tap, tap, tap.

Two little hands go clap, clap, clap.

One little body, twirls around.

One quiet body sits back down.

OPEN YOUR HANDS

(A Movement Rhyme)

Open your hand,

Then clap, clap, clap

Now, you lay them in your lap.

Two little eyes looking straight ahead.

Two little ears, hearing what is said.

IT IS STORY TIME

Tune: "Frere Jacques"

It is story time.

It is story time.

Circle 'round,

Then sit down.

When our ears are ready.

When our hands are steady,

We will start

The best part.

WIGGLE WORMS

(A Movement Rhyme)

Once there were some little worms.
And all they did, was squirm and squirm.
They wiggled and wiggled up and down.
They wiggled and wiggled all around. (Let your children around for a while)

They wiggled and wiggled and wiggled until,
They were tired and could sit very still. (Have children sit down)

Now they could listen,
Now they could see
All of the things
I have here with me. (Start your story or circle time activity)

Hands

The words describe the actions:
My hands upon my head I'll place.
Upon my shoulders, on my face,
At my waist and by my side,
Then behind me they will hide.
Then I'll raise them way up high,
And let my fingers fly, fly, fly,
Then clap, clap, clap them--
One - Two - Three!
Now see how quiet they can be.

It's Time To Sit On The Rug

(Improvise a tune)

It's time to sit on the rug;
It's time to sit on the rug.
It's time to sit on the rug
And clap your hands!

It's time to clap like this;
It's time to clap like this.
It's time to sit on the rug
And clap like this!

Two Little Feet

Two little feet go stamp, stamp, stamp (Stamp)

Two little hands go clap, clap, clap (Clap)

One little body stands up straight (Stand straight)

One little body goes round and round (turn)

One little body sits quietly down. (sit)

Five Fat Peas

A counting fingerplay especially
useful in the spring and summer.

Five fat peas in a pea pod pressed
(children hold hand in a fist)
One grew, two grew, so did all the rest.
(put thumb and fingers up one by one)
They grew and grew
(raise hand in the air very slowly)
And did not stop,
Until one day
The pod went POP!
(children clap hands together)

One Potato, Two Potato

One potato, two potato,
Three potato, four,
Five potato, six potato,
Seven potato, more!

Five Cookies

Action poem

Five little cookies in the bakery shop.
Shinning bright with the sugar on top.
Along comes (child's name) with a nickel to pay.
He/she buys a cookie and takes it away.
(continue with four, three, two and one).

Ten Fingers

A fingerplay

I have ten fingers *hold up both hands, fingers spread*
And they all belong to me, *point to self*
I can make them do things-
Would you like to see?

I can shut them up tight *make fists*
I can open them wide *open hands*
I can put them together *place palms together*
I can make them all hide *put hands behind back*

I can make them jump high *hands over head*
I can make them jump low *touch floor*
I can fold them up quietly *fold hands in lap*
And hold them just so.

Five Little Bees

One little bee blew and flew.
He met a friend, and that made two.

Two little bees, busy as could be--
Along came another and that made three.

Three little bees, wanted one more,
Found one soon and that made four.

Four little bees, going to the hive.
Spied their little brother, and that made five.

Five little bees working every hour--
Buzz away, bees, and find another flower.

Here is a Beehive

A fingerplay

Here is the beehive, where are the bees?
clench fist and bring out fingers quickly one by one
Hidden away were nobody sees
Watch and you will see them come out of their hives,
One, two, three, four, five,
Buzz, buzz, buzz.

Ten In A Bed

Action poem

There were ten in a bed and the little one said,
"Roll over, roll over." *rolling motion*
So they all rolled over and one fell out.
There were nine in the bed and the little one said,
"Roll over, roll over."
So they all rolled over and one fell out....

This is repeated until you get to the number one. Each time "roll over" is said, rolling motion is dramatized.

There was one in the bed and the little one said,
"Good night!"

Counting Apples

A fingerplay

Five red apples
Hanging on a tree *five fingers held up*
The juiciest apples you ever did see!
The wind came past
And gave an angry frown *shake head and look angry*
And one little apple came tumbling down.
Four red apples, etc.

Monkeys

In A Tree

Action poem

Five little monkeys
Sitting in a tree
Teasing Mr. Crocodile--
"You can't catch me."
"You can't catch me."
Along comes Mr. Crocodile
As quiet as can be--
SNAP!!!
*Continue until all monkeys
are gone*
Away swims Mr. Crocodile
As full as he can be!!!

Dinosaurs

Subtracting Numbers

Five enormous dinosaurs
Letting out a roar--
One went away, and
Then there were four.

Four enormous dinosaurs
Crashing down a tree--
One went away, and
Then there were three.

