

CHILDREN'S HOME SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA

Family Child Care Home Education Network (FCCHEN)
Parent and Provider Resource: Activities for Distance Learning

Poetry and Rhymes

The following activity will support your child's learning while they are at home. Talk to your child and ask questions as you play. As your child listens to you, your child builds language and social skills, further reinforcing the concepts you are teaching. Match activities to your child's favorite books, songs, or toys to make them more meaningful learning experiences. Visit our website at www.chs-ca.org and click on the News and Events tab for more learning resources.

INFANTS - Activity: Hey Diddle Diddle

What you need:

- Optional: you can make stick puppets using [this pattern](#). Simply decorate the pictures, cut them out, and glue them to the end of a craft stick
- Optional: Use a stuffed animal such as a cow or dog to hold or move while chanting the rhyme

What to do:

- If you want to use one of the optional props, prepare them ahead of time
- Place your infant in front of you as you chant the following rhyme:
*Hey, diddle, diddle, the cat and the fiddle.
The cow jumped over the moon.
The little dog laughed to see such a sport,
and the dish ran away with the spoon.*
- Use your voice, facial expressions, and gestures to illustrate the words in the rhyme, such as pretending to play a violin and laugh, or "run" two fingers up your opposite arm
- You can also clap a rhythm as you chant the rhyme
- Chant this rhyme with your infant several times a day because children learn through repetition
- When you are ready for a new nursery rhyme, you can find more [here](#)

What the activity does:

- Introduces new vocabulary
- Strengthens the relationship between parent and child
- Practices the sounds of language
- Develops knowledge of rhyming words and patterns



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