



Rhyme Time

Title	Five Little Ducks		
Possibilities for maths learning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Counting <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Subitise <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shape	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Composition <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comparison <input type="checkbox"/> Pattern	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cardinality <input type="checkbox"/> Measure <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Spatial awareness



Five little ducks went swimming one day,
Over the hill and far away.
Mummy duck said, quack, quack, quack, quack.
But only four little ducks came back.

Four little ducks went swimming one day,
Over the hill and far away.
Mummy duck said, quack, quack, quack, quack.
But only three little ducks came back.

Three little ducks went swimming one day,
Over the hill and far away.
Mummy duck said, quack, quack, quack, quack.
But only two little ducks came back.

Two little ducks went swimming one day,
Over the hill and far away.
Mummy duck said, quack, quack, quack, quack.
But only one little duck came back.

One little duck went swimming one day
Over the hill and far away.
Mummy duck said, quack, quack, quack, quack.
But no little ducks came swimming back,

So Mummy duck said,
QUACK, QUACK, QUACK, QUACK.
And five little ducks came swimming back.

Link to rhyme online

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pZw9veQ76fo>

Resources

You can use a blue wash mitt hand glove for the pond with little ducks stuck onto each finger with Velcro (or hide by folding down), or you can use 5 yellow oven gloves and ask the children to decorate them and make them into ducks.

Extension opportunities

You could also make duck finger puppets, or ducks on sticks to support the children to be involved and these can all be made by the children, or you can use plastic ducks that you may use in the bath instead and use the rhyme at the water tray.

You can also support this rhyme by encouraging children to be the little ducks and Mummy duck and then the children can count how many of their friends are left. You could support children to make their own duck masks to depict the animals in the rhyme.

If you do not have any resources you can simply help children to count with their fingers and this will help them to count down and understand that one has been taken away each time. Asking the children at the end of each verse how many little ducks are left will help to develop their problem solving skills as well as their number recognition and subtraction skills.

Home learning ideas

Children will enjoy making the resources and you can use these for home learning number sacks to enable parents can use this rhyme at home. Remember to put the words in the sack too, so parents and other family members can join in.

You may also suggest that parents take the children to the local park or farm where there may be ducks, to see the ducks swim in order to make the rhyme come to life more. Ask the parents or children to take photos and you can create a display around the rhyme with the family day out photos and trips out from the nursery to the pond as well.