



## KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER: VOICE AND SONGS 3



### Singing in a round

Have a go at singing these Nursery Rhymes in a round. One person starts and then another starts at the end of the first phrase. Harmony is created. You can have 3 or 4 people singing at different places in the song when you get really good at this.

Frere Jacques

London's Burning

Row, Row Row Your Boat

Three Blind Mice

\*A nursery rhyme is a traditional poem or song for children.

\*The first collection of nursery rhymes was in a book called Tommy Thumb's Song book published in 1744

\*They are easy to remember as much of England hundreds of years ago was illiterate—they couldn't read or write!

\*Nursery rhymes are often about real historical and political events and are not as innocent as you think. They may have been sung to voice a dangerous opinion

\*Many people believe that nursery rhymes have hidden meanings—and not all are very nice. See below

### *Have a go at playing Twinkle Twinkle*

CCGGAAG, FFEEDDC

GGFFEEED GGFFEEED

CCGGAAG FFEEDDC

\***Baa Baa Black Sheep** - This nursery rhyme dates from 1731. Buying and selling wool was big business in England and the wool from the black sheep may have been extra special. The rhyme suggests that things were not very fair. The farmer had to give a third of his wool to the King (the master), a third to the church (the dame) and kept only a third for himself—the 'little boy.'



\***Mary Mary Quite Contrary** - This refers to Mary I, Henry VIII's daughter. She was a Catholic and her dad was a Protestant. When she became Queen, she made England a Catholic country and had many Protestants killed. Contrary means 'opposite in nature.' The 'Pretty maids all in a row' may have been the people she had burnt at the stake!



\***Georgie Porgie, Pudding and Pie** -This was probably King George IV who was very fat! He didn't get on with his wife which is probably why the rhyme says 'He kissed the girls and made them cry.'

\***Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush** - The tree/bush in the rhyme is a tree that was in the middle of an exercise yard of a female prison in 1840. The prisoners sang as they walked around it



\***Ring-a-ring-o-Roses** - This rhyme is about the Plague. The 'ring' is the rash and the 'pocket of posies' were the herbs people believed protected you from the disease

### FUN FACTS

'Pat-a-cake, Pat-a-cake, Baker's Man' is one of the oldest nursery rhymes and dates from the 1500s

Music and rhyme increases a child's ability in spatial reasoning which supports maths skills!

The oldest children's songs are lullabies. These songs help a child to fall asleep

Lullaby	A gentle song sung to help a child get to sleep
Round	A round is a song when 3 or more people sing the same tune but start at different times
Rhyme	Repetition of a similar sound. For example, moon and spoon