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Mother Goose



Finger Plays.



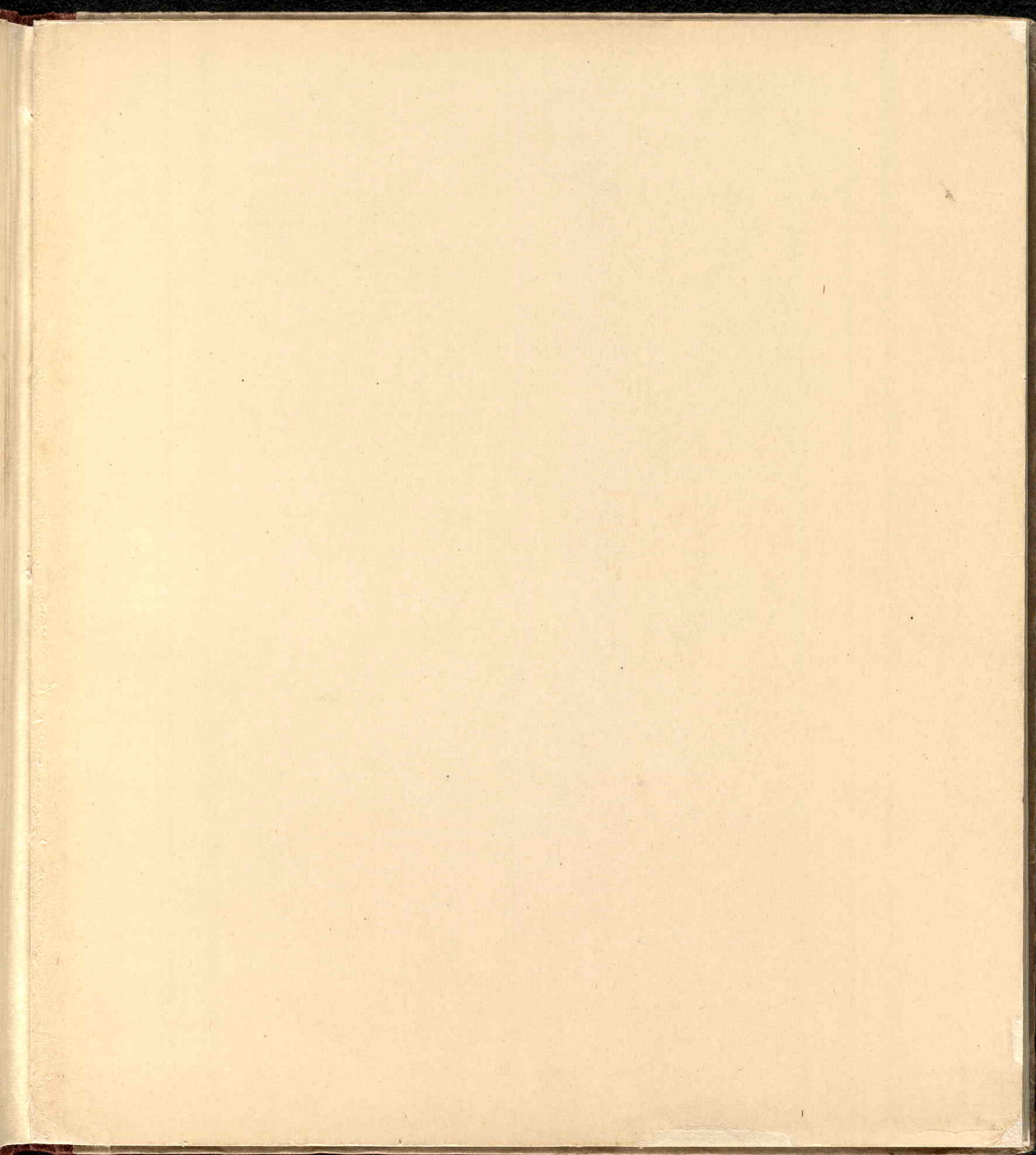
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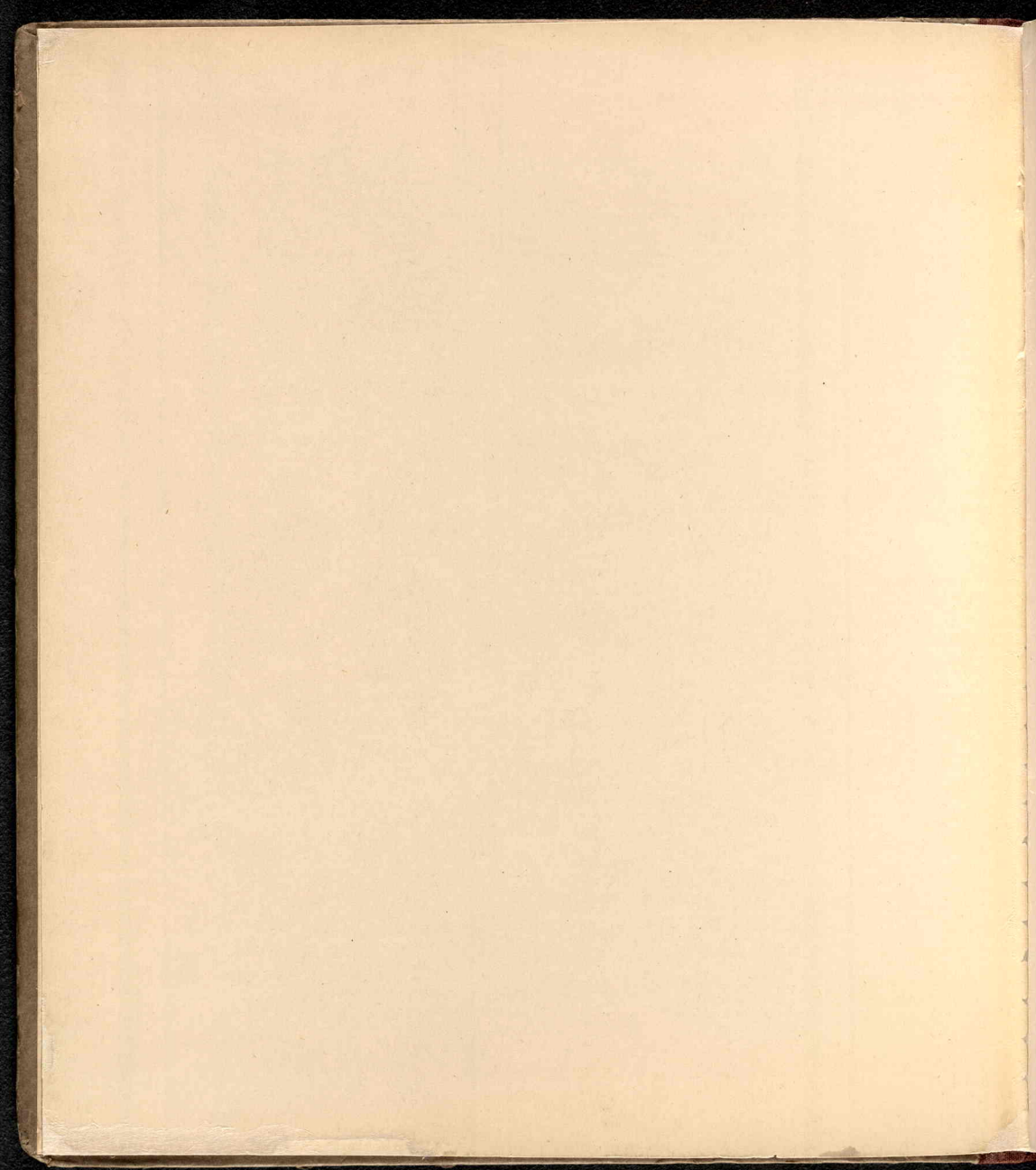
