

Cat and Mouse

Fingerplays help children learn language by increasing vocabulary, learning the sounds of words and hearing the rhythm of language. Children can also gain large and small motor skills with the sign language and actions all throughout the rhyme.

WHAT THEY LEARN

Sign language vocabulary, fine motor skills, steady beat

WHAT YOU NEED

- No materials needed

WHAT TO DO

- Share with the class that you're going to teach them a rhyme about a cat and a mouse. Show them the signs for "cat" and "mouse", and ask them to make them also.
- Ask the class to make the signs for "cat" and "mouse" as you slowly say the chant. Focus on these two signs, leaving out the other signs the first time.
- Say the chant again with all of the signs, inviting the class to imitate each one.
- Encourage the students to learn the words and participate in speaking the chant by cueing the keywords with their signs and allowing the class to fill in rhyming words.



LYRICS

A great big cat and a wee little mouse
Went 'round and 'round in a high high house.
But the wee little mouse got caught at last
'Cause the great big cat went just like that!

SIGNS/MOTIONS

Cat - make whiskers

Mouse - flick tip of nose side to side with index finger

Around - Hold up index finger and motion around it with the other hand

House - Use flat hands with fingertips touching to create the roof of the house

Caught - forward grabbing motion with both hands

That! - clap hands together


Music Therapy Connection

By integrating aural, visual, and physical components, we can address children with different learning strategies at the same time.