

Cumbria County Council
Chat Play Share
Rhymes and songs

<https://wordsforlife.org.uk/activities/hickory-dickory-dock/>

Hickory Dickory Dock

Hickory Dickory Dock,
The mouse ran up the clock,
The clock struck one
The mouse ran down
Hickory Dickory Dock tick tock tick tock.

Hickory Dickory dock,
The mouse ran up the clock,
The clock struck two
The mouse went "boo!"
Hickory Dickory dock.
Hickory Dickory dock,
The mouse ran up the clock,
The clock struck three
The mouse went "weeee!"
Hickory Dickory dock.

Birth – 2 years



Sit on the floor with your legs bent at the knees. Place the baby with their back against your thighs facing you. Rock your head from side to side to the rhythm of the words as you sing the rhyme. Use expression in your voice and emphasise the rhyming words. Cover your face with your hands and reveal your face when you say 'boo'. Add sound effects e.g. the clock struck one-say "dong!" See how the baby responds.

2-3 years



Sing the song and use your fingers to be the mouse running up your arm. Use your arms to be the pendulum swinging 'tick tock'. See if you can find an old-fashioned carriage clock and listen to it tick and point to the numbers. Go on a number hunt and talk about where you see the numbers and what they are for e.g. house number, candles on a cake, car licence plate.

3-4 years



Make a simple mouse finger puppet together then your child can use it to scamper up their arm when singing the song. Learn to count to five in another language and substitute them into the song. Use everyday objects to create sound effects. Hide a ticking clock or timer and listen for the sound. Talk about where you found it-underneath the cushion, on top of the shelf etc

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

Share a book together about this rhyme or a story with a mouse or clock in it. Chat about the pictures and story. Examples of stories:

- Hickory Dickory Dock board book by Cottage Door Press with adorable mouse puppet!
- What's the Time, Clockodile? by Jonathan Litton
- Clocks and More Clocks by Pat Hutchins
- The Noisy Clock Shop by Jean Horton Berg
- A Stopwatch from Grampa by Loretta Garbutt
- The Cockerel, the Mouse and the Little Red Hen by Jess Stockham

Some children prefer information books to stories. Look together at an information book about clocks or access information online and find some fun or interesting facts. Find out about clocks around the world e.g. Big Ben in London.



Learn to sign the song using Makaton:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Co03uDrhq_M

Have a go at making up your own version of 'Hickory Dickory Dock'. Swap the mouse for different animals and have fun making the animal noises. Children often enjoy making up songs...the sillier the better! Can you add a beat of the clock ticking? Which household implements sound most like a ticking clock? Make different sound effects to be the clock chiming.

Discuss words that rhyme, dock, clock, tick, tock. Find some more words that rhyme and make up some silly sentences or a poem of your own. The snake in the sock sat down by the rock.



Make a paper plate clock.

Decorate the clockface.

Place numbers 12, 6, 9 and 3 opposite each other then space the other numbers in between.

Cut out hands and attach with Blu Tack or split pin if available so they can move.