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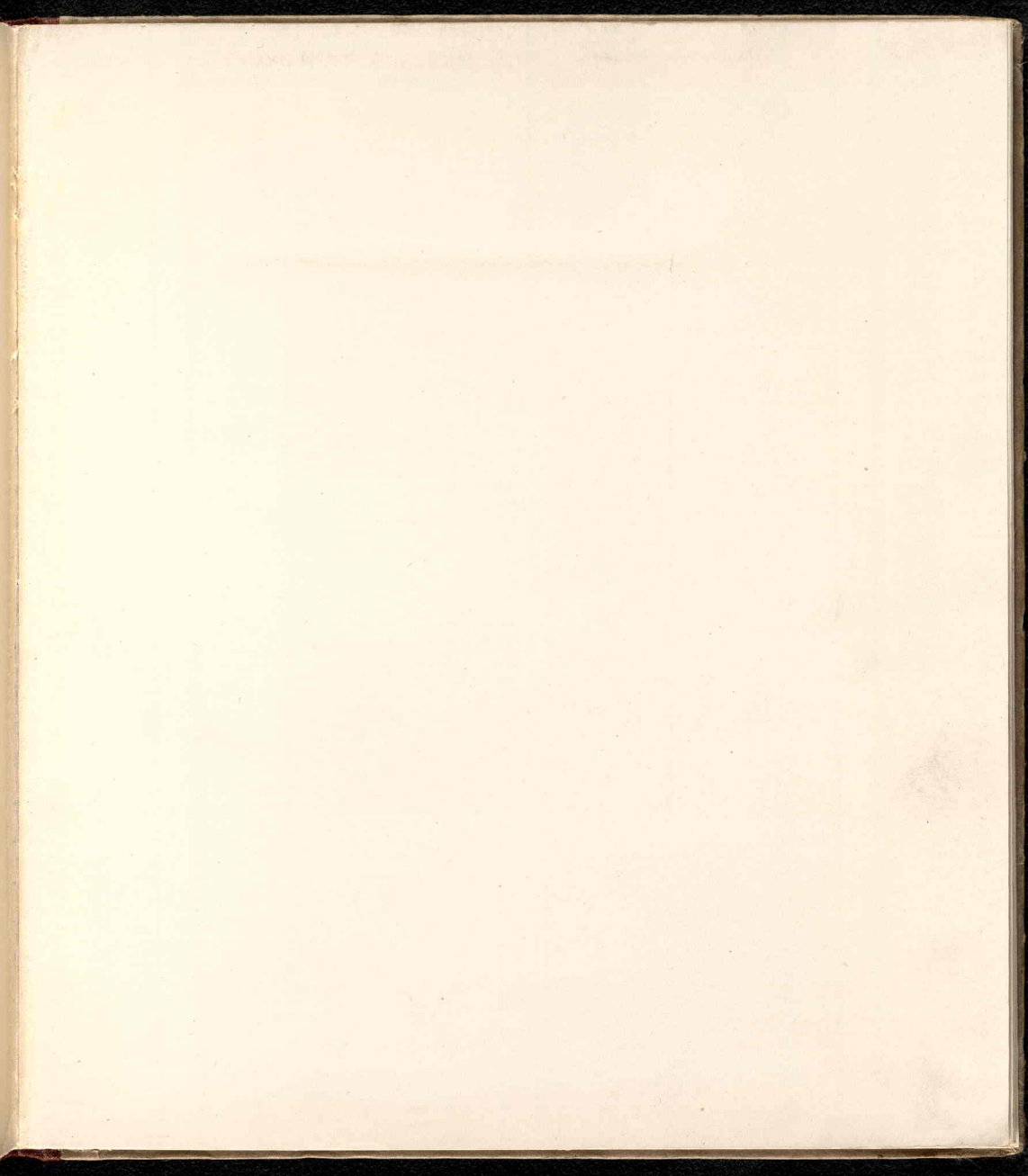
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SHOE the old horse and
Shoe the old mare;
Let the little coltie's
Footy go bare.

