

Cumbria County Council  
**Chat Play Share**  
Rhymes and songs

<https://wordsforlife.org.uk/activities/twinkle-twinkle-little-star/>

Twinkle, twinkle, little star,  
How I wonder what you are  
Up above the world so high  
Like a diamond in the sky

When the blazing sun is gone  
When he nothing shines upon  
Then you show your little light  
Twinkle, twinkle in the night

Twinkle, twinkle, little star,  
How I wonder what you are

**Birth – 2 years**



Sit opposite your baby and sing the song with them. Hold hands and help them clap the rhythm as you sing the rhyme.

Find some shiny paper/ material to represent a star. Hold it up high as you sing. Watch to see if your baby focuses on it. Choose material that makes a rustling sound and watch if your baby turns towards the sound. Move it around to see if your baby's gaze follows it.

**2-3 years**



Help your child to listen by turning off background noise while you are singing to them.

Work out some actions for them to copy. Move your hand to make a sparkling star, point up to the sky and make a diamond shape with your fingers.

You may need to sing a few times before they start to join in.

**3-4 years**



Your child may be able to learn both the verses.

You could change the words. If you sing “twinkle, twinkle, little car” and your child notices this you know that they can hear the first sound in words. You can make this into a silly game...pretending you have got it wrong! To see if they can hear more initial sounds you could sing “bar”, “ta”, “far”, “jar”.

## Chat Play Share...other ideas you could try....

You could change the words to the rhyme. This version can be found in Twinkle, Twinkle Chocolate Bar – John Foster

**Twinkle, twinkle chocolate bar  
My dad drives a rusty car  
Push the lever, pull the choke  
Off he goes in a cloud of smoke  
Twinkle, twinkle chocolat bar  
My dad drives a rusty car**

### Books

**Star in a jar** by Sam Hey

**On the Moon** by Anna Milbourne and Benji Davies

**Meg on the Moon** (Meg and Mog) by Helen Nicoll and Jan Pienkowski

**The Way Back Home and How to Catch a Star** by Oliver Jeffers

**Collect** props together from around the house to use when you sing your rhyme.

You could start a rhyme bag.

Put a star, mouse, bell etc in the bag.

Find an object to represent each rhyme.

Pick one out and sing the rhyme!

**Learn** how to draw a star by overlapping

2 triangles. Talk to your child about triangles and star shapes. How many points do they have?

You could decorate the triangle and attach it to a stick or a pencil to make a wand. Take it in turns to make positive wishes for each other such as:

“ I wish for daddy to have a tasty sandwich.”

**Go outside** and collect sticks.

You could lay these into star shapes.

Chat about what you are doing introducing new words such as rough, prickly and smooth.

Go stargazing on a clear night. Chat about the dark night sky. Can you spot and name the constellations?

Find the Plough and Orion's Belt. Research to find out about the night sky and stars.

