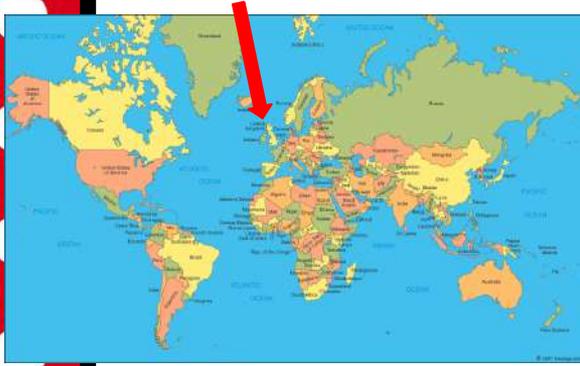


# Sing a Song of Sixpence



We have talked about England in earlier read alouds. Today's read aloud is a nursery rhyme that was written long ago to describe a king and queen in England.

## Sing a Song of Sixpence

Words that have different beginning sounds but end with the same sounds rhyme. Listen for the following rhyming words in today's nursery rhyme:

rye/pie, sing/king, money/honey, clothes/toes

# Sing a Song of Sixpence

It may be difficult for you to understand parts of today's nursery rhyme because it was written long ago using different words than we use today. You will hear two new words at the beginning of today's read aloud: sixpence and rye. Sixpence means money. Pence is a British word for a penny, so sixpence would be six pennies. Rye is a kind of grain that is often ground into flour to make bread.



## Sing a Song of Sixpence

You are going to hear a nursery rhyme called "Sing a Song of Sixpence". You are going to hear about a very unusual or special pie. Listen carefully to find out more about the special pie in the rhyme.

# Sing a Song of Sixpence



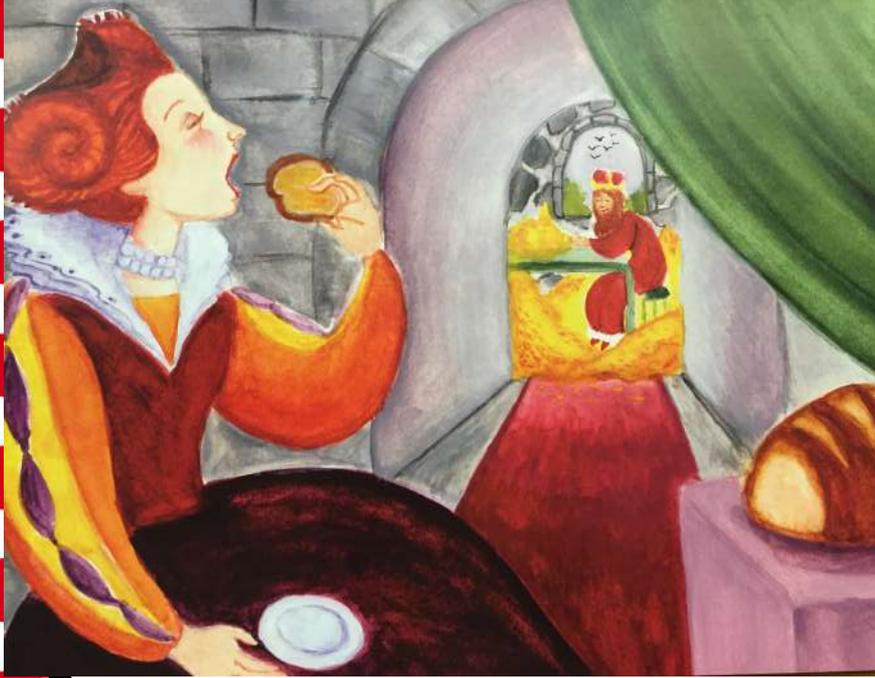
Sing a song of sixpence,  
A pocketful of rye,  
Four and twenty  
blackbirds  
Baked in a pie.

# Sing a Song of Sixpence



Once the pie was opened,  
The birds began to sing;  
Now wasn't that a **dainty** dish  
To set before the king?