MOTHER GOOSE FINGER PLAYS

SELECTED AND ADAPTED BY
IRENE MARGARET CULLISON



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LITTLE ROBIN RED-BREAST

LITTLE Robin Red-Breast

Sat upon a rail.

Niddle noddle went his head,

And waggle went his tail.

First and second lines. See illustration.

Second. Thumb wriggles from side to side.

Third. Little finger waggles from side to side.

LITTLE Bo-Peep has lost her sheep,

And can't tell where to find them.

Leave them alone, and they'll come home,

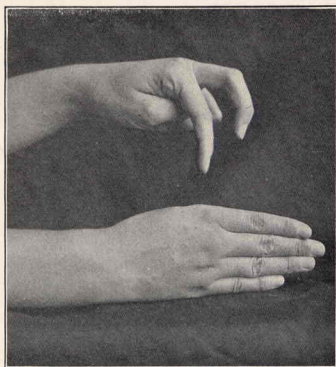
Wagging their tails behind them.

(Thumb is little Bo-Peep.)

(Fingers of same hand closed under palm or in fist are lost sheep.)

(Fingers one at a time brought from under palm or from closed fist.)

(All four fingers wagging.)



JUMP, HE WENT OVER

LEG over leg,
As the dog went to Dover;
When he came to a stile,
Jump! he went over.

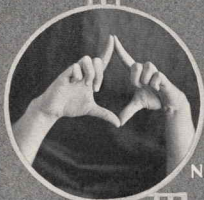
(Pointer and little finger extended back for dog's hind legs. Two middle fingers, tall man and ring man, are extended forward for front legs. They go hopping along. Other hand extended in position for stile. When the dog comes to the stile, he quickly jumps over. Last line.)

HERE's the church,
And here's the steeple.
Open the doors,
And here's all the people.

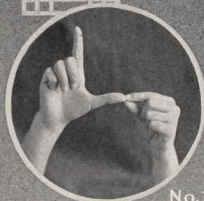
1. Palms together, fingers interlocked underneath.
2. Pointer fingers raised tip to tip.
- 3 and 4. Fingers kept interlocked and hands turned palms outward.



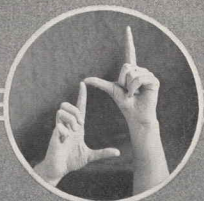
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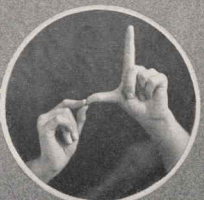
No. 2



No. 1



No. 4



No. 5



No. 6 & No. 7



No. 8

LITTLE Willie had a monkey
Climbing up a stick,
Fed the monkey candy,
Made the monkey sick.

(Eight movements of thumb and pointer finger represent monkey climbing the stick. One movement for each syllable. This should be practiced until it can be done very rapidly. See illustrations.)



PUSSY'S IN THE WELL

DING-dong-bell,
Pussy's in the well.
Who put her in?
Little Johnny Green.
Who took her out?
Big Jack Stout.

1. (Motion like ringing hand bell.)
2. (One arm bent to waist to form well.)
3. (Other hand is pussy in well.)
4. (Little finger held up.)
6. (Thumb held up in boastful manner.)

THE TEA PARTY



THE TEA PARTY

The children in a circle. "Hostess" says: "I want you all to come to my party. First, we will have something to eat. I will give each one of you a piece of cookie dough" (pretends to give dough from hand) "and we will make a cookie for our refreshments." Now—

PAT-A-CAKE, pat-a-cake, baker's man;
So I will, master, as fast as I can.
Pat it and pick it and mark it with "T,"
Put it in the oven for Baby and me.

"Now we have a great big cookie. Let's put a raisin on it." (Children make circle with thumbs and pointer fingers.)

"Now we will eat it." (Pretend to eat.)

"Would you like a cup of tea? All right, I will give each of you a cup full." (See illustration.)

One child may go around circle and pour the cream (creamer made with hand, same as teapot—in illustration). Another child may serve sugar, using thumb and pointed finger as tongs and cupped hand (other hand) for sugar jar.



No. 13



No. 14



No. 12



No. 15

BAA, baa, Black Sheep,
Have you any wool?
Yes, sir; yes, sir;
Three bags full.
One for the Master,
One for the dame,
And one for the little boy
Who lives in our lane.

(Thumb held in upright position from closed fist. "Baa!" said in "bleating" voice slowly, thumb bending at first joint, imitating sheep bending down head.

Second "Baa"—The same.

Have you any wool?—Asked of sheep (thumb).

Yes, sir—Thumb bending at first joint, as sheep nodding head.

Second yes, sir—The same.

One for the master—Opening little finger from closed fist.

One for the dame—Opening ring finger from closed fist.

One for the little boy—Opening middle finger from closed fist.

As each finger is opened, the thumb is bent at first joint. It represents sheep nodding head as he enumerates the people for whom he has bags.



TWO FUNNY OLD MEN FROM OUR TOWN

Two funny old men from our town
 Went out for a walk one day.
 The wind blew so strong
 That they turned around
 And walked the other way.

(First and second lines. Two first fingers of each hand walking along.)

(Fourth and fifth lines. Fingers come back other way.)

Two little blackbirds sitting on a hill,
 One named Jack, one named Jill;
 Fly away, Jack; fly away, Jill.
 Come back, Jack; come back, Jill.

(Little pieces of paper on pointer fingers. Third line, hands are raised over shoulders, one after the other. On return to lap or table, the tall-man finger has been substituted for pointer. Last line, hands raised again over shoulders and fingers changed back as at first.)

Ten little squirrels up in a tree,
 The first two said "What do I see?"
 The next two said, "A man with a gun";
 The next two said, "Let's run," "Let's run."
 The next two said "Let's hide in the shade."
 The next two said "We're not afraid."
 "Bang!" went the gun.
 Away they all run.

