

Dartmouth Nursery Rhymes

Breiana Campbell, Avery Schuldt, Lauren Douglas, Elise Petit

What is a nursery rhyme?

- A short rhyme told to children that often tells a story
- Nursery rhymes started as small rhymes to be told with children's games but have turned into songs sung to children
- Some of the rhymes still have actions that go along with them
- This is a type of children's folklore, but it departs from most children's folklore as it's not created by children, it is only told to them and between them

Why are nursery rhymes folklore?

- Shared among at least two different people
- Author is irrelevant
- Unofficial form of culture/tradition
- Oral/aural (even though there are nursery rhyme books)



Why do we remember nursery rhymes?

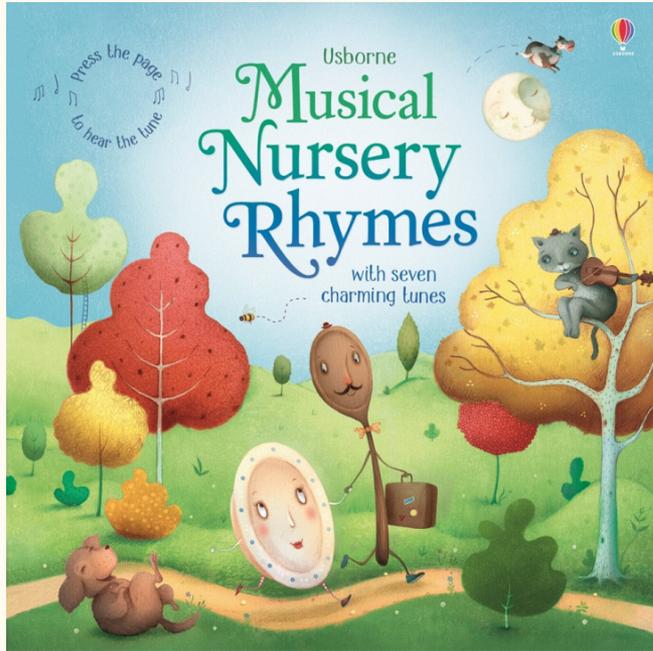
- Mnemonic Effectiveness: Parallelism, rhyme, alliteration, repetition and length
- Context: Each person has a meaningful connection with certain nursery rhymes
- Recurrence: Parents often share nursery rhymes with their children, or they're shared between siblings, or they're shared at the same time each day or week

What stories were collected?

- Goldilocks
- Three Blind Mice
- The Sun is Going Down
- Mockingbird
- Twinkle Twinkle Little Star
- Humpty Dumpty
- My Little Teapot
- Jack Be Nimble
- Ring Around the Rosie
- Timhrti
- Hot Cross Buns



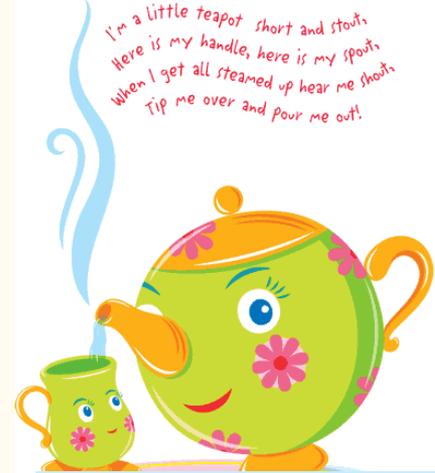
Major Similarities



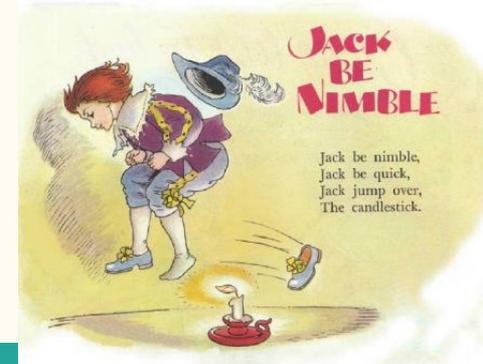
- Meaning- Bonding, interaction, entertainment
- Folk group- family and/or friends
- Context- Playful atmosphere
- Texture- Rhyme, alliteration, morphemes/phonemes
- Text- Ignorance in meaning as a child

Major Differences

- **Setting**
 - Some nursery rhymes were collected at different times throughout the day
 - Ex: My little Teapot
 - Ex: Hot Cross Buns
 - Ex: Jack be Nimble
- **Actions associated with each Nursery Rhyme**
 - Some rhymes had dances or movements to go along with the song, some didn't have any actions.



*I'm a little teapot short and stout,
Here is my handle, here is my spout,
When I get all steamed up hear me shout,
Tip me over and pour me out!*



**JACK
BE
NIMBLE**

Jack be nimble,
Jack be quick,
Jack jump over,
The candlestick.

Any Nursery Rhymes that stood out?

-“Timhrti,” Eritrean nursery rhyme

“My mom is proud of me; my dad is proud of me. I am successful at school, I am number one, and all of my classmates clapped for me.”

-Recorded in Tigrinya (one of the native languages of Eritrea)

-Differences in text, texture, and context

-Code Switching

