

**Chat,
Play,
Share**

[A sailor went to sea, sea, sea - BBC Teach](#)

A sailor went to sea

**A sailor went to sea, sea, sea,
To see what he could see,
see, see.**

**But all that he could see, see,
see,**

**Was the bottom of the deep
blue sea, sea, sea.**

Younger children

Sit with your baby facing you. Say their name to encourage them to look at you as you are singing.

This is a great song to sing at bath time. Sing and do the actions. Splash the water when you sing “sea” and point to your eyes when you sing “see.” Splash in the bath, talk about the water and the sounds it makes. Splish, splash, splosh.

Sing this song standing up, marching on the spot and doing the actions. Make a wave motion with your hand and arm when you sing “sea, sea, sea”. Put your hand to your brow and look around when you are singing “see, see, see”. Crouch down when singing “bottom of the sea, sea, sea”.

Older children

Sing this song together and make up your own actions. Miss out a word at a time and only do the actions. Hum in the word gaps until you are humming the song without words.

This song (and other similar versions) is often used as a clapping rhyme played with a partner. Children clap their own hands and then clap with a partner in repeated turns as they say the rhyme. Why not have a go together? Start off slowly and see how fast you can get!

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

Share a book together about this rhyme. Chat about the pictures and story. Make comments and ask simple questions.

- A Sailor Went to Sea, Sea, Sea: Favourite Rhymes from an Irish Childhood by Sarah Webb
- Brilliant Boats by Tony Mitton and Ant Parker
- Octopus's Garden by Ringo Starr and Ben Cort
- Five Minutes to Bed by Richard Dugworth
- A Sailing Boat in the Sky by Quentin Blake

Additional lyrics

Try singing the song using these words or have fun making up your own.

*A mermaid (pirate/ seagull) went to sea,
sea, sea.*

*To see what she could see, see, see,
And all that she could see, see, see,
Was a dolphin (shark/ jellyfish)
at the bottom of the, sea, sea, sea.*



One word, two meanings!

Sea and see although spelt differently are pronounced in the same way but have different meanings. Can you think of other words like this? Some words with different meanings may be spelt the same. In English we call these homophones.

Some examples are: Eye/I, cricket bat/ flying bat, tree bark/dog bark, sail on the sea/sail on the boat, ate/eight, buy/bye. You could draw pictures and label them to show the differences.



What's my job?

You can play this game in different ways: Show pictures of people doing jobs and see if your child can guess the job. Or you could mime doing the job and give clues such as "I work on a boat." for a sailor.

