



Mother Goose Mania: The Itsy Bitsy Spider



Introduction

Nursery rhymes are an important early literacy tool. They introduce children to the rhymes and rhythms that make up language in ways beyond just sharing stories. This helps children hear the sounds and syllables that make up our words. Nursery rhymes are also a great source of new vocabulary, making it easier for you to introduce new concepts to your child. This activity builds on nursery rhymes you already know and introduces new and expanded ways to explore those rhymes.

This exploration activity features mitten lacing. Lacing helps strengthen the muscles in your child's wrist and fingers that are needed for writing, and also helps practice hand-eye coordination.



Early Literacy Connection

- Activities that ask your child to use their fingers for detailed work help build the fine motor skills that we use for writing later in life
- Play-based activities encourage your child to explore with imagination and fun
- Talk about what you create. You are building your child's conversational skills and vocabulary
- Process-based art activities encourage your child to think creatively and embrace experimentation as part of learning. That's an important skill later in life
- Sharing nursery rhymes teaches rhythm, repetition, and rhyming. This helps your child understand how language works
- Squeezing clothespins builds fine motor skills and the pincer grip that your child needs to hold a pencil and get ready to write
- Nursery rhymes also help build memory capabilities that can be applied to all sorts of activities
- Exploring with multiple senses builds your child's brain connections, supports language development, and builds fine motor skills

Supplies

- Craft sticks
- Yarn or string
- Paint
- Construction paper

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Instructions

1. Wrap a piece of yarn around a craft stick. If you don't have a craft stick, you can wrap the yarn around anything sturdy. Or, get messy by just using your fingers
2. Dip the yarn into a small amount of paint
3. Use the yarn to create your web design. Place the yarn on the paper, drag it across, splatter paint – be creative
4. Let your artwork dry. If you want, you can draw a spider onto your web, too

Review

Explore additional learning concepts on our [website](#) and blog [Plano Library Learns/Early Learning](#), including information about library [databases](#) for each aspect of STEAM

This a great activity to practice your child's fine motor skills. Here are some questions to ask:

- Tell me about your web. Talk to your child about what they created and their process. You are building conversational skills and encouraging dialogue.
- How should we use the yarn to paint? Encourage your child to experiment with different techniques and problem solving.
- What colors did you use? Talk about the colors that you see and where else you see them in your home. Color identification and sorting are important early literacy skills.

Books to Explore

Through the [Libby app](#) and your library card, you can read eBooks about painting and art with your little one



***La Madre Goose:
Nursery Rhymes for
Los Niños***
by Susan
Middleton Elya

[Checkout](#)



***Richard Scarry's
Best Mother Goose
Ever!***
by Richard Scarry

[Checkout](#)



***101 Kids Activities
That Are the
Bestest, Funnest
Ever!***
by Holly Homer
and Rachel Miller

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