

Cumbria County Council  
**Chat Play Share**  
Rhymes and songs

<https://wordsforlife.org.uk/activities/sing-three-blind-mice-your-child/>

### Three Blind Mice

Three blind mice, three blind mice,

See how they run, see how they run,

They all ran after the farmer's wife,

Who cut off their tails with a carving knife,

Did you ever see such a thing in your life,

As three blind mice?

#### Birth – 2 years



Sit opposite your baby and sing the song with them. Hold hands and help them clap the rhythm as you sing the rhyme.

Tap the rhythm on your body and use facial expressions as the song gets higher and faster. Watch to see if your baby makes eye contact, copies you or reacts to your smiles and laughter.

#### 2-3 years



Sing 'Three Blind Mice' while marching on the spot. Try singing it and moving at different speeds.

Sit opposite your child and call out a body part as you point to yourself. See if they can copy by saying "eyes" and pointing to their own eyes.

#### 3-4 years



Make some sealed maracas by using empty yoghurt pots filled with rice. Shake your musical instrument to the rhythm of the song. Talk about 'fast' and 'slow'. Introduce vocabulary such as 'scoot', 'rush', 'whiz', 'scamper', 'bolt', 'dart', 'scurry', 'creeping' and 'dawdle'. Make a blindfold and give instructions on how to move around the room.

## Chat Play Share...Other ideas you could try....

Share a book together about this rhyme or a story with a mouse in it. Chat about the pictures and story. Examples of mouse stories:

- Harry The Happy Mouse: Teaching Children About Kindness
- The Very Noisy Night by Diana Hendry
- Two Little Mice and the Moon Adventure - The 'Pictures by You' edition: A story for YOU to illustrate by Stuart James
- The Wonky House Mouse Tales by Lyn Halvorsen
- Mouse's First Spring: A Book about Seasons by Lauren Thompson
- The Cockerel, the Mouse and the Little Red Hen by Jess Stockham
- The Great Pet Sale by Mick Inkpen

Sing the song 'Windmill in old Amsterdam' lyrics online.

Find out about different types of mice and where they live. What do different mice like to eat?

Draw or paint a picture of a mouse and introduce vocabulary associated with them, for example: scamper, whiskers, rodent.



Can you run like a mouse? Be as quiet as a mouse? Twitch your nose like a mouse?

Mouse and house both have one syllable. Clap your hands once as you say the word. Find other words with one syllable e.g. cat, dog, run. Either clap your hands, jump once or tap a pan with a spoon to be your drum. Then think of some two syllable words like farm er, tract or, don key. Clap, jump or tap twice as you say the syllable's out loud.

Talk to family members about their experiences with mice who might have come into the house to get warm. How did they feel when they saw the mouse? How did they react? What made them react that way? Make up a story about a cat who found a mouse in the house. Did the cat chase the mouse or did they become friends?

Go to <https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/radio/three-blind-mice> to listen to nursery rhymes with a modern twist. Talk about the speed of the rhyme compared to the music of the song. Run around pretending to be a mouse and change your speed from fast to slow when you heard a clap or when given a verbal command. Talk about fast and slow animals and perhaps the story of 'The Tortoise and the Hare'.