

Row Row Row Your Boat

"Row, row, row your boat gently down the stream.
Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily, life is but a dream.

Row, row, row your boat gently down the river.
If you see a polar bear, don't forget to shiver. Brrr.

Sail, sail, sail your boat gently out to sea.
Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily, back in time for tea.

Rock, rock, rock your boat gently to and fro.
Watch out, give a shout, into the water we go. Splash.

Row, row, row your boat, gently down the stream.
If you see a crocodile, don't forget to scream. Aargh.

Chords C/C/FGC

Partner Song – actions

Sitting opposite each other, children hold hands, pushing and pulling as they start to row their boat.

They carry on rowing until they see a polar bear and give themselves a hug as they shiver.

Sailing out to sea with their arms in the air, they sway from side to side as they sail their boat.

As the sea gets choppy, they start to rock from side to side, falling sideways with a splash.

Sitting up quickly, they hold hands, rowing faster to avoid the crocodiles with a loud scream.



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Musical Activities for Preschool and Families

SINGING WITH BABIES: Sit opposite another adult and baby with your baby facing out. Lean their backs against the adults' tummies for support. Facing this way, they can also hold hands with a sibling or another adult. This is great at bath time with an adult supervising.

SINGING WITH SOFT TOYS: 'Partner rowing songs' are always great for children to sing with a teddy or other soft toy. They can jump in a boat or washing basket as they sing and sail away.

SINGING GAME USING LYCRA: Lycra is good fun with a few friends. All sit around the lycra and hold it. Sometimes the children want to stand and hold or sit. Working together, children push and pull the lycra, then sway it side to side, lifting it up for the sails. You could put a soft toy on the lycra as if it is on the boat. Children could lie down under the lycra and adults push and pull the lycra, dragging it over the children. Lift it up for the sails, jiggle it up and down when it's rocky and go very slowly for the last verse, lifting it up as the children jump up with a scream.

PERCUSSION INSTRUMENTS: Change the pace of the song throughout to give atmosphere and drama. Quietly sail and loudly rock and splash. Show a collection of instruments and talk with your child to explore which instruments can be played during the song. They could also try tapping and shaking other toys or kitchen utensils to see what sounds they make. Maybe children could choose a different instrument to be played in the different types of water and then additional instruments for the animals, maybe a guiro for the freezing polar bear and cymbals for the splash.

CAR JOURNEY CHALLENGE: Think of additional verses using the water theme or a new topic. For example. Row, row, row your boat gently round the lake. Paddle below nice and slow, I think I saw a snake. Arghh. Ride, ride, ride your bike gently down the lane. Watch out, give a shout, I think it's going to rain. Fly, fly, fly your plane gently through the air. Watch out give a shout. I think I saw a bear.

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WORLD
Nursery Rhyme Week



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