

Rhyme Time

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



Five little sea creatures
On the ocean floor;
Off trotted Sophie Seahorse
Now there are four.

Four little sea creatures
Deep under the sea,
Larry Lobster scurried away
Now there are three.

Three little sea creatures
Wondering what to do;
Off floated Trevor Turtle
Now there are two.

Two little sea creatures
Having lots of fun;
Oliver Octopus swam away
Now there is one.

Poor little Harriet Hermit crab
All on her own,
Back came Oliver,
Back came Trevor,

Back came Larry,
Back came Sophie,
Then all five friends went home to bed.

Resources

Supporting the children to act out this rhyme will provide more opportunities for them to count the sea creatures, and see that even although they disappear one by one there are still five at the end – helping with their understanding of mathematical concepts and early counting.

Making hand puppets will help with this e.g. a blue glove with the different sea creatures on each finger then as each creature disappears you can pop the finger down. You may also choose to make finger or stick puppets for each character for the children to use as the song is sung.

You may choose to use these resources to make a rhyme sack for children to access at any time.

Extension opportunities

Children may like to act out the different parts in the rhyme, you may choose to make animal masks for each character and support children to create, decorate and talk about their animal.

This activity extends well into other areas of learning, such as water play and Understanding the World. Talking to children about where the different animals live and what they eat. This may include being a whole topic on sea animals.

Home learning ideas

Children will enjoy singing this rhyme at home and use the puppet and props with their parents. You can use the resources you created in the nursery for the home rhyme sacks, but remember to put the words in the sack too, so parents and other family members can join in.

You could also encourage parents to take their children to the seaside or the nearest aquarium (depending on where you are situated in the country) and providing leaflets, maps and prices will help families to possibly plan their trip and see the cost involved. If the family do go for the day out, encourage them to feedback with photos and what the children have been doing, this will help with discussions with the child and maybe the wider group.