

Big Nursery – WC 19.01.26 & 26.01.26

**Our rhyme of the fortnight is:**

**The Grand Old Duke of York**

Oh, the grand Old Duke of York;  
He had ten thousand men.  
He marched them up to the top of the hill  
And he marched them down again.

And when they were up, they were up.  
And when they were down, they were down.  
And when they were only halfway up;  
They were neither up nor down.

**What to do at home together:**

- Children can act out marching up and down a 'hill', crouching low and stretching high, matching the song's rhythm.
- Focus on the words up and down. You could act out a rollercoaster or a slide from up high, back down to crouched low position.
- Children could use a stick or cardboard tube as a 'baton' to grasp and act out the story.
- Watch the video below and sing along to the song.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KGvEQTQaTbQ&list=RDKGvEQTQaTbQ&start\\_radio=1](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KGvEQTQaTbQ&list=RDKGvEQTQaTbQ&start_radio=1)



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**Our rhyme of the fortnight is:**

**Old MacDonald**

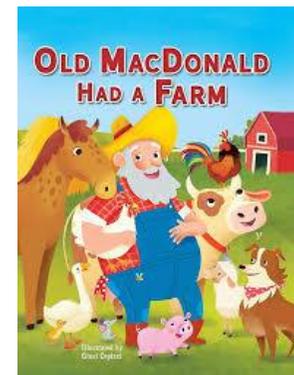
Old MacDonald had a farm  
Ee, i, ee, i, o  
And on his farm, he had some cows  
Ee, i, ee, i, o  
With a moo-moo here and a moo-moo there  
Here a moo, there a moo, everywhere a moo-moo

(Repeat with other animals – pig, duck, horse, chicks, sheep.)

**What to do at home together:**

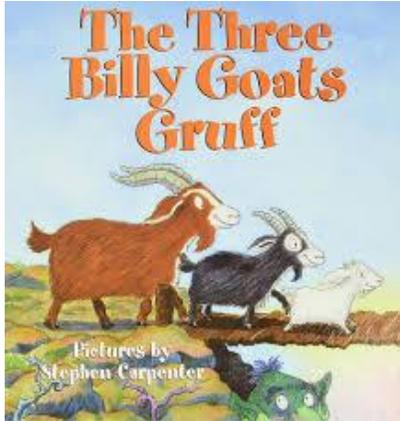
- See if you can visit a farm and sing the song with your child - St Pauls Children's Centre farm park is free to visit.
- Act out the song using props from around the home or small world animal figures if you have them.
- Talk to your child about different animals and the sounds they make.
- Watch the video below and sing along to the song.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6HzoUcx3eo&list=RD\\_6HzoUcx3eo&start\\_radio=1](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6HzoUcx3eo&list=RD_6HzoUcx3eo&start_radio=1)



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**Our book of the fortnight is: The Three Billy Goats Gruff By various authors.**



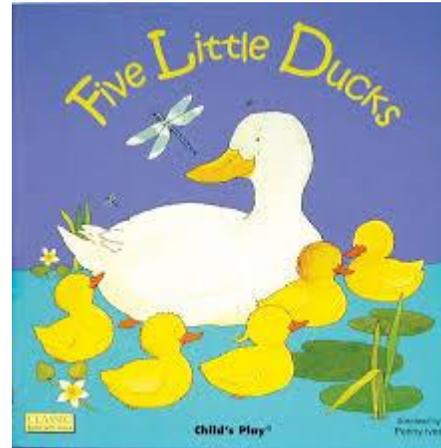
This traditional tale helps children to learn about trust and safety. This text supports discussions about ordinal numbers, such as first, second and third as well as lending itself to mathematical concepts, such as positional language. Children explore different terrains through the text, such as a 'meadow' and 'river'.

**How to get the most out of reading to young children:**

- Sit close together. You could encourage your child to hold the book themselves and turn the pages, too.
- Take a look at the pictures. You don't just have to read the words on the page. What do the illustrations tell us about the story?
- Ask questions and talk about the book. What do they think will happen next? Why did a character act in a certain way? How are they feeling?
- Have fun! There's no right or wrong way to share a story – as long as you and your child are having fun. Don't be afraid to act out situations or use funny voices... your little ones will love it!

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**Our book of the fortnight is: Five Little Ducks By Penny Ives**



This book helps children to understand family and emotions. It encourages children to take risks and develop their independence like the characters in the story. The number focus encourages children to count.

**How to get the most out of reading to young children:**

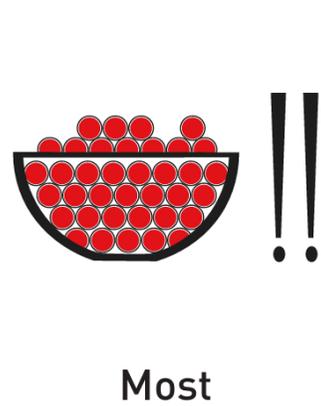
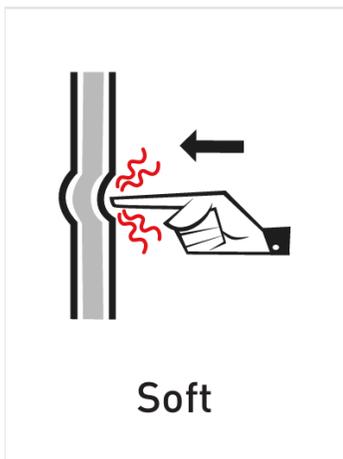
- Be expressive!
- Picture books can be a great way to talk through your child's fears and worries, or to help them deal with their emotions.
- Give them space to talk, and ask how they feel about the situations in the story.
- Use props and toys to act out the story, either whilst you are reading it, or together afterwards.

Our Makaton signs of the fortnight are:



(Always remember to say the word as you sign)

Our Concept Cat signs of the fortnight are:



Our Right of the fortnight is:



Over the next two weeks we will be exploring our key artist Yayoi Kusama. The children will have many opportunities to immerse themselves in creative activities related to her artwork.

**Article 31**

Article 31 says that children have a right to rest, play, and participate in cultural and artistic activities. Play is an integral part of children's development in the early years and contributes to their overall health and wellbeing.



Lots more early years health information, activities and recipes can be found on the Startwell website:  
<https://startwellbirmingham.co.uk/>

Active Azra is all about moving more and sitting less; inactivity should be discouraged and movement encouraged. Movement is defined as translocation of the trunk, also known as the 'belly button being on the move'.