

Cumbria County Council

Chat Play Share

Rhymes and songs

I'm a little teapot

I'm a little teapot
short and stout

Here's my handle here's
my spout

When I get my steam up
hear me shout

Tip me up and pour me
out

Watch another version of the song
on CBeebies with Mr. Tumble

Birth – 2 years



Sit opposite your baby and say their name to get their attention and encourage them to watch your face while you are singing. Sing the song with them. Hold their hands and help them clap the rhythm as you sing the rhyme. If they make any sounds repeat them back. This rhyme has lovely actions that you can do while holding your baby in your arms. They may watch you and be able to copy some.

2-3 years



Smile and say your child's name to encourage them to watch your face while you are singing. Sing the song's instructions and do the actions slowly for your child to understand and copy. If you have one, use a teapot as a prop. Point to the handle and the spout to introduce new words.

3-4 years



Teach your child the rhyme and actions and help them to sing it to friends and family.

Search around the house and ask them to find and name other objects that have a handle. Talk about why objects have handles and the different ways they are used.

Chat Play Share...Other ideas you could try....

Share a book together about this rhyme.

Chat about the pictures and story.

- [My Very First Tea Party](#) by Michal Sparks
- [I'm a Little Tea Pot Baby](#) board book illustrated by Annie Kubler
- [The tiger who came to tea](#) by Judith Kerr
- [Ruby's Tea for Two](#) by Rosemary Wells
- [We're Going on A Picnic](#) by Pat Hutchins
- [Florentine and Pig have a Very Lovely Picnic](#) by Eva Katzler
- [Picnic](#) by John Burningham

You could have a tea party using real or pretend cups, mugs, food and drink.

Taking part in pretend play is a great way for children to practise their communication skills such as chatting to others, practising new words and taking turns to speak.

If your child has not yet begun to speak playing will develop their understanding and ideas.

You could have a Teddy bears tea party or a birthday party for your toys. You could make invitations and place names for the toys.



[Water play](#) Teapots and cups and saucers are good to use in the bath and the sink for water play. If they are safe and not going to break you can use adult sized metal tea pots. Talk about the play. With younger children use words starting with the same letter and making the sound using the word, such as splash, splosh, splish. Sing the rhyme in the bath as you do the actions.

It's always fun to make up new words to the rhymes such as:

[I'm a little butterfly](#)
[Flying high](#)
[Here's my wings](#)
[In the sky](#)
[When I hear the birdies](#)
[Start to sing](#)
[I flutter round in a ring.](#)

[I'm a little piggy](#)
[Short and stout](#)
[Here's my wiggly tail,](#)
[Here's my snout](#)
[When I hear the farmer](#)
[Start to shout](#)
[I open the gate and run right out!](#)