# Sing a Song of Sixpence



The king was in his counting house  
Counting out his money;  
The queen was in the parlour  
Eating bread and honey.

# Sing a Song of Sixpence



The **maid** was in the garden,  
Hanging out the clothes,  
When down came a blackbird  
And **pecked** at her toes!

# Sing a Song of Sixpence



Sing a song of sixpence,  
A pocket full of rye,  
Four and twenty  
blackbirds  
Baked in a pie.

# Sing a Song of Sixpence



Once the pie was opened,  
The birds began to sing;

A LONG TIME AGO, PEOPLE  
SOMETIMES PUT LIVE BIRDS ON  
TOP OF PIES AND COVERED  
THEM WITH A LID MADE OF  
DOUGH. WHEN THE LID WAS  
OPENED, THE LIVE BIRDS WOULD  
FLY OUT. PEOPLE THOUGHT  
THIS WAS A FANCY WAY TO  
CELEBRATE AN OCCASION.

Now wasn't that a **dainty** dish  
To set before the king?

# Sing a Song of Sixpence



Now wasn't that a **dainty** dish  
To set before the king?

THE WORD DAINY MEANS THAT  
THE PIE WAS FANCY, SMALL AND  
PRETTY.

# Sing a Song of Sixpence



The king was in his counting house  
Counting out his money;  
The queen was in the parlour  
Eating bread and honey.

JUST LIKE KING MIDAS, THIS KING LOVES HIS MONEY. THE QUEEN IS SITTING IN A FANCY ROOM CALLED A PARLOUR, WHICH IS USED FOR ENTERTAINING ROYAL GUESTS.

# Sing a Song of Sixpence



The **maid** was in the garden,  
Hanging out the clothes,

THE MAID HAD JUST WASHED  
THE CLOTHES AND WAS  
HANGING THEM ON A  
CLOTHESLINE. WHY WAS SHE  
HANGING CLOTHES ON A  
CLOTHESLINE?

# Sing a Song of Sixpence



When down came a blackbird  
And **pecked** at her toes!

THE WORD PECKED MEANS THE BIRD WAS POKING AT THE MAID'S TOES WITH ITS BEAK. BIRDS DO NOT USUALLY BOTHER PEOPLE, SO THIS WOULD NOT HAPPEN IN REAL LIFE.

# Sing a Song of Sixpence

Remember when we studied nursery rhymes and used to echo read? Let's do that with Sing a Song of Sixpence! I am going to say or sing the first line of Sing a Song of Sixpence, then I'll stop and give you a chance to echo the words. If we get good at echo reading, we'll see if you can fill in the words I leave out or if anyone can recite the poem all by themselves!

# Sing a Song of Sixpence

Comprehension Questions:

**Literal**

Please answer in  
COMPLETE SENTENCES.

Who are the three people or characters in this rhyme?

# Sing a Song of Sixpence

Comprehension Questions:

**Literal**

Please answer in  
COMPLETE SENTENCES.

What were the king, the queen, and the maid doing?

# Sing a Song of Sixpence

Comprehension Questions:

**Evaluative**

Please answer in  
COMPLETE SENTENCES.

What kind of special pie is described in the rhyme? Why would someone give a special pie to the king?

# **Word Work**

*Explicit Vocabulary Instruction*

# Sing a Song of Sixpence

In the read aloud you heard, “When the pie was opened,  
the birds began to sing; now wasn’t that a **dainty** dish  
to set before the king.”

Say the word **dainty** with me.  
Whisper dainty to the ceiling.  
Whisper dainty to your neighbor.  
Let’s clap it out.

# Sing a Song of Sixpence

**Dainty** describes something that is fancy, small, and pretty.

My grandmother always drinks her tea from dainty teacups.

## Sing a Song of Sixpence

What are some things that are dainty? Try to use the word dainty when you tell about it.

“ \_\_\_\_\_ is dainty because...”

# *Sing a Song of Sixpence*

*What's the word we have been talking  
about?*

*Let's clap it out.*



# The Princess and the Pea