

Cumbria County Council

Chat Play Share

Rhymes and songs

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/nursery-rhymes-down-at-the-station/zdy28xs>

Down at the station

Down at the station, early in the morning,
See the little puffer trains, all in a row.
Here comes the driver to start up the engine,
Puff! Puff! Peep! Peep! Off we go!
Puff! Puff! Peep! Peep! Off we go!
Puff! Puff! Peep! Peep! Off we go!

(Further verses over the page)

Birth – 2 years



At a mealtime when feeding your child, pretend the spoon is a train. As you move the spoon slowly towards them say 'chuff, chuff, chuff'. When you put the spoon in their mouth say 'choo choo'. See if they start to open their mouth in anticipation if you say 'choo choo' a little earlier.

2-3 years



Have fun pretending to be a train outdoors by using your voice to make sounds and adding actions. Encourage your child to copy your actions and sounds. See if they can follow simple instructions to be a fast, slow, noisy or quiet train. Introduce stop/go and see if they can move around, stopping and starting when you give the command.

3-4 years



Listen to some train sounds (lots available on-line). Have fun with your child using your voices to make some of the different sounds. Can you replicate the sounds of different types of train? Can you make it sound like your train is speeding up/slowing down or getting nearer or further away (alter the volume)? Can you think of any words to describe train sounds e.g. clickity-clack?

Chat Play Share...Other ideas you could try....

Other verses of the song:

Down at the station, early in the morning, See the little puffer trains, all in a row. Here comes the driver to start up the engine, Chuff! Chuff! Toot! Toot! Off we go! Chuff! Chuff! Toot! Toot! Off we go! Chuff! Chuff! Toot! Toot! Off we go!

Down at the station, early in the morning, See the little puffer trains, all in a row. Here comes the driver to start up the engine, Clickety clack! Clickety clack! Off we go! Clickety clack! Clickety clack! Off we go! Clickety clack! Clickety clack! Off we go!



Have a go at making a simple train out of boxes. Talk with your child about what they want to include and follow their ideas. Could extra boxes be added to transport teddies/toys? Role play going for a ride on your train; encourage your child to share where they want to go and what they can 'see' on the journey. Sing the train song sitting in your train and add actions.

Share a story together about a train... perhaps you could read it in your box train? Chat about the pictures and story. Examples of train stories:

- The Train Ride by June Crebbin
- Choo Choo Clickety Clack by Margaret Mayo
- The Tickle Book by Ian Whybrow
- Big Blue Train by Julia Jarman
- Thomas the Tank Engine stories
- Steam Train, Dream Train by Tom Lichtenheld

Electronic versions of stories can also often be found online. Some children prefer information books to stories; Usborne have some great ones about trains. Train magazines would also be an alternative!



Young children often love trains. Could you watch trains at your local station or go for a ride on a tourist train? Introduce train related words, for example, track, carriage, fender as you point out what you can see. If you plan a train themed day out introduce tomorrow, today and yesterday when looking forward to and chatting about your day.