

**Chat,  
Play,  
Share**

### **I'm a little teapot**

**I'm a little teapot short  
and stout,  
Here's my handle  
here's my spout.  
When I get my steam  
up hear me shout,  
Tip me up and pour me  
out.**

[I'm a Little Teapot nursery rhyme music  
and lyrics | Words for Life](#)

#### **Younger children**

Sit opposite your baby and sing the song with them. Hold their hands and help them clap the rhythm as you sing the rhyme. If they make any sounds repeat them back. This rhyme has lovely actions that you can do while holding your baby in your arms. They may watch you and be able to copy some.

Sing the song's instructions and do the actions slowly for your toddler to understand and copy. If you have one, use a teapot as a prop. Point to the handle and the spout to introduce new words.

#### **Older children**

Teach your child the rhyme and actions and help them to sing it to friends and family.

Search around the house and ask them to find and name other objects that have a handle. Talk about why objects have handles and the different ways they are used. Model short phrases that describe the handles your child finds, for example, 'shiny, metal handle', 'long, wooden handle'.

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

Share a book together connected to this rhyme. Chat about the pictures and story. Examples of stories:

- My very first tea party by Michal Sparks
- I'm a little tea pot baby board book illustrated by Annie Kubler
- The tiger who came to tea by Judith Kerr
- Ruby's tea for two by Rosemary Wells
- We're going on a picnic by Pat Hutchins
- Florentine and pig have a very lovely picnic by Eva Katzler
- Picnic by John Burningham

### Tea party role-play

You could have a tea party using real or pretend cups, mugs, food and drink. Taking part in pretend play is a great way for children to practise their communication skills such as chatting to others, practising new words and taking turns to speak. If your child has not yet begun to speak, playing will develop their understanding and ideas. You could have a Teddy bears tea party or a birthday party for your toys. You could make invitations and place names for the toys.



### Water play

Teapots and cups and saucers are good to use in the bath and the sink for water play. If they are safe and not going to break you can use adult sized metal tea pots. Talk about the play. With younger children use words starting with the same letter and making the sound using the word, such as splash, splosh, splish. Sing the rhyme in the bath as you do the actions.

It's always fun to make up new words to the tune such as:

I'm a little butterfly,  
flying high.  
Here's my wings,  
in the sky.  
When I hear the birdies  
start to sing.  
I flutter round in a ring.

I'm a little piggy,  
short and stout.  
Here's my wiggly tail,  
here's my snout.  
When I hear the farmer,  
start to shout  
I open the gate and run right out