

# The Early Years Count Literacy Connection



## The Pudgy Pat-A-Cake Book

Illustrated by Terri Super

*Infant/Toddler edition*

### Overview of Book

Short, familiar poems and rhymes, including "Eensie Weensie Spider" and "I'm a Little Teapot," delight a new generation.

Genre: Fairy tale/fiction

### Vocabulary

Books are a rich source of words new to children. Here are some words from *Pat-A-Cake* to introduce in your classroom:

tumble  
teapot  
spout

market  
porridge  
handle

Each time you read the book, highlight 2 or 3 words.

Use age-appropriate definitions and/or refer to the illustrations to help children understand each word's meaning.

Use the new words throughout the day, reminding children, "That's a word from our story!"

### Connecting with HighScope Curriculum

#### COR Advantage 1.5

Language, Literacy  
and Communication  
Item N  
(Phonological awareness)

Item Q  
(Book enjoyment and  
knowledge)

Creative Arts  
Item Y  
(Music)

Item AA  
(Pretend play)

### Reading Tips

Read this collection in any order. Add fingerplays or other simple movements as you share these poems and rhymes with individual children or the group. Clap along to the rhythm and encourage the children to clap as well. When sharing these with individual children, gently help them clap along to best feel the rhythms as you recite the peppy verses.

Three readings are recommended to familiarize children with the story. During each reading the adult can introduce new vocabulary words, pose open-ended questions, and engage children in activities that make these rhymes "come alive."

### **Throughout the Routine**

Refer to the book throughout the day and use new vocabulary words in meaningful ways. Active engagement with the story helps the content come alive.

Use the verses for **Group Time**. Encourage movements, clapping along to the beat or pretending during the reciting.

Observe who likes specific ones best to hum and quietly recite at their **bodily care times**.

Play *Ring Around The Rosie* at **Outside Time**.

Encourage the children to clap along or move to the beat at **transitions**.

### **Around the Room**

Highlight the book's content and build on the children's excitement in a variety of locations.

Provide props in the **Toy Area** and **House Area** that promote recall of specific verses and prompt pretend play. Examples include teapots, cups, rubber ducks, spoons and pots.

Have water in the **Sand and Water Area**. Provide rubber ducks and plastic spiders to grab for and splash around.

### **Active Engagement**

Reading with infants is all about relationship, connection, and words.

Use a questioning tone as you point to some of the illustrations or read some of the words.

Draw babies in to the story with your comments, questions, and pauses.

Infants may not be able to answer questions yet, but they will quickly appreciate the "back and forths" with books.

*For more information on how to use books and stories with children to enhance your curriculum, contact*  
***The Family Connection:***

website—  
[www.famconn.org](http://www.famconn.org)

Facebook—  
[@famconnsjc](https://www.facebook.com/famconnsjc)

phone—  
574-237-9740

### **@ Home**

Since many children in our county will have this book at home, use it to further the home-school connection. In your daily contact—in person or by text, email or other notes home—encourage families to share *Pat-A-Cake* with their children. Here's a sample message you can send:

Enjoy your time with your baby as you both look at the pictures while you read the familiar little verses in *Pat-a-Cake*. They are new to your baby, and your tone of enthusiasm and delight will show your baby how much fun these are to listen to over and over. Say them loudly if your baby is wide awake and alert, and whisper them softly if your baby is winding down and sleepy. These are fun to recite while diapering or bathing your child. Gently move their little legs and feet as you say, "Wee, wee wee! All the way home!" These positive interactions make your time together memorable and enjoyable for both of you.