(All fingers)

(Two thumbs)

(Pointers)

(Tall men fingers)

(Ring man fingers)

(Little fingers)

(Clap hands)

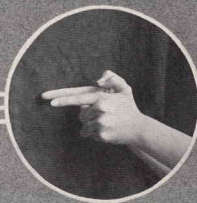
(Fingers scamper away).



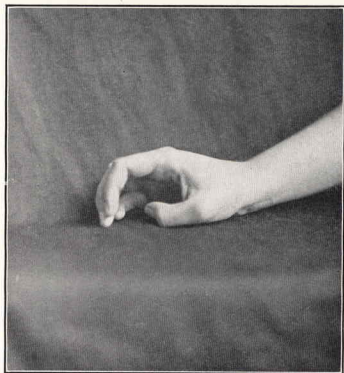
Ten Little Squirrels.



The First Two.



A Man With a Gun.



UNDER THE HAYSTACK

LITTLE BOY BLUE, come blow your horn;
The sheep's in the meadow, the cow's in the corn,
Where's the little boy that looks after the sheep?
Under the haystack fast asleep.

(Fingers and thumb of one hand represent cows and sheep, running, scampering and playing.)

(Thumb of other hand under roofed palm and fingers represents Boy Blue under haystack.)

THE king of France marched up the hill
With twenty thousand men;
The king of France marched down the hill
And ne'er marched up again.

(Knees up for hill.)

(Lines 1 and 2, fingers advance in tramping movement up hill.)

(Lines 3 and 4, fingers descend hill with same movement.)

LITTLE Jack Horner sat in a corner
Eating a Christmas pie.
He stuck in his thumb and pulled out a
plum,
And said, "What a big boy am I!"



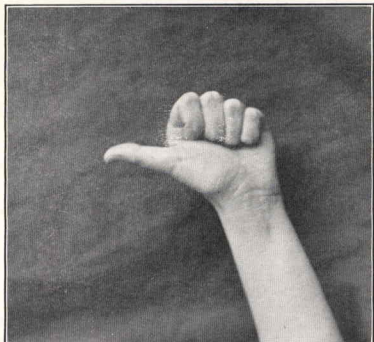
"What a Big Boy Am I!"



"Jack in the Corner."



"He Stuck in His Thumb."



LITTLE MISS MUFFET

LITTLE Miss Muffet
 Sat on a tuffet,
 Eating her curds and whey.
 'Long came a spider
 And sat down beside her,
 And frightened Miss Muffet away.

(First, second and third lines. See illustration.)

(Fourth. Other hand, all fingers wiggling as legs of spider, creeps up to Miss Muffet.)

(Fifth. "Spider" stops by "Miss Muffet.")

(Sixth. Hand representing "Miss Muffet" is quickly placed behind back.)

THIS is the mother so kind and dear,
 This is the father so full of cheer;
 This is the brother so strong and tall,
 This is the sister who loves us all,
 This is the baby, the pet of all.

(Thumbs.)

(Pointer.

(Tall man.)

(Ring finger.)

(Little finger.)

(This play enables the child to see itself as a unit of the whole, and helps it to realize its relation to the family.)



JACK AND JILL WENT UP THE HILL



JILL CAME IN, AND SHE DID GRIN

JACK and Jill went up the hill
 To fetch a pail of water;
 Jack fell down and broke his crown,
 And Jill came tumbling after.
 Up got Jack and home did trot
 As fast as he could caper;
 Went to bed, to mend his head
 With vinegar and brown paper.
 Jill came in, and she did grin
 To see his paper plaster;
 Mother vexed, did whip her next
 For causing Jack's disaster.

(Two thumbs wiggling upward in succession represent Jack and Jill.)

(One thumb falls into lap.)

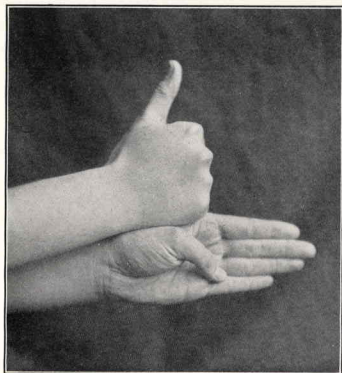
(Other thumb falls, too.)

(Wiggle thumb through the air.)

(Thumb rocked back and forth in palm of hand.)

(Other thumb wiggled in to side of Jack.)

(Hand that holds Jack slaps thumb of other hand, which is Jill.)



HUMPTY DUMPTY SAT ON A WALL

HUMPTY DUMPTY sat on a wall;
 Humpty Dumpty got a great fall.
 All the king's horses and all the
 king's men
 Couldn't put Humpty back again.

(First line. Thumb sticking up from closed fist sits upon other hand—wall.)

(Second line. Falls down, palm downward—all spread out—as broken egg.)

(Third line. Held in spread-out position 'until end of jingle.)

HICKORY, Dickory, dock!
 The mouse ran up the clock!
 The clock struck one!
 Down the mouse ran!
 Dickory, dickory, dock!

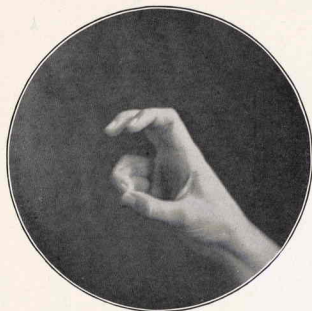
(Two fingers of one hand start at elbow of other arm and "run" up to hand.)

(Clap hands.)

(Fingers run down arm to elbow.)

JACK be nimble,
 Jack be quick,
 Jack jump over
 The candlestick.

(Thumb of one hand extending perpendicularly from closed fist represents candle. Two first fingers of other hand represent Jack walking along. When he comes to candlestick, he jumps quickly over.)

