Favorite Nursery Rhymes

- A hip, a hip, a hippopotamus
  Got on, got on, got on the city bus
  And all, and all, and all the people said—you’re squishing me!

- A cow, a cow, a cow,
  Got on, got on, got on the bus
  And all, and all and all the people said---MOOOVE over!

- A sheep, a sheep, a sheep got on the bus
  And all, and all, and all the people said—BAAAAck up!

- This is big, big, big,
  This is small, small, small,
  This is short, short, short,
  This is tall, tall, tall,
  This is no, no, no,
  This is yes, yes, yes,
  This is fast, fast, fast,
  This is slow, slow, slow.

- I have a little heart (hand over heart)
  And it goes thump, thump, thump (pat chest 3 times)
  It keeps right on beating
  When I jump, jump, jump,
  I get a special feeling
  When I look at you (point to child)
  It makes me want to
  Give you a hug or two (hug yourself)

- Rain is falling down, splash! (Raise arms above head, wiggle fingers and bring arms down for rain, splash hands to ground)
  Rain is falling down, splash! (repeat motions)
  Pitter, patter, pitter, patter.(drum hands on the ground)
  Rain is falling down, splash! (Raise arms above head, wiggle fingers and bring arms down for rain, splash hands to ground)

- Sun is peeking out, peek-a-boo! (Cover eyes, uncover on peek)
  Sun is peeking out, peek-a-boo! (Repeat motions)
  Peeking here, peeking there, (Uncover one eye, uncover the other eye on there)
  Sun is peeking out, peek-a-boo! (Cover eyes, uncover on peek)
Hands go up and hand go down!
I can turn myself around
I can stand up on one shoe,
I can listen, so can you!
I can sit, I’ll show you how:
Storytime is starting now!

*Milkshake* song from Wiggleworms CD
You take a little milk (hold glass, Mime pouring)
You take a little cream (repeat)
You stir it all around (make stirring motion)
You shake it and you’ll see
Milk shake, milk shake, shake it all up (bounce child gently on knee)
Repeat

*Popcorn kernels* sung to the tune of *Frere Jacques*—Scarf song
Popcorn Kernels, (hold scarf in hand and wave about)
Popcorn Kernels
In the pot, (roll scarf into ball)
In the pot,
Shake them, shake them, shake them (cover scarf with both hands and shake)
Till they pop, till they pop ( throw scarf into air)
Till they pop, till they pop (catch scarf and throw up scarf up again)

*Little Bo Peep*—Scarf with rhyme: Encourage kids to hide scarf
Little Bo peep has lost her sheep (wave scarves)
And doesn’t know where to find them (hide scarves in pocket, behind back, in shirt)
Leave them alone and they’ll come home
Wagging their tails behind them (pull scarves out of hiding place and wag scarves as tails)
Repeat so kids can find a new hiding place

*Oh no* by Candace Fleming—has great repetitive rhyme perfect for very young children
An elephant goes like this and that (stomp feet separately)
He’s terrible big (show how wide)
He’s terrible tall (show how tall)
He has no fingers (wiggle fingers)
And he has no toes (point to toes or wiggle)
But goodness, gracious, WHAT A NOSE (pull hands out in front in shape of elephants’ trunk)

*Rum Sum Sum* with hand movements (We start slow, medium, as fast as you can)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ICcZB6rxDyE to learn song

*The More We Get Together* with sign language for preschoolers up to 20 signs
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VYJS_xckWY0

*Laurie has a pig on her head* song by Laurie Berkner
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mgFntDofMwQ
Douglas Fir
Great as a parachute rhyme with baby groups
Great as an action full body rhyme with toddlers and up
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hCc1og09_ao](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hCc1og09_ao)

An Orca Whale
An Orca whale, an orca whale, little sea scallops and an orca whale
Sea otter, sea otter
Little sea scallops and an orca whale
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ef86Q-Wp9As](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ef86Q-Wp9As)

Thelma thumb is up
Thelma thumb is down,
Thelma thumb is dancing,
All around the town.
Dance her on your shoulder,
Dance her on your head,
Dance her on your knees
And tuck her into bed.

Kiss the Baby Goodnight from Peter and Ellen Allard CD Vol. 3 Sing, Say it, Stamp it Sway it

Great game for letter recognition: toss a bunch of items on the floor
I’m looking for a(n) ____________
I’m looking for a(n) ____________
Who can find it, who can find it?

Two little blackbirds sitting on a cloud
One named quiet and one named loud
Fly away quiet, fly away loud
Come back quiet, come back loud.

