

Cumbria County Council

Chat Play Share

Rhymes and songs

<https://wordsforlife.org.uk/activities/twinkle-twinkle-little-star/>

Twinkle, twinkle, little star,
How I wonder what you are
Up above the world so high
Like a diamond in the sky

When the blazing sun is gone
When he nothing shines upon
Then you show your little light
Twinkle, twinkle in the night

Twinkle, twinkle, little star,
How I wonder what you are

Birth – 2 years



Sit opposite your baby and sing the song with them. Hold hands and help them clap the rhythm as you sing the rhyme.

Find some shiny paper/ material to represent a star. Hold it up high as you sing. Watch to see if your baby focuses on it. Choose material that makes a rustling sound and watch if your baby turns towards the sound. Move it around to see if your baby's gaze follows it.

2-3 years



Help your child to listen by turning off background noise while you are singing to them.

Work out some actions for them to copy. Move your hand to make a sparkling star, point up to the sky and make a diamond shape with your fingers.

You may need to sing a few times before they start to join in.

3-4 years



Your child may be able to learn both the verses.

You could change the words. If you sing “twinkle, twinkle, little car” and your child notices this you know that they can hear the first sound in words. You can make this into a silly game...pretending you have got it wrong! To see if they can hear more initial sounds you could sing “bar”, “ta”, “far”, “jar”.

Chat Play Share...other ideas you could try....

You could change the words to the rhyme. This version can be found in Twinkle, Twinkle Chocolate Bar – John Foster

Twinkle, twinkle chocolate bar
My dad drives a rusty car
Push the lever, pull the choke
Off he goes in a cloud of smoke
Twinkle, twinkle chocolat bar
My dad drives a rusty car

Books

Star in a jar by Sam Hey

On the Moon by Anna Milbourne and Benji Davies

Meg on the Moon (Meg and Mog) by Helen Nicoll and Jan Pienkowski

The Way Back Home and How to Catch a Star by Oliver Jeffers

Collect props together from around the house to use when you sing your rhyme.

You could start a rhyme bag.

Put a star, mouse, bell etc in the bag.

Find an object to represent each rhyme.

Pick one out and sing the rhyme!

Learn how to draw a star by overlapping

2 triangles. Talk to your child about triangles and star shapes. How many points do they have?

You could decorate the triangle and attach it to a stick or a pencil to make a wand. Take it in turns to make positive wishes for each other such as:

“ I wish for daddy to have a tasty sandwich.”

Go outside and collect sticks.

You could lay these into star shapes.

Chat about what you are doing introducing new words such as rough, prickly and smooth.

Go stargazing on a clear night. Chat about the dark night sky. Can you spot and name the constellations?

Find the Plough and Orion's Belt. Research to find out about the night sky and stars.