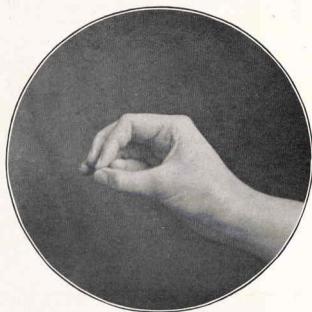


THE LITTLE DOG LAUGHED

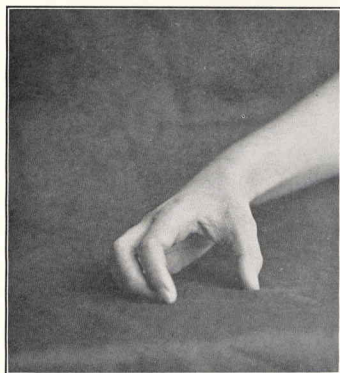
HEY, diddle, diddle,
The cat and the fiddle.

The cow jumped over the moon.
The little dog laughed
To see such sport,
And the dish ran away with the spoon.

(First line. Movements as playing a fiddle.)
(Third line. One hand "jumps" over other arm.)
(Fourth line. See illustration.)
(Sixth line. See illustration. Hand quickly "runs" away.)



THE DISH RAN AWAY WITH THE SPOON



THE PUDDING PAN

LADY BIRD, lady bird, fly away home;
Your house is on fire, and your children
all gone;
All but one, and her name was Ann;
And she crept under the pudding pan.

(First three lines, move in imitation of Lady Bird.
Last line, two first fingers of one hand walk under roofed
palm of other.)

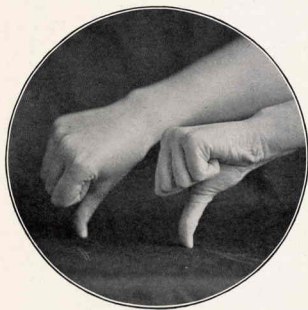
THESE are Mother's knives and forks,
This is Mother's table.
This is Mother's looking-glass,
And this is Baby's cradle.

1. (Fingers interlocked, backs of hands inward.)
2. (Hands turned with palms inward, fingers still interlocked.)
3. (Pointer fingers, tip to tip, above knuckles.)
4. (Little fingers, tip to tip, above knuckles.)

(N. B.—Cradle may be rocked to and fro, using wrist movement. The child
may hum or sing a little lullaby.)

DICKORY, DICKORY, DARE

DICKORY, dickory, dare,
The pig flew up in the air.
The man in brown soon brought him down,
Dickory, dickory, dare.



(First line. Thumb "walking" along represents pig.)

(Second line. Hand lifted quickly in air.)

(Third line. Four fingers close around thumb and hand is brought down.)

(Fourth line. Thumb "walking" along again, peaceful after its little prank.)

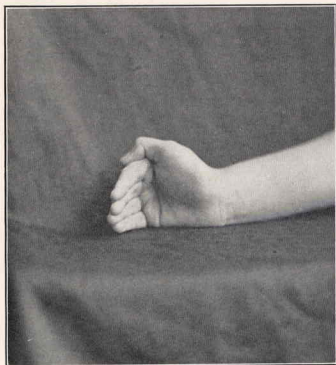


SEE SAW, MARJORY DAW

SEE saw, Marjory Daw,
 Jack shall have a new master.
 He shall have but a penny a day,
 Because he can't work any faster.

(One child may play this alone with arms extended horizontally at sides; body above waist bends right and left alternately, and arms thereby going up and down as a seesaw. Body below waist must not bend. See illustration.)

(Two children stand facing. One bends knees—stooping—while other stands. One rises as other stoops—bending knees.)



THE GROCERY SHOP

HANDY, Spandy, Jack a dandy,
Loves plum cake and sugar candy.
He bought some at the grocery shop
And out he came, hop, hop, hop.

(Grocery shop is formed of other hand—bent at knuckles, fingers straight and at right angles with palm of hand.)

(First line. Two forefingers "walking" along represent Jack.)

(Third line. Stops in "grocery shop.")

(Fourth line. Comes out in quick and big jumps.)

ONCE I saw a little birdie go hop, hop, hop;
So I cried, "Little bird, won't you stop, stop, stop?"
And was going to the window to say, "How d' you do?"
But he shook his little tail and far away he flew.

(One hand comes hopping along for little birdie—first two lines. Two fingers of other hand walk along to meet bird—third line. Shake little finger and move hand away in flying motion—last line.)

DANCE, THUMBKIN, DANCE!

DANCE, Thumbkin, dance!

(Keep thumb in motion.)

Dance, ye merry men, every one!

(All the fingers in motion.)

For Thumbkin, he can dance alone.

(The thumb only moving.)

Thumbkin, he can dance alone.

(Thumb only moving.)

Dance, Pointer, dance!

(First finger moving.)

Dance, ye merry men, every one!

(All fingers moving.)

For Pointer, he can dance alone,

Pointer, he can dance alone.

(First finger moving alone.)

(And so on, naming the second finger, tall-man; third finger, ring-man, and fourth finger, little-man. Little-man cannot dance alone.)

RUB-A-DUB, DUB

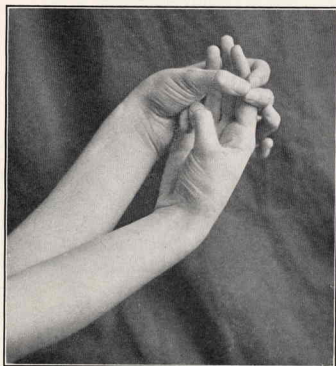
RUB-A-DUB, dub,
Three men in a tub.
And who do you think they be?
The butcher, the baker,
The candlestick-maker—
Turn them out, knaves all three!

(Movement as washing clothes.)

(Three fingers of one hand held in rounded palm
of other hand.)

(Raising a finger for each man.)

(Quickly turn fingers out at palm of hand.)



RUB-A-DUB, DUB

RUB-A-DUB, dub,
Three men in a tub.
The butcher, the baker,
The candlestick-maker,
And they all came out of a rotten potato.

(Played as above, excepting on last line the three
fingers "jump" out of palm of hand.)

