

Big Fat Hen: Storytelling Tips and Learning Tools

Before narration:

- Introduce this book as one that puts a twist on a nursery rhyme
- Prepare to enact this rhyme with the kids

Storytelling:

- Enact each line in the rhyme with the children:
 - Ask them to pretend to buckle their shoes, shut the door, pickup sticks, and lay them straight (or you could scatter real sticks on the floor and ask them to pick them up and lay them straight)
 - To enact a big, fat hen ask the children to puff their cheeks and place their hands on their hips
 - For the remaining lines, ask the children to stand in a circle and perform the chicken dance.
[The chicken dance is done as follows: Pinch your fingers and thumbs together in front of your chest, flap your arms, and stomp your feet.] It is ok for the children to run around when doing the dance
- If you can, sing the rhyme for the kids a few times
- Ask the children to point out the worms, butterflies, and dragonflies on the different pages and count them

Extended activities:

- The children can draw eggs, chickens, and hens
- You can teach the lifecycle of a hen