

# Chat, Play, Share

## 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, Once I Caught a Fish Alive

One, two, three, four, five,

Once I caught a fish alive.

Six, seven, eight, nine, ten,

Then I let it go again.

Why did you let it go?

Because it bit my finger so.

Which finger did it bite?

This little finger on the right.

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, Once I caught a fish alive -  
BBC Teach

### Younger children

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

Alternatively, sit your child on your knee and rock your body from side to side in time to the rhythm of the words. Move on to hand clapping or knee tapping. This will help reinforce patterns in spoken language.

Sit opposite each other and use the fingers of your hands to count up to ten as you sing the song. Use actions of shrugging your shoulders and holding your hands out in front of you with a puzzled expression for why, then use a sad face and hold up the little finger of your right hand to complete the actions.

### Older children

Listen to the song and see if you can identify any words that rhyme. Can you think of another word that rhymes e.g. ten, Ben.

Make a fishing rod out of a twig/stick, string/wool and a magnet. Draw some fish, decorate and put paperclips on the end. Play a fishing game and count how many you catch.

\*Use under supervision and make sure magnets are not swallowed and stored safely

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

Share a book together about fish and count how many of each you can see on one page. Chat about the pictures and story. Examples:

- Ten Little Fish by Audrey Wood
- Count with Little Fish by Lucy Cousins
- The Rainbow Fish by Marcus Pfister
- Fidgety Fish by Ruth Galloway
- Fish Eyes: A Book You Can Count On by Lois Ehlert
- Sardines of Love by Zurine Aguirre
- Tiddler by Julia Donaldson

### **Fishing game extension ideas**

Make your fish different colours or put numbers on them and catch them in an agreed order. For older children put letters of the alphabet on them or make pairs of rhyming words. Keep the fish if you have the matching pair or throw it back for someone else. You could use magnetic letters or make a collection of metal objects to discuss as you 'catch' them.



### **Visit a pet shop or aquarium**

Talk about the different fish you can see. Talk about the shapes, sizes and colours. Design your own fish and let your imagination go wild. Talk about the shapes and movement of your pencil as you draw patterns for scales. Use the words round and round, up and down and zig zag.

### **Library visit**

Go for a trip to the library (or borrow a book online) choosing a non-fiction book about caring for fish. Find out where different types of fish live and learn the vocabulary of different parts of a fish such as gills, fins and scales.

### **Cook together**

Get the children involved in cooking, it's a great chance to talk together and to introduce your child to new words. Why not make your own fish fingers or fish cakes or make a tuna layered salad rainbow pot:

[Layered rainbow salad pots recipe | BBC Good Food](#)