1, 2, 3, 4, 5,
I caught a hare alive;
6, 7, 8, 9, 10,
I let him go again.

1. (Close little finger.)
2. (Close ring finger.)
3. (Close middle finger.)
4. (Close pointer finger.)
5. (Thumb is "caught"—closed under other four fingers.)
(Second line said quickly.)
(Third line.)
6. (Open little finger.)
7. (Open ring finger.)
8. (Open middle finger.)
9. (Open pointer finger.)
10. (Thumb "jumps" out.)
(Fourth line. Finger "scampers" away quickly.)

¹ ² ³
PEAS, porridge, hot,
⁴ ⁵ ⁶
Peas, porridge, cold;
⁷ ⁸ ⁹ ¹⁰
Peas, porridge in the pot,
¹¹ ¹² ¹³
Nine days old.

¹ ² ³
Some like it hot,
⁴ ⁵ ⁶
Some like it cold,
⁷ ⁸ ⁹ ¹⁰
Some like it in the pot,
¹¹ ¹² ¹³
Nine days old.

Two people play this game—partners.)

1. (Clap hands on knees.)
2. (Clap own hands together.)
3. (Clap hands with partner.)
4. (Same as 1.)
5. (Same as 2.)
6. (Same as 3.)
7. (Clap own hands together.)
8. (Clap right hand with partner's right.)
9. (Clap own hands together.)
10. (Clap left hand with partner's left.)
11. (Same as 1.)
12. (Same as 2.)
13. (Same as 3.)

FOR THE LITTLE BABY

HUSH-A-BYE, Baby,
On the tree top,
When the wind blows
The cradle will rock.
When the bough breaks
The cradle will fall,
Down will come rock-a-bye,
Baby and all.

(Thumb rocked in palm of hand.)

ROCK-A-BYE, baby, thy cradle is green,
Father's a nobleman, mother's a queen;
Sister's a lady, and wears a gold ring,
Brother's a drummer and drums for the king.

(Thumb rocked in palm of hand.)

BYE, Baby Bunting,
Daddy's gone a-hunting,
To get a little rabbit's skin
To wrap the Baby Bunting in.

(This can be used for trotting the baby on the foot, or for finger play as above, or as a slumber song.)

PAT-A-CAKE, pat-a-cake, baker's man,
So I will, master, as fast as I can.
Pat it and pick it and mark it with "T,"
Put it in the oven for Baby and me.

Eye winker,
Tom Tinker,
Nose dropper,
Mouth eater;
Chin-chopper, chin-chopper,
Chin-chopper chin.

(Point to eye.)
(Point to other eye.)
(Point to nose.)
(Stick finger in mouth.)
(Chuckle chin.)

Here sits the lord mayor,
Here sit his two men;
Here sits the cock,
Here sits the hen;
Here sit the little chickens,
Here they run in.
Chin-chopper, chin-chopper,
Chin-chopper chin.

(Forehead.)
(Eyes.)
(Right cheek.)
(Left cheek.)
(Tip of Nose.)
(Mouth.)
(Chuck the chin.)

RING the bell;
Knock at the door;
Draw the latch,
And walk in.

(Pull lock of hair.)
(Tapping the forehead.)
(Pulling up the nose.)
(Opening mouth and putting in finger.)

"LET us go into the woods," says this little pig;
"What to do there?" says this little pig;
"To look for my mother," says this little pig;
"What to do with her?" says this little pig;
"To kiss her to death," says this little pig.

(Pointing to each toe in succession on last line, kissing all the little toes.)

THIS little pig says, "I want corn";
This little pig says, "Where you going to get it?"
This little pig says, "In master's barn";
This little pig says, "I'll go tell"
This little pig says, "Wee, wee, wee,
"I can't get over the barn-door sill."

(Point to each toe in succession, on last two lines wiggling little toe.)

THIS little pig stubbed his toe,
This little pig said, "Oh!"
This little pig laughed and was glad;
This little pig cried and was sad;
This little pig ran and picked him up
As fast as he could go.

(Played same as above.)

SHOE the colt,
Shoe the colt;
And shoe the wild mare;
Here a nail,
There a nail,
Yet she goes bare.

SHOE the old horse and
Shoe the old mare;
Let the little coltie's
Footy go bare.

(These are played by pretending to drive the nails into the sole of the foot. One foot may be called "Tamey," and must be held still during process. The other "Wildy," which may kick during process. "Tamey" teaches the one being shod control. "Wildy" teaches the shoer control.)

THIRTY white horses upon a red hill;
Now they tramp,
Now they champ,
Now they stand still.

(This is a game to be played by having the teeth represent the horses.)

FATHER AND BABY PLAYS

DANCE to your daddy,
My little baby;
Dance to your daddy,
My little lamb.

You shall have a fishy,
In a little dishy;
You shall have a fishy,
When the boat comes in.

(Father dances baby up and down on knee.)

RIDE a cock horse to Banbury cross,
To see an old lady upon a white horse;
Rings on her fingers, bells on her toes,
And so she makes music wherever she goes.

(Father trots baby on his foot.)

HERE goes my lord, a-trot, a-trot, a-trot, a-trot;
Here goes my lady, a-canter, a-canter, a-canter, a-canter;
Here goes my young master, Jockey-hitch, Jockey-hitch, Jockey-hitch, Jockey-hitch;
Here does my young miss, an-amble, an-amble, an-amble, an-amble.
The footman lags behind, to drink ale and wine,
And goes gallop, a-gallop, a-gallop, to make up his time.