Three enormous dinosaurs
Eating tiger stew--
One went away, and
Then there were two.

Two enormous dinosaurs
Trying to run--
One ran away, and then there was one.

One enormous dinosaur,
Afraid to be a hero--
He went away, and
Then there was zero.

Ten Fingers

I have ten little fingers and they all belong to me
I can make them do things, would you like to see?
I can shut them up tight or open them wide.
I can put them together or make them all hide.
I can make them jump high, I can make them jump low.
I can fold them quietly hold them just so.

Hi My Name Is Joe

Hi My Name Is Joe

Hi my name is Joe and I work in a button factory
I've got a wife, a dog, and a family
One day, my boss came up to me and said, "Joe, are you busy?"
I said, "No".
He said "Push the button with your right hand."

Hi my name is Joe and I work in a button factory
I've got a wife, a dog, and a family
One day, my boss came up to me and said, "Joe, are you busy?"
I said, "No".
He said "Push the button with your left hand."

Hi my name is Joe and I work in a button factory
I've got a wife, a dog, and a family
One day, my boss came up to me and said, "Joe, are you busy?"
I said, "No".
He said "Push the button with your right foot."

Hi my name is Joe and I work in a button factory
I've got a wife, a dog, and a family
One day, my boss came up to me and said, "Joe, are you busy?"
I said, "No".
He said "Push the button with your left foot."

Hi my name is Joe and I work in a button factory
I've got a wife, a dog, and a family
One day, my boss came up to me and said, "Joe, are you busy?"
I said, "No".
He said "Push the button with your head."

Hi my name is Joe and I work in a button factory
I've got a wife, a dog, and a family
One day, my boss came up to me and said, "Joe, are you busy?"
I said, "Yes!!!"

Sit Down Chant

Clap your hands. (clap 1, 2, 3)
Stomp your feet. (stomp 1, 2, 3)
Put your bottom In your seat.

Listening Chant

(Tune: "If You're Happy and You Know it")
If you're listening to me do like this- (make a face for children to imitate).
If you're listening to me do like this- (make another silly motion for children to copy).
If you're listening to me, if you're listening to me, if you're listening to me- (line up, get ready for a story, get out your books, or whatever you want them to do).

Clean Up Time

Sung to: "He's got the whole world in his hand"

It's time to put the (toys) away.
It's time to put the (toys) away.
It's time to put the (toys) away.
So we can go Outside.

The Clean Up Song

Sung to: "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star"

It is time to clean up now.
Clean up, clean up, we know how.
We can clean up; you will see
Just how clean our room can be.

This Is The Way

Sung to: "This is the way"
This is the way we pick up
our toys,
pick up our toys,
pick up our toys...
This is the way we pick up toys before we have our snack.

Heigh Ho

Sung to: "Heigh Ho, Heigh Ho, It's off to work we go"

Heigh Ho Heigh Ho
It's off to PE (Music, recess) we go!
We'll have some fun
And we can run
Heigh Ho Heigh Ho

Are you Listening

Sung to: "Are You Sleeping?"

Are you listening? Are you listening?
Everyone, Everyone.
If you are listening. If you are listening.
(Clap, stomp, slap, etc.) three times. 1..2...3.. Right Hand, Left Hand

This is my right hand,
I'll raise it up high (right hand over head).
This is my left hand,
I'll touch the sky (left hand up).
Right hand (show right palm)
Left hand (show left palm)
Roll them around (roll hands over and over)
Left hand (show left palm)
Right hand (show right palm)
Pound, pound, pound (pound fists together)

Sleepy Caterpillars

Let's go to sleep, the caterpillar said, (wiggle finger)
As they tuck themselves into their beds. (make a fist)
They will awaken by and by,
And each one will be a lovely butterfly. (open hand one finger at a time)

Five Little Fishes

Five little fishes swimming in a pool, (wiggle 5 fingers)
The first one said, "the pool is cool". (wrap arms around body)
The second one said, "the pool is deep", (voice deep)
The third one said, "I want to sleep", (rest head on hands)
The fourth one said, "let's dive and dip", (hand dives and dips)
The fifth one said, "I spy a ship", (peer out under hand)
Fisherman boat comes, (fingers form V and move away from body)
Line goes KER-SPLASH, (pantomime throwing fishing line)
Away the five little fishes dash. (wiggle 5 fingers away)

Grandmas' Glasses

Here are grandmas glasses
Here is grandmas hat.
This is the way she folds her hands
And put them in her lap.

Here are grandpas glasses,
Here is grandpas hat.
This is the way he folds his arms!
Just like that!

