

▶ Two Little Dickie Birds

Two little dickie birds sitting on a wall. One named Peter, one named Paul.
Fly away, Peter. Fly away, Paul. Come back, Peter. Come back, Paul.
Two little dickie birds sitting on a wall. One named Peter, one named Paul.

Two little fishes swimming in a lake. One named Jessie, one named Jake.
Swim away, Jessie. Swim away, Jake. Come back, Jessie. Come back, Jake.
Two little fishes swimming in a lake. One named Jessie, one named Jake.

Two little butterflies flying through the air. One named Colin, one named Claire.
Fly away, Colin. Fly away, Claire. Come back, Colin. Come back, Claire.
Two little butterflies flying through the air. One named Colin, one named Claire.

Chords CFG/GFG/CFG/GGGC

Hand rhyme – actions

Fun to sing with puppets, or with hand actions, encouraging the children to copy you.
Open and close thumb and forefingers making birds' beaks. As each bird flies away, the hand goes behind the back and then returns. If you are singing unaccompanied, you can include some tweeting or a 'parrot call' as the bird says 'goodbye' and 'hello' on return.
Weave hands like swimming fishes. As each fish swims away, the hand goes behind the back then returns. If you are singing unaccompanied, include 'fish sounds' as the fishes say 'goodbye' and 'hello'.
Wave hands and flutter fingers like fluttering butterflies. As each butterfly flies away, the hand goes behind the back then returns. If you are singing unaccompanied, try including some butterfly sounds or encourage the children to think how a butterfly might say 'hello' and 'goodbye'.

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Musical Activities for Foundation and Key Stage One

SINGING GAME: Children stand in 2 lines, one line is 'Peter', the other is 'Paul'. As they hear their name, they run to a designated spot and run back again. Once they have the idea, allocate the other names in the other verses. Children have to listen more carefully. Name stickers can help.

SINGING GAME WITH PUPPETS: Children are divided, standing in as many rows as there are verses. At each end of the row, a child holds a puppet or wears a mask. Each row stands up as they sing their verse. The 'end' children run behind and then back again. The row sits down and the next one starts.

ADDITIONAL VERSES: A fun song to write new words and explore different names e.g 'Two little rabbits sitting on a hill, one named Jessie/Jill' Replace the word 'little' with alliteration e.g 'Two dozy/drowsy dickie birds, two friendly fishes, two busy butterflies'.

A FUN SKIPPING GAME: Two people are skipping with a long rope and each goes out in turn as they fly away and then they come back in or new people come back in.

PERCUSSION INSTRUMENTS: Children can feel the beat, being aware of the tempo (playing quickly/slowly) and the dynamics (playing loudly/softly). Encourage children to play the instruments at particular times then keep them still. Play as the animals go away and then come back and also on the last line. Children take turns to play different percussion instruments to the different verses. Show a collection of instruments for children to link to the different animals.

OTHER IDEAS/IMPROVISATION: A child can conduct by opening and closing hands to determine when to sing out loud or in their heads. Choose a letter and as they sing the song, they have to clap on the words beginning with that letter. They could also clap on the words that rhyme.

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