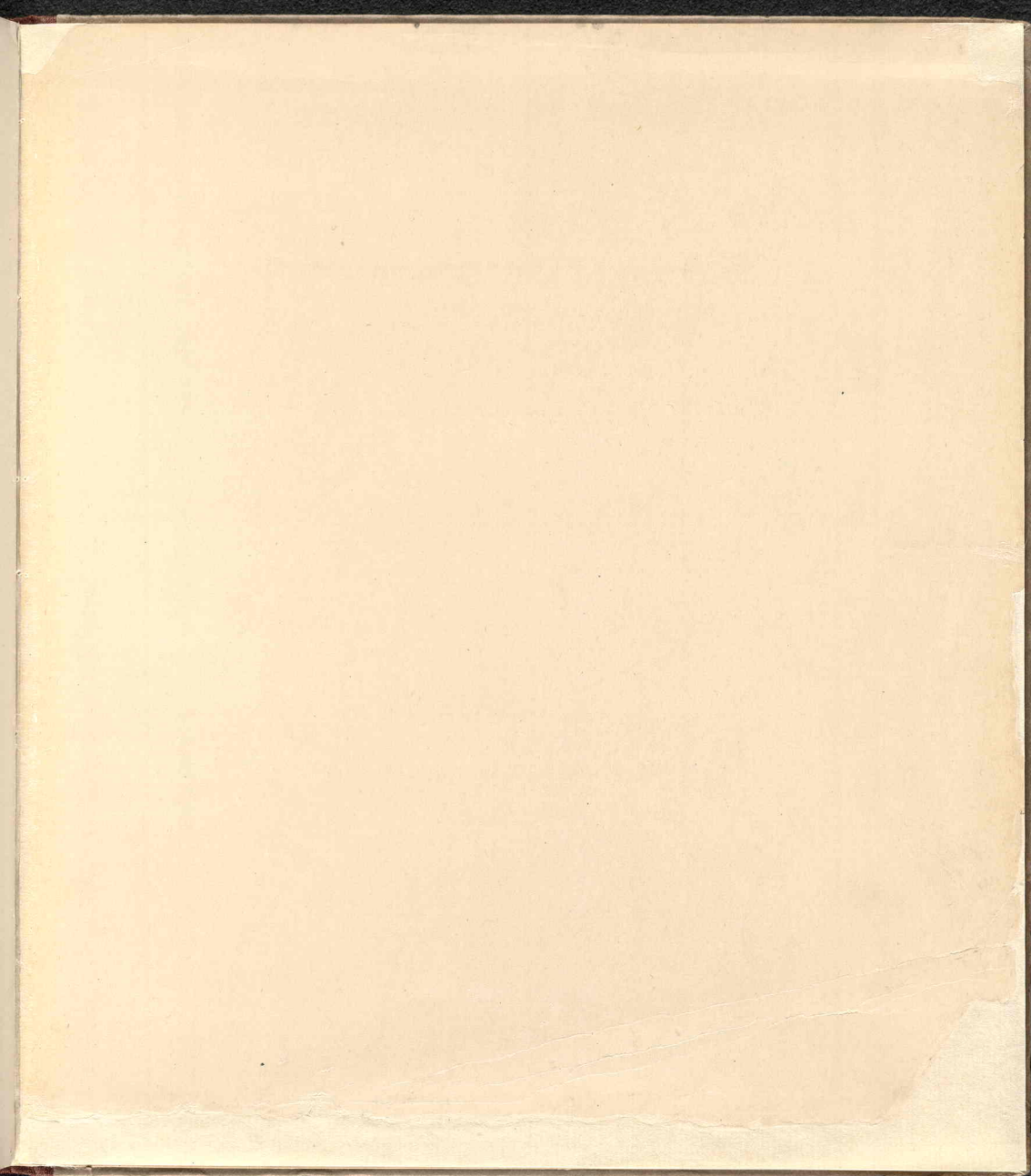
(Baby on father's back; father imitates the different gaits.)

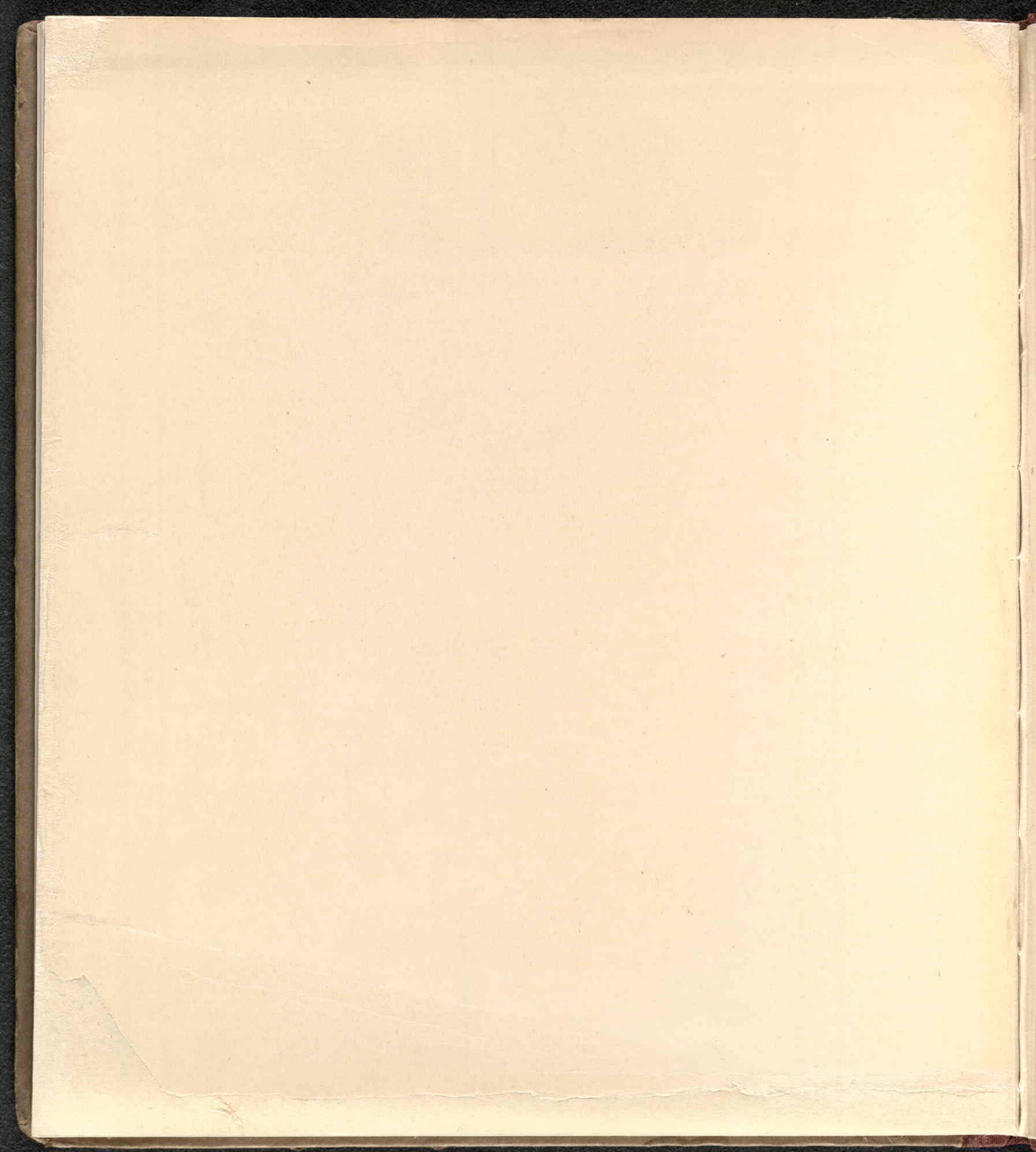
DANCE, little baby, dance up high;
Never mind, baby, mother is nigh.
Crow and caper, caper and crow,
There, little baby, there you go.
Up to the ceiling, down to the ground,
Backward and forward, round and round.
Dance, little baby, and mother will sing
With a merry carol, ding, ding, ding.

