

USAGE OF COUNTING RHYMES IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

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Abstract: *New research has discovered fresh insights into how preschool children learn to count by using counting rhymes in nursery and elementary schools leading to innovative teaching strategies that encourage problem-solving and reasoning. These approaches focus on understanding quantities and the mechanics of counting, rather than simply practicing counting procedures. This investigative approach has been proven beneficial for elementary school students with special needs, and it is believed that the same principles apply to pre-schoolers. This article outlines a new developmental framework for counting and includes activities based on recent research and established best practices. It also discusses how counting difficulties may or may not indicate not only in a math disability, but also language development of children, as well as their memory development.*

Key words: *elementary schools, catchy tunes, traditional counting rhymes, education programs, worldwide, math skills, memory retention*
Introduction.

Counting rhymes have been a popular tool for teaching children basic counting skills for centuries. These rhymes, often set to catchy tunes, can help young learners memorize numbers and develop an understanding of basic math concepts. In recent years, educators have begun to recognize the value of counting rhymes in the classroom, particularly in elementary schools. Research has shown that counting rhymes can be a powerful tool for teaching math skills to young children. A study published in the *Journal of Research in Childhood Education* found that pre-schoolers who were taught counting rhymes showed significant improvement in their ability to count and recognize numbers compared to a control group who did not receive this instruction. The researchers concluded that counting rhymes are an effective way to promote early math skills in young children.

Advantages of using counting rhymes in elementary schools.

One of the benefits of using counting rhymes in the classroom is that they are fun and engaging for children. Many children enjoy singing and

dancing along with these rhymes, which can make learning more enjoyable and help them stay focused on the task at hand. This can be particularly important for young children who may struggle with attention span or have difficulty sitting still for long periods of time.

Another advantage of using counting rhymes in elementary schools is that they are accessible to all students, regardless of their language or cultural background. Many counting rhymes have been passed down through generations and are widely known across different cultures and languages. This means that teachers can use these rhymes to teach math skills to students from diverse backgrounds, helping to create a more inclusive and equitable learning environment. One of the famous English counting rhymes can be given as an example:

Five little monkeys jumping on the bed
Five little monkeys jumping on the bed
One fell off and bumped his head
Mama called the doctor and the doctor said
"No more monkeys jumping on the bed!"
Four little monkeys jumping on the bed
One fell off and bumped his head
Mama called the doctor and the doctor said
"No more monkeys jumping on the bed!"
Three little monkeys jumping on the bed
One fell off and bumped his head
Mama called the doctor and the doctor said
"No more monkeys jumping on the bed!"
Two little monkeys jumping on the bed
One fell off and bumped his head
Mama called the doctor and the doctor said
"No more monkeys jumping on the bed!"
One little monkey jumping on the bed
He fell off and bumped his head
Mama called the doctor and the doctor said
"Put those monkeys right to bed"

Usage of country rhymes is worldwide. Counting rhymes are a popular teaching method used in nursery schools and early childhood education programs worldwide. Many countries have their own traditional counting rhymes, such as "One, Two, Three, Four, Five" in the United States, "Een, Twee, Drie, Vier, Hoedje van Papier" in the Netherlands, and "Yi, Er, San, Si, Wu" in China. These rhymes are often accompanied by hand gestures or actions to

make learning more interactive and engaging for young children. The repetition and rhythm of the rhymes also help children to memorize numbers and counting sequences. In addition to counting rhymes, there are also many other types of educational rhymes and songs used in early childhood education, such as alphabet songs, color songs, and shape songs. These educational tools are an important part of early childhood development and help lay the foundation for future learning.

Moreover, English counting rhymes can also help children develop their listening and comprehension skills. When children listen to and sing along with counting rhymes, they are exposed to natural English speech patterns and rhythms. This exposure can help them develop their ability to understand spoken English, which is a crucial skill for communication and learning. In addition to language development, English counting rhymes can also be used to teach math skills to young learners. As mentioned earlier, research has shown that counting rhymes are an effective way to promote early math skills in young children. By using English counting rhymes, teachers can teach both math and language skills simultaneously, making learning more efficient and effective.

As an example we can give also German counting rhymes are a fun and effective way to teach children how to count and improve their language skills. By incorporating these rhymes into their teaching, teachers can help their students develop a love for learning that will last a lifetime. teachers can use these rhymes in a variety of ways to engage their students. For example, they can use them as a warm-up activity at the beginning of class or as a break activity to help students refocus. They can also integrate them into their lesson plans by using rhymes related to specific themes or vocabulary. Counting rhymes are an essential part of early childhood education in Germany. They are used to teach children how to count, develop their language skills, and improve their memory and coordination. German counting rhymes are usually short and catchy, making them easy for children to remember.

Some popular German counting rhymes include "Eins, zwei, Polizei" (One, two, police), "Zehn kleine Zappelmänner" (Ten little wrigglers), and "Fünf Freunde sind wir" (We are five friends). Each rhyme has its own unique actions and movements that accompany the counting.

Zehn kleine Zappelmänner
Zehn kleine Zappelmänner
Zappeln hin und her
Zehn kleinen Zappelmännern

Fällt das gar nicht schwer
Zehn kleine Zappel­männer
Zappeln auf und nieder
Zehn kleine Zappel­männer
Tun das immer wieder
Zehn kleine Zappel­männer
Zappeln rundherum
Zehn kleine Zappel­männer
Die sind gar nicht stumm
Zehn kleine Zappel­männer
Spielen mal Versteck
Zehn kleine Zappel­männer
Sind auf einmal weg
Zehn kleine Zappel­männer
Rufen laut: "Hurra!"
Zehn kleine Zappel­männer
Die sind wieder da

Conclusion. In conclusion, counting rhymes are a valuable tool for teaching math skills to young children in elementary schools. Research has shown that these rhymes can be effective in promoting early math skills and can also be used to teach other foundational concepts. Additionally, counting rhymes are fun and engaging for children and are accessible to students from diverse backgrounds. As such, educators should consider incorporating counting rhymes into their classroom instruction to help support the learning and development of their students.

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