

Squirrel Counting Rhymes



The squirrel themed counting rhymes in this Programme will help the Squirrels learn some new skills and link to the Squirrel Smile Award – I'm Learning badge.

An introductory activity can be used as the Squirrels arrive at the meeting place – colouring or simple puzzles can keep children occupied until all the Drey arrives or use a 'joining-in' style game, such as 'The farmer wants a wife' or 'Duck, duck, goose' or a circle format ball game. Add snack time where necessary!

TIME (mins)	ACTIVITY	EQUIPMENT
5	Welcome, Register, Opening Ceremony, Introduction to Programme	
10	GAME: Can you Count <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Call out numbers at random, the Squirrels run to get into small groups accordingly, e.g. 2 – two children together, 6 – six children together, and so on</i> 	None
10	GAME: Can you Count Some More <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>When a Leader calls out a number it is accompanied by an action</i> ○ <i>The Squirrels have to do the action the set number of times, e.g. 5 star jumps, 6 touch toes, 1 stretch to the ceiling, 2 bunny hops, 1 running lap of the room, etc.</i> 	None
10	ACTIVITY: 5 Little Squirrels Finger Puppets Have some fun with this simple squirrel rhyme using all the fingers of one hand and the index finger of the other!! Give each Squirrel a set of 5 squirrel 'finger puppets' to colour and secure each round the child's fingers with selotape. <i>NB some Squirrels may be able to cut out their own squirrel puppets but could require some adult assistance.</i> The Squirrels can now learn a new rhyme while doing the actions!	Set of squirrel 'finger puppets' for each child Art materials, scissors, selotape Words of rhyme
20	ACTIVITY: Counting Action Rhymes Jump about learning a couple of new counting action rhymes based on some old favourites! The Squirrels might like to keep their finger puppets on for all the different actions! The words are printed below!	Words of rhymes
5	Closing, Home	



Five Little Squirrels Finger Rhyme Puppets



Counting Action Rhymes

Five Little Squirrels Finger Rhyme

Five little squirrels sat in a tree
(hold up all five finger squirrels)
The first squirrel said, 'What do you see?'
(wiggle thumb squirrel)
The second squirrel said, 'I see a bee!'
(wiggle index finger squirrel & index finger on other hand - the bee!)
The third squirrel said, 'Don't sting me!'
(wiggle middle finger & index finger on other hand)
The fourth squirrel said, 'Let's all run!'
(wiggle ring finger)
The fifth squirrel said, 'This isn't fun.'
(wiggle little finger)
And away the squirrels ran, every one!
(wiggle all the fingers, chased by the index finger of other hand!)

Squirrel Jive – a jive is a kind of dance popular in the 1960s

(tune of 1,2,3,4,5 once I caught a fish alive)

1,2,3,4,5 once I saw a Squirrel jive
6,7,8,9,10 then I saw it do it again
Jump up and down, then point your toes
Twirl around and touch your nose!
Stretch out wide and stretch up tall
Crouch down low and curl up in a ball!

Start this action rhyme slowly and get faster and faster!!

Counting Bop

Counting's fun, let's all run! *(run round the room)*
Now STOP - do the counting bop! *(stop, then Squirrels find a space so no-one bumps each other!)*
1,2 touch your shoe *(bend down and touch toes),*
3,4 knock the door *(stay still & pretend to knock)*
5,6 do some kicks *(kick legs in the air),*
7,8 sit still and wait *(sit still on the floor)*
9, 10 jump up again *(jump up ready to do the 'bop' all over again!)*