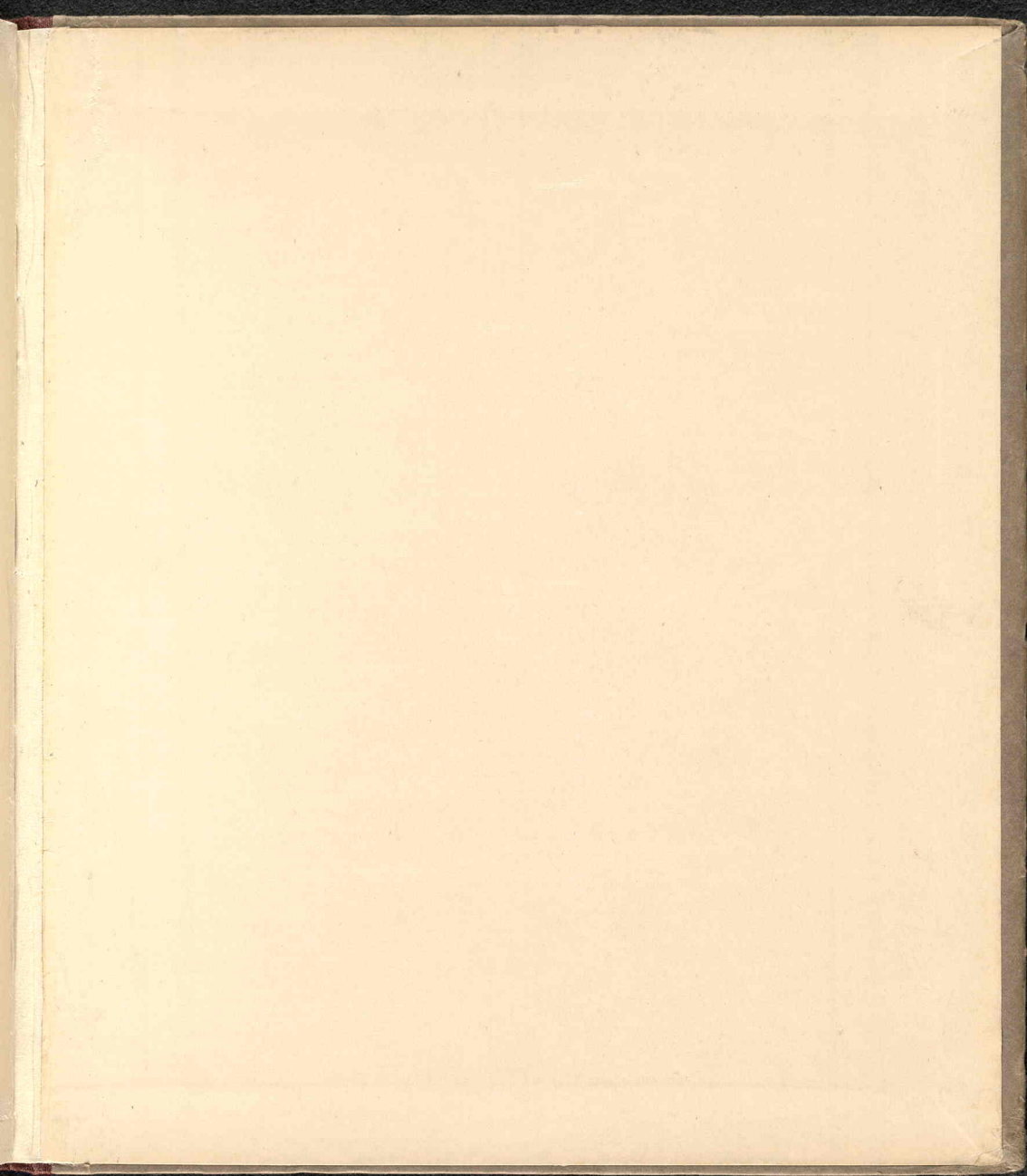
(This is a mother and baby play, mother holding baby and suiting actions to the words. This develops the sense of rhythm, at the same time associating the word with the idea, thus aiding in teaching the child to talk.)

HERE we go, up, up, up;
And here we go down, down, downy.
And here we go backwards and forwards,
And here we go round, round, roundy.

(Played suiting action to word, as above.)







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