

Three Little Monkeys

If you are unfamiliar with this song, you could search for it online - it is usually called "Five Little Monkeys".

Enjoy singing the song 'Three Little Monkeys' together. Have a go at making or drawing the three monkeys to bring the song to life. You could also use three teddies / dollies etc and change the words in the song - it really helps with counting if your child can see and point to real objects.

Encourage your child to join in with the song, point to and count the monkeys on each verse, show your child that a monkey has fallen off the bed and count how many monkeys are still on the bed.

Commenting on what your child has achieved is really important too... e.g. "You pointed to the monkeys", "You counted one, two, three monkeys".



Supporting your child to develop their language

Try to use your child's name during your conversations; it really helps when you say it at the beginning of a phrase e.g. 'Tomasz...I can see the ...' - this can help your child to concentrate and keeps them involved in the activity.

Use your child's name in the song to keep their interest; you can add in other familiar names too (do you have pets at home that you could name and include?).

Words to share

Three, two, one,
how many are left?

Making it work for your family

After each verse take a monkey away and tell your child how many are left. As your child becomes more confident, help them to count the monkeys on their own. Pointing to the monkeys whilst you count helps them to understand that each object has a number. After a while you may notice that your child doesn't need to point to the objects as much.

Next time you could try ...

adding a fourth and then a fifth monkey as your child's confidence develops. It's great to sing songs anytime and anywhere, it helps your child to learn more words and have fun together - children love playing with the adults around them.

Look all around you, **talk together** about the things you see, **recap together** on what you have enjoyed - children enjoy doing the same activity again and again and again - this really helps them to learn and remember.