There Was a Little Turtle

There was a little turtle, (make a small circle w/hand)
He lived in a box, (make box w/hand)
He swam in a puddle (wiggle hands)
He climbed on the rocks. (stack hands on the other)
He snapped at a mosquito, (clap hands)
He snapped at a flea, (clap hands)
He snapped at a minnow, (clap hands)
He snapped at me. (clap hands)
He caught the mosquito, (clap hands)
He caught the flea, (clap hands)
He caught the minnow, (clap hands)
But he didn't catch me! (shake index finger)

Blooming Flower

Here is a green leaf
(palm up)
and here is a green leaf
(other palm up)
That, you see, makes two
Here is a bud
(make a fist)
That is a flower
Watch it bloom for you!
(open fingers slowly)

Blow, Wind, Blow!

Blow, wind, blow
(move arms back and forth)
All through the town
blow wind blow
(move arms around)
Up and down
(move arms up and down)
Blow, wind, blow
From the left to the right,
(move arms left to right)
Blow, wind, blow all through the night.
(slowly lower arms)

Building a Snowman

I will build a snowman
(pretend to make a snowman)
Make him big and tall)
(pretend to pile up snowballs)
See if you can hit him
With a big snowball.
(make and throw a snowball)

Busy Fingers

(follow the action of the rhyme)

This is the way my fingers stand, fingers stand, fingers stand,
This is the way my fingers stand, so early in the morning.
This is the way they dance about, dance about, dance about
This is the way they dance about, so early in the morning.
This is the way I fold my hands, fold my hands, fold my hands
This is the way I fold my hands, so early in the morning.
This is the way they go to rest, go to rest, go to rest
This is the way they go to rest, so early in the morning.

Busy Hands

(perform actions indicated)
Hands on shoulders, hands on knees
Put them behind you if you please
Raise them up high in the air
Down at your sides, now touch your hair
Hands at the side now you may place
Touch your elbows, now your face
Raise hands high up as before
Now you may clap 1,2,3,4
Now sit down, hands folded once more
Eyes to the front, feet on the floor

Do Your Ears Hang Low?

Do your ears hang low

(tug at earlobes)

Do they wobble to and fro?

(wave hands back in forth)

Can you tie them in a knot?

(tie an invisible knot)

Can you tie them in a bow?

(tie an invisible bow)

Can you throw them over your shoulder

(toss something over your shoulder)

Like a continental soldier

(salute)

Do your ears hang low? (tug at earlobes)

Five Green Speckled Frogs

(count down on your fingers as indicated) Five green and speckled frogs,

Sat on a speckled log,

Eating the most delicious flies- yum-yum!

(rub tummy)

One jumped into the pool,

which was nice and cool,

And the there were four speckled frogs.

(Keep singing until there are no more speckled frogs)

Who Stole The Cookie?

Who stole the cookie from the cookie jar?

_____ stole the cookie from the cookie jar.

Who me?

Yes you!

Couldn't be!

Then who?

Hands go Up and Down

(To the Tune of: Twinkle, Twinkle)

Hands go up and hands go down,

I can turn round and round,

I can listen,

(point to your ear)

And so can you,

(point to kids)

I can sit,

I'll show you how,

(take a seat)

Hands go up,

and Hands go down,

Storytime is starting now!

I Have a Nose

On my face, I have a nose

(touch nose)

And way down here I have ten toes

(touch toes)

I have two eyes that I can blink

(point to eyes)

I have a head to help me think

(point to head)

I have a chin and very near

(point to chin)

I have two ears so I can hear

(point to ears)

Here are my arms to hold up high

(raise arms)

And here is my hand to wave good-bye

(wave)

I'm a Little Popcorn Kernel

I'm a Little Popcorn Kernel,

(sit on floor with arms around your knees in ball)

Shaking to and fro,

(rock back and forth)

When the oven gets hot enough

(uncurl slowly)

Pop! I go!

(jump up)

Open them, Shut them

Open them, shut them
(open and close hands)

Open them and shut them
Give a little clap
(clap)

Open them, shut them
(open and close hands)
Open them and shut them

Lay them in your Lap
Creep them, creep them
(walk hands up chest)
Creep them, creep them
Way up to your chin
Open up your mouth
But do not let them in
(hands behind back)

Teasing Mr. Shark

(Hold up Five fingers and count down as fish disappear)

Five little fishes
Swimming in the sea
Teasing Mr. Shark
You can't catch me
Along comes Mr. Shark
As quiet as can be...
SNAP!

Four little fishes
Swimming in the sea
(continue until there are no fish left No little fishes swimming in the sea.)

Zoom, Zoom, Zoom

Zoom, zoom, zoom

(rub hands)

I'm going to the moon

(fly hands upward)

If you want to take the trip,

Climb aboard my rocket ship

(pretend to climb imaginary ladder)

Zoom, zoom, zoom

(rub hands)

I'm going to the moon!