Sung to the tune of the Farmer in the Dell
We clap and sing hello (repeat)
With our friends at storytime, we clap and sing hello
We wave and sing hello (repeat)
With your friends at storytime, we wave and sing hello
We sit so quietly (repeat)
With our friends at storytime, we sit so quietly.
- **Bread and Butter Hello Song**
  Bread and butter,
  Marmalade and jam,
  Let’s say hello
  As quietly as we can.
  Hello! (Say quietly)
  Bread and butter,
  Marmalade and jam,
  Let’s say hello
  As loud as we can.
  Hello! (Say loudly)
  Bread and butter,
  Marmalade and jam,
  Let’s say hello
  As quickly as we can.
  Hello! (Say very quickly)
  Bread and butter,
  Marmalade and jam,
  Let’s say hello
  As slowly as we can.
  Hello! (Say very slowly)

- **Grand Old Duke of York**—Some of the fun of this rhyme is to pause at the half way up and then speed up at on the last couplet of “you’re neither up or down”
  Grand old duke of York,
  He had ten thousand men,
  He marched them up the hill (Stand up)
  He marched them down again (sit down)
  And when you’re up, you’re up (stand up)
  And when you’re down, you’re down (sit down)
  And when you’re only halfway up (go half way up)
  You’re neither up (go up)
  Or down (sit down)

- **Down around the corner at the baker’s shop**
  Down around the corner at the baker’s shop
  There were five little cupcakes with sprinkles on the top
  Along came Billy all alone
  He bought the blue one and ran on home.
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FwErQAd7JoA
- Can be done with different children, different colors and donuts, cookies, etc.
  Zoom, Zoom, Zoom
  (rub hands together, back and forth while pointing them up in the air)
  We’re going to the moon.
  Zoom, Zoom, Zoom
  We’re going to the moon.
  If you want to take a trip,
  Climb aboard my rocket ship.
  Zoom, Zoom, Zoom
  We’re going to the moon.
  5, 4, 3, 2, 1,
  (hold 5 fingers up and count down)
  Blast off!
  (lift child up gently in the air)

- **Rolie Polie**—Sung to the tune of *Frere Jacques*. Introduces concepts of opposites
  Rolie polie, rolie polie (Make fist with hand, roll hands over top of each other in circle)
  Up, up, up, up, up, up (have hands go up)
  Rolie, polie, rolie polie
  Down, Down, Down, (have hands go down)
  Down, down down.
  Rolie polie, rolie polie,
  Out, out, out (have hands separate)
  Out, out out
  Rolie polie, rolie polie
  In, in, in, (bring hands together)
  In, in, in.
  Rolie polie, rolie polie
  Fast, fast, fast, (move hands fast)
  Fast, fast, fast
  Rolie, polie, rolie polie
  Slow, slow, slow (slow hands and song WAY down)

  [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=exBMxMKNFU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=exBMxMKNFU)

- **The Orange is Orange** [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HsoCmeZtxms](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HsoCmeZtxms)

- I am a groovy chicken
  And my feathers shake, shake, shake.
  I am a groovy chicken
  And I’m always wide awake—POW!

- Counting rhyme
  1, 2, 3 you are friends with me (Count on fingers, point out to audience then point to self)
  4, 5, 6 we make the perfect mix (Stir Motion)
  7, 8, 9 We have fun all the time (Sign language motion for fun)
  Shake my hand, shake my hand that makes 10!
Friends
One little girl went to the park (fingers walking)
She met two friends before it was dark
They climbed three trees (make climbing motion)
And spied four bees (buzzing sound)
Making a buzzing noise
So they climbed down fast (climbing)
Before five seconds passed! (Hold up 5 fingers)

Hello Friends (to the tune of Goodnight Ladies)
Hello, friends
Hello, friends
Hello, friends
It’s time to say hello!

Jane Yolen’s How do Dinosaurs count to 10?—to the tune of The Wheels on the Bus
Pteranodons’ wings went flap, flap, flap (flap arms like wings)
Flap, flap, flap. Flap, flap, flap.
Pteranodons’ wings went flap, flap, flap (flap arms like wings)
All around the swamp.
Other verses: Tyrannosaurs Rex went grrr, grr, grr (make T-rex-arms and say grrr)
Triceratops’s horns went poke, poke, poke, (make horns on the top of head with fingers)
Apatosaurus’s neck went stretch, stretch, stretch...(Stretch arms up)
https://jeninthelibrary.com/20123/05/20/dinosaurs-toddler-storytime

This Little Piggy: Yoga flow
Table pose (downward): This little piggy went to market
Extended child’s pose: This little piggy stayed home
Upward-facing dog: this little piggy had pancakes
Downward facing dog: and this little piggy had none.
Curling leaf pose (AKA Child’s pose) and this little piggy cried Wee-Wee, etc all the way home.

There was a Crocodile
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f4VP-pApXas