

## Finger Plays for Fun and Learning

Finger Plays are fun for you and your preschooler. Because you don't need any equipment, you can do them anytime and anywhere—even while you wait in line at the supermarket.

Finger plays help your child learn many things:

- ☞ Language skills
- ☞ Listening skills
- ☞ Motor skills
- ☞ Memory and thinking skills
- ☞ How to follow directions

Try them out to see which ones you want to commit to memory. Then, whenever you want something fun to do, it will be there for you.

### Wiggle

Wiggle, wiggle, fingers (Wiggle fingers)  
Right up to the sky. (Reach arms and wiggling fingers up)  
Wiggle, wiggle fingers (Wiggle fingers)  
Wave them all goodbye. (Wave hand)  
Wiggle, wiggle fingers (Wiggle fingers)  
Right into a ball. (Fold hands into a ball)  
Now throw it in your lap (Fold hands into a ball)  
And do not let it fall.

### Trees

Elm trees stretch and stretch so wide,  
(Extend arms outward at side)  
Their limbs reach out on every side.(Stretch)  
Pine trees stretch and stretch so high,  
(Extend arms upward)  
They nearly reach up to the sky.  
(Stretch)  
Willows droop and droop so low,  
(Let arms hang loosely)  
Their branches sweep the ground so low.  
(Fingers sweep ground)

### The Squirrel

These are the brown leaves  
fluttering down, (Flutter  
hands to ground)  
And this is the tall tree bare and  
brown.(Hold up right arm)  
This is the squirrel with eyes so bright;(Form  
fist with left hand, thumb up)  
Hunting for nuts with all his might..(Form two  
circles)  
This is the hole where day by day,(Form  
hole with fingers)  
Nut after nut he stores away. (Pretend to  
place nuts in hole)  
When winter comes with its cold and storm,  
(Circle right hand around left fist)  
He'll sleep curled up all snug and warm.



## Fuzzy Wuzzy Caterpillar

Fuzzy, wuzzy caterpillar  
Into a corner will creep. (Make fingers  
creep)  
He'll spin himself a blanket,  
And then go fast asleep. (Rest head on  
hands and close eyes)  
Fuzzy, wuzzy caterpillar  
Wakes up by and by  
(Children wake up)  
Look! He has beautiful  
wings.  
He's now a butterfly.  
(Make flying  
motions with arms)



## Hop or Clop

(Suit actions to words)  
Rabbits hop. Horses clop.  
Worms wiggle. Bugs jiggle.  
Snakes slide. Sea gulls glide.  
Mice creep. Deer leap.  
Puppies bounce. Kittens pounce.  
Lions stalk — but I walk!

## Wind Tricks

The wind is full of tricks today. (Make  
sweeping motion with hand for wind)  
It tried to blow my hat away. (Pretend to  
sweep hat off head)  
It chased our paper down the street. (One  
hand chases other around)  
It almost blew us off our feet. (Pretend to  
fall down)  
Wind makes the trees and bushes dance.  
(Make dancing motions with arms)  
Just listen to it howl and prance. (Cup  
hand to ear)

## Planting Fun

I dig, dig, dig (Pretend to dig)  
And I plant some seeds. (Stoop down and  
plant seeds)  
I rake, rake, rake (Pretend to rake)  
And I pull some weeds. (Pull out weeds)  
I wait and watch (Bend over and look at  
ground)  
And soon I know. (Nod head)  
My garden sprouts (Raise hands from  
ground as if sprouting)  
And starts to grow.

## Falling Raindrops

Raindrops, raindrops (Move finger to  
imitate falling rain)  
Falling all around.  
Pitter-patter on the rooftops, (Tap fingers  
softly on the floor)  
Pitter-patter on the ground. (Repeat)  
Here is my umbrella (Pretend to open  
umbrella)  
It will keep me dry. (Place over head)  
When I go walking in the rain (Hold high in  
air)  
I hold it up so high.



### Source:

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