**Mouse Songs/Rhymes**

**Here is a Box**
*Here is a box* (Make a fist)
*Put on the lid* (Make a lid with your other flat hand)
*I wonder whatever inside is hid?* (Peep inside) Why, it’s a (mouse) without any doubt (Wiggle finger up through fist)
*Open the box and let him jump out!* (Jump the ‘mouse’ out of the box and make a squeaking sound)

Repeat with different creatures. Ask a group of children what is in their box. Take turns to recite the rhyme, each time with a different creature. Alternatively, when you say, “Why it’s a…”, make an animal sound and ask the children to guess what might be hidden. This will help children to listen carefully and match the sound to the animal.

**Round and Round the Haystack**
*Round and round the haystack
Ran the little mouse
One step, two step
Into his little house!*

You can use the finger mouse for this rhyme! Do actions as for ‘Round and Round the Garden’. Circle a child’s palm with the mouse, count the two steps, then run the mouse up the child’s arm to tickle them. You can omit to say the word ‘house’ to see if the child can supply the word.

**Mouse Mouse**
*Mouse, mouse, in your house, would you like cheese for lunch?
Yes, I would, yes please, kind sir, mmmm,
munch, munch, munch!*

Ask the children to sit in a circle and walk their mice into the centre towards some imaginary cheese. When they reach the cheese they can make munching sounds!

**Hickory Dickory Dock**
*Hickory dickory dock
The mouse ran up the clock
The clock struck one* (Clap!)
*The mouse ran down
Hickory dickory dock*

*Hickory dickory dock
The mouse ran up the clock
The clock struck two* (Clap! Clap!)
*The mouse sneezed – atchoo!
Hickory dickory dock*

*Hickory dickory dock
The mouse ran up the clock
The clock struck three* (Clap! Clap! Clap!)
*The mouse went “Wheeeee….”
Hickory dickory dock*

Help children to make up more rhymes for the next numbers. Use a clock face as a prop, indicating the various times. Use this to help children to learn to read numbers and to appreciate that the passing of time can be represented on a clock.