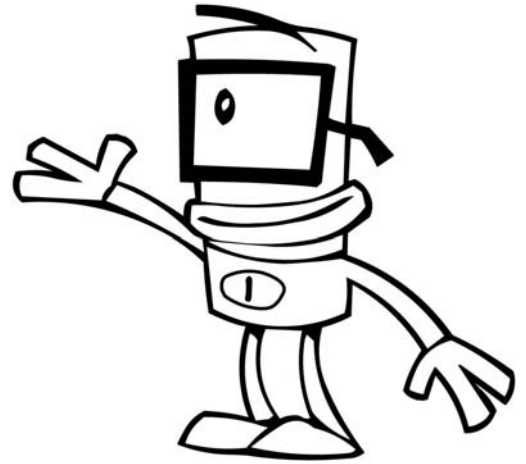


Opening and Closing Rhymes

These rhymes are ideal for use with children in a group setting to indicate the beginning and the end of a group activity. Opening rhymes can be used to get their attention and to allow children to settle down. Closing rhymes announce the end of the activity and help prepare children for another activity.



OPENING RHYMES

Wiggles out

I wiggle my fingers,
I wiggle my toes,
I wiggle my shoulders,
I wiggle my nose.
Now no more wiggles
Are left in me
And I will be
As still as can be.

Wiggles out, II

A wiggle, wiggle here,
A wiggle, wiggle there.
Wiggle your hands,
Up in the air.
Wiggle your shoulders,
Wiggle your hips,
Wiggle your knees,
And move your lips.
Wiggle, wiggle wiggle,
And wiggle and bend.
Wiggle, wiggle, wiggle,
And this to the end!

Two little hands

Two little hands go clap, clap, clap.
 Two little feet go tap, tap, tap.
 Two little fists go thump, thump, thump.
 Two little legs go jump, jump, jump.
 One little body turns around,
 And everyone sits quietly down.

Here is my book

Here is my book
 I open it wide
 To see the pictures
 That are inside.

My hands

Sometimes my hands are at my side;
 Then behind my back they hide.
 Sometimes I wiggle my fingers so,
 Shake them fast,
 Shake them slow.

Sometimes my hands go
 "Clap, clap, clap!"
 then I rest them in my lap.
 Now they're quiet as can be,
 Because it's storytime, you see.

My hands, II

My hands upon my head I place,
 On my shoulders, on my face,
 On my knees, and at my side,
 Then behind me they will slide.
 Then I raise them up so high,
 'Til they nearly reach the sky.
 Now I clap them – 1, 2, 3,
 Then I fold them silently.

Ten little fingers

I have ten little fingers, *(Hold up all 10 fingers)*
 And they all belong to me. *(Point to self)*
 I could make them do things, would you like to see?

I can shut them up tight; *(Make fists)*
 I can open them wide; *(Extend fingers)*
 I can put them together; *(Clasp hands)*
 And I can make them all hide. *(Hide hands behind back)*

I can put them up high; *(Reach hands above head)*
 I can put them low; *(Touch floor with hands)*
 I can fold them together, *(Clasp hands and intertwine fingers)*
 And hold them just so. *(Place hands in lap)*

CLOSING RHYMES

We've listened

We've listened to stories
 And sat with our friends,
 But now we are finished
 And it is the end.

Tiny mouse

There is such a tiny mouse,
 Living quietly in my house.
 Out at night he starts to creep,
 When everyone is fast asleep.
 But always by the light of day,
 The mouse quietly, quietly creeps away.

I have a nose (*Touch parts indicated in rhyme.*)

On my face, I have a nose.
And way down here, I have ten toes.
I have two eyes that I can blink.
I have a head to help me think.
I have a chin and very near.
I have two ears so I can hear.
Here are my arms to hold up high.
And here is my hand to wave goodbye.

Going to bed

This little child is going to bed, (*point to self*)
Down on the pillow he lays his head. (*rest head on hands*)
He wraps himself in a blanket tight. (*hug self*)
And this is the way he sleeps all night,
ZZZZZZZ!