

# CHANTS AND RHYMES



## SKIPPING CHANTS

### Down the Murray-Darling...

*Down the Murray-Darling if you miss a beat you're out!*

### Cinderella dressed in pink...

*Cinderella dressed in pink,  
Went downstairs to the kitchen sink,  
The kitchen sink was full of ink,  
How many mouthfuls did she drink?  
1, 2, 3, 4,...* (Count the number of skips in the rope)

### Hoky, Poky, penny a lump...

*Hoky, Poky, penny a lump,  
The more you eat, the more you jump  
1, 2, 3, 4,...* (Count the number of skips in the rope)

### Tell me the name of your sweetheart

*Black-currant--red-currant--raspberry tart:  
Tell me the name of your sweetheart,  
A, B, C, D, E, F ...* (Continue the alphabet for each skip until the person skipping stops. Think of a name starting with the letter that was stopped a, eg, "P": "Peter" is the sweetheart.)

### Penny on the water ...

*Penny on the water, tuppence on the sea,  
Threepence on the railway - out goes she.*  
(Person skipping runs out of rope and new person runs in and starts skipping. Repeat rhyme.)

### Granny in the Kitchen

*Granny in the kitchen  
Doing a bit of stitchin'  
Along comes a bogeyman  
And kicks her out!*

### Twenty four robbers

*Not last night but the night before  
Twenty four robbers came knocking at the door  
As I ran out .. (person skipping runs out of rope).. they ran in .. (New person runs in and starts skipping then repeat rhyme, each time counting down)*

## HAND CLAPPING RHYMES

### Bread and Jam

*Mary had bread and jam,  
Marmalade and treacle,  
A bit for me and a bit for you,  
And a bit for all the people.*

### Pounds, Shillings and Pence

*Pounds, shillings and pence  
The monkey jumped over the fence.  
The fence gave way, and the man had to pay  
Pounds, shillings and pence.*

## RING (CIRCLE) GAMES

### Drop the Hanky

*I wrote a letter to my mother  
On the way I dropped it  
Someone must have picked it up  
And put it in their pocket.*  
(Children sit in a circle. One person skips around outside of circle with a handkerchief and secretly drops it behind a person. When that person realized they pick it up and try to tag the person who dropped it before they get back to their spot.)

### King of York

*There was once a King of York (Hands joined, walk around circle to the right)  
Who had ten thousand men,  
He led them up to the top of a hill (Hands joined, walk around circle to the left, and raise hands up for "up" and then down for "down")  
And led them down again,  
And when they were up they were up (Hands joined, standing, raise arms up)  
And when they were down they were down, (Hands joined, standing, lower arms down to the ground)  
And when they were only half way up (Hands to waist-height)  
They were neither up nor down. (Hands rapidly up then down to the ground)*