

**Chat,
Play,
Share**

[EYFS: Listen and Play - Pat a cake - BBC Teach](#)

Pat-a-cake

**Pat-a-cake, pat-a-cake,
baker's man.**

**Bake me a cake as fast as you
can.**

**Pat it and prick it and mark it
with B,
and put it in the oven for baby
and me.**

**For baby and me, for baby
and me,
and there will be plenty for
baby and me.**

Younger children

Lie your baby in front of you and sing the song to them.

While you are singing pat your babies' hands. To continue the game start by patting their tummy. Sing "Pat, pat your tummy, pat, pat your tummy." Gently pat other parts of your child's body singing as you go. "Pat, pat your cheek, pat, pat your cheek." Pat babies' chin, nose, toes, arms, legs etc.

This song makes a good clapping song. Face your child and teach them the clapping actions. First clap your own hands together, then clap your two hands together with your child's. At "pat it" pat your legs and then mime pricking it, marking with B and rocking a baby along with the lyrics.

Older children

Once your child has mastered simple clapping activity above, try this version: First stand face to face and clap your own hands together. Then clap your child's hands, one at a time on a diagonal. Next pat your legs on the lyric "pat it". Mime the actions for the rest of the song, pricking, marking with a B and mime rocking a baby. Once children have learnt to do the clapping actions, they love to see how fast they can do them.

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

Share a book together linked to this rhyme. Chat about the pictures and story or choose a recipe to bake together. Make comments and ask simple questions. Ideas of books:

- Baking with Dad by Aurora Cacciapuota
- Spot bakes a cake by Eris Hill
- The bread pet by Kate DePalma
- The best ever baking book by Jane Bull
- The tiny baker by Hayley Barrett
- Children's book of baking cakes by Usborne

Dancing with Bill Haley

The musician Bill Hayley produced a song of this rhyme and added some lyrics. These are good for having a dance together to.

*Pat a cake, pat a cake, drummer man.
Knock me a beat just as fast as you can.
Romp it, stomp it, rock it with glee.
Play it like crazy for my baby and me.*



[Bill Haley - Pat-a-cake - Bing video](#)

Mark your cake

Pat -a -cake is believed to be the oldest nursery rhyme. Children have been singing it for over 300 years! Before people owned their own ovens they took their pies and cakes to the bakers. They marked them to make sure the cakes did not get mixed up. Put your child's name in the rhyme. If your child can hear initial sounds you can add other names and work out the initial sound to mark the cake with. "Mark it with T and put it in the oven for Tommy and me."

You could mark other things with your child's initial such as cakes and pies you have made. You could paint their initial using food colouring on toast before you eat it.

