



Nature

Songs and Fingerplays

Jack Frost

Who comes creeping in the night
When the moon is clear and bright?
(Two right fingers creep along left arm.)

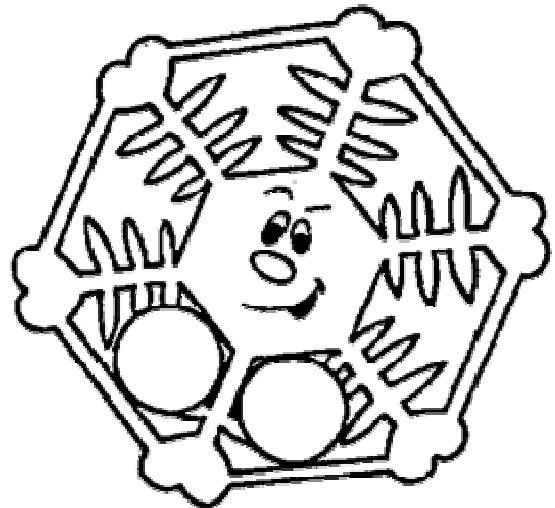
Who paints tree leaves red and gold
When the autumn days turn cold?
(Brushing motion with one hand)

Up the hill and down he goes
(Hand goes up and down "hills.")

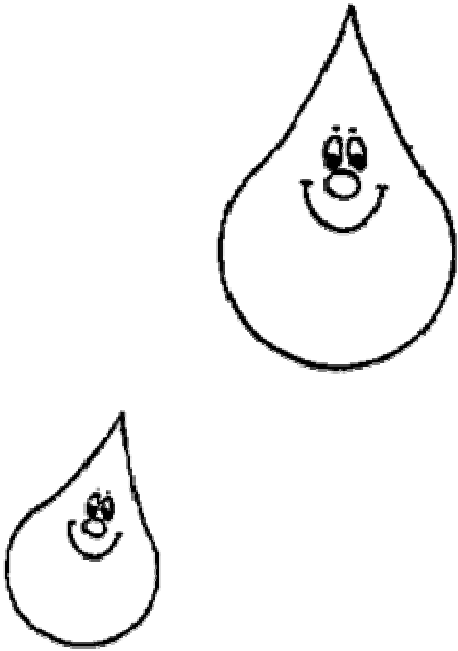
In and out the brown corn rows
(Hand goes in and out "rows.")

Making music crackling sweet
With his little frosty feet.
JACK FROST!

(Traditional, unknown)



Raindrops, Raindrops



Raindrops, raindrops!
Falling all around
(move fingers to imitate falling rain.)

Pitter-patter on the rooftops,
(Tap fingers softly on head.)

Pitter-patter on the ground.
(Tap fingers softly on feet or floor.)

Here is my umbrella.
(Pretend to open umbrella.)

It will keep me dry
(Place umbrella over head.)

When I go walking in the rain
I hold it up so high.

(Hold umbrella high in air.)

(Traditional, North America)

The Counting Lesson

Here is the beehive.
(Hold right fist upright with thumb tucked inside)
Where are the bees?

Hidden away where nobody sees.
Soon they come creeping out of the hive.
(Take thumb out of the fist on "one.")

One! Two! Three! Four! Five!
(Then the other fingers.)

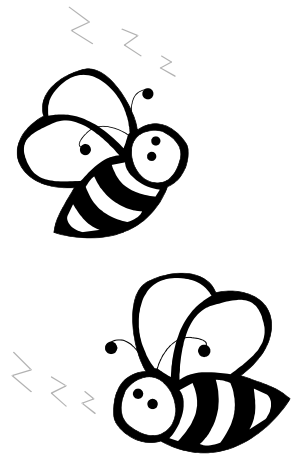
BZZZZZZZ-ZZZ-ZZ-ZZ!
(Flutter fingers away behind back.)

Once I saw an ant-hill.
(Hold left fist horizontal with thumb tucked inside.)

With no ants about;
So I said, "Dear little ants,
Won't you please come out?"
Then as if the little ants heard my call.
One! Two! Three! Four! Five!
(Take thumb out on "one," then the other fingers.)

Come out. And that was all!

(Emilie Poulsson, United States, 1893)



The Farmer in the Dell



(Have a group of children circle around, with one in the middle as the “farmer.” The farmer selects another to join him, who selects another, and so on. The “cheese” becomes the next farmer.)

The farmer in the dell,
The farmer in the dell,
Heigh-ho, the derry-o,
The farmer in the dell,

The farmer takes a wife (or husband)...
The wife takes a child...
The child takes a nurse...
The nurse takes the dog...
The dog takes the cat...
The cat takes the rat...
The rat takes the cheese...
The cheese stands alone...

(Traditional, United States)