



Knowledge 1

Nursery Rhymes and Fables

Background Information for Parents

Why Nursery Rhymes & Fables Are Important

This domain will introduce students to nursery rhymes and fables that have been favorites with children for generations. Students will learn about classic rhymes like “Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star,” “Jack and Jill,” and “Hickory, Dickory, Dock,” and characters, such as Humpty Dumpty and Little Miss Muffet. Traditional rhymes help students learn vocabulary and build phonemic awareness. By listening carefully to nursery rhymes and reciting them by heart, students develop an awareness of language that will help them become better readers and writers. Because nursery rhymes are fun and involve everyday activities, kindergarten students can relate to them.

Why Nursery Rhymes & Fables Are Important

Students will also listen to some well-known fables. Listening to fables will help students identify the elements of this genre, learn new vocabulary words, and recognize different types of fiction. Reading fables to kindergarten students may also stimulate class discussion of values, ethics, and behavior.

Core Vocabulary for Nursery Rhymes & Fables

The following list contains all of the core vocabulary words in Nursery Rhymes and Fables in the forms in which they appear in the read-alouds or, in some instances, in the “Introducing the Read Aloud” section at the beginning of the lesson. The inclusion of the words on this list does not mean that students are immediately expected to be able to use all of these words on their own. However, through repeated exposure throughout the lessons, they should acquire a good understanding of most of these words and begin to use some of them in conversation.

Core Vocabulary for Nursery Rhymes & Fables

Lesson 1 ashes ring sweet violets	Lesson 2 away pouring snoring	Lesson 3 candlesti ck nimble plum	Lesson 4 beside fetch frightene d pail tumbling	Lesson 5 buckle market roast beef	Lesson 6 diamond twinkle wish wonder
Lesson 7 stockings struck	Lesson 8 haystack meadow sheep under wagging	Lesson 9 great lane together wool	Lesson 10 disturbe d favor gnawing	Lesson 11 feast greedy reflection stream	Lesson 12 boasting darted steadily

Writing

In this domain, students will focus on the literary genre through the retelling of nursery rhymes and fables. They will identify literary elements, including character, main events, and moral lessons. They will practice sequencing events for the beginning, middle, and end of fables. They will compare and contrast characters to identify similarities and differences between characters from different nursery rhymes and fables.

