



Activity Idea

Activity	Story patterns
Main Focus	Pattern

Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A story with a pattern, for example 'The great big enormous turnip' or 'Mr Gumpy's outing' ➤ Props for presenting and rehearsing the pattern
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Activity Outline	<p>The aim of the activity is for children to recognise and predict the 'one more' or growing pattern in the story. (Numbers are incidental and counting is not the main focus.)</p> <p>Read the story and act it out with the props. Retell the story with the props emphasising the pattern, asking the children to predict what will happen next.</p> <p>Leave the props available for the children to rehearse the story.</p> <p>You could show the stages of the pattern as a staircase with, for example, images stuck onto a board with blue tac: <i>first there was one, then another one comes, then another one comes, then another one comes...</i></p>
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Extension Opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Use other stories and rhymes with the same increasing pattern and ask children to predict and say what they notice about the pattern. For example 'An elephant went out to play on a spider's web' ✓ Present rhymes with a decreasing pattern, with props showing the pattern. For example '5 little ducks' and '10 green bottles'. ✓ '5 currant buns' involves both a decreasing pattern of buns and in increasing pattern of pennies. Similarly, '10 in the bed' can show an increasing pattern of those out of bed alongside the decreasing number in the bed. ✓ Emphasise the pattern structure of other rhymes and stories. For example, Goldilocks has a too much this, too little that and just right pattern with chairs which are too big or small and porridge which is too hot or cold, or just right.
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