

Learning possibilities

Text: Allen, P 1999, *The pear in the pear tree*, Viking, Victoria.

Engage

- Step 1. If you have this book at home, encourage your child/children to predict what the story is about from the cover. If not use the suggested video link in the Resource box and watch the story together.
- Step 2: Gather your child/children for a story using the song, 'If you want to hear a story'.
- Step 3. Read/watch the story and explain that some of the words rhyme because they have the same sounds at the end of the word. Re-read the story and draw children's attention to the rhyming words.
- Step 4. Here are some questions to ask your child/children about the story.
1. What did John see in the tree?
 2. How many pears did you see in the tree?
 3. Why couldn't John and Jane reach the pear in the tree?
 4. How did they try to solve this problem? Do you think it was safe to climb the ladder by themselves?

Extend

- Play 'Follow that rhyme' and ask your child/children to complete the action.
Tap your **head** and find something **red**.
Wiggle your **hips** and lick your **lips**.
Give your hands a **clap** and lay them in your **lap**.
Walk to the **door** and sit on the **floor**.
Pretend you are a **tree** and count to **three**.
Touch your **toe** and then say **no**.
(Adapted from: Love, E and Reilly, S 1996, *A sound way*, Longman, Melbourne, p. 93)
- When playing rhyming-match games, use three-dimensional objects rather than illustrations or picture cards to support kindergarten children. For example, the following items may be available at home toy car/star; dog/frog; bear/chair; clock/block; plug/jug; hat/cat.

Resources

Song

'If you want to hear a story'

(Tune: 'If you're happy and you know it')

If you want to hear a story, come sit down,

If you want to hear a story, come sit down.

Let's share a great big smile, as we read and talk a while,
It's time to hear a story, come sit down.

Rhyme

- Hickory dickory dock
- Jack and Jill went up the hill
- Teddy bear turn around
- Pease porridge hot

Video

The Pear in the Pear Tree Animation (YouTube, Demi Schmidt) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b2PjKS1TZ5k>

The Pear in the Pear Tree, written by Pamela Allen (YouTube, Books and Things) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cmDAMtLVlpA>

Down by the Bay with Lyrics - Nursery Rhymes - Children's Songs by The Learning Station (YouTube, TheLearningStation – Kids Songs and Nursery Rhymes) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yt1czlnCUCg>