

Skipping Games and Rhymes

The material in this document derives from two sources. Some of it is cited directly from the material supplied by school students in response to Section 7 of the original questionnaire. Some of it is material provided by students during school visits. This material varies considerably in the degree to which it is a direct citation of what was said, or a digest of the information provided.

General comments

T5 – WR2

Single skipping is a skipping activity where you just hop in the rope and do actions to the rhythm as you jump. [Picture of long rope held at each end by a turner, and one skipper in the middle]

X10

Rules: Don't miss the loop. No jumping in with others on a one-only game. Listen to the pros. Don't argue with others. Always play fair.

c12

1 jump in, 1 jump out

P28 – CH16

You have a long skipping rope. 2 people hold it one each end. You have people lining up ready. They jump in and jump out. Then they go to the back of the line until their go comes.

Double Dutch

S4 – visit material

Double Dutch

V8-AK1 – visit material

Double Dutch

jump 1 and out, jump 2 and out

W8 – AK43

Double Dutch: Use two skipping ropes and make both go to the middle.

V8-AK27 – visit material

Double Dutch

c12

Double Dutch: two ropes going, you jump in then see how long you can stay in for. Every skip is worth 10 points.

e15

Double Dutch

H33 – visit material

Double Dutch: two ropes, two people.

Down Mississippi

Q3 – visit material

Hey Mississippi if you miss a loop you're out

R4

Down Mississippi: If you miss a loop, you're out. You have lots of people and a long rope. 2 people stand on both ends and swing the rope round and round. One person jumps in and everyone sings the rhyme. When it is finished, you jump out and another person jumps in without missing [sic] a loop.

S4 – visit material

Jump the Mississippi if you miss the loop you're out

V8-AK1 – visit material

Hey Mississippi if you miss a loop you're out

V8-AK27 – visit material

Mississippi, Mississippi (have to get out before they say 'out')

X9 – visit material

Down the Mississippi if you miss the beat you're out.

W12 –

Down Mississippi, if you miss a loop, you're out.

W12 – visit material

Round the Mississippi one slip and you're out, get out.

e15 – visit material

Miss a loop

Hey Mississippi if you miss a loop you're out.

Egg Beater

H33 – visit material

Two ropes in +

Helicopter, Helicopter

S4 – visit material

Helicopter helicopter

T5 – WR2

Helicopter, helicopter: is an activity where one person just holds the rope above his or her head and slowly lowers it to the ground while others are jumping over

it. [Picture of one turner swinging rope in circles above head, then at neck level, then at thigh level with others jumping.]

Helicopter, helicopter, please come down.
If you don't, I'll shoot you down...

a15

Helicopter, Helicopter please come down
If you don't, we'll shoot you down
Bang bang.

S16

Helicopter (Use one medium skipping rope, 2 or more players)
You swing the rope around in circles in the air then when it gets shot down it swings on the ground. You sing this:
Helicopter, helicopter please come down
If you don't I'll shoot you down
To the witches town
Bang, bang bang.
Then other people playing start jumping the rope swinging on the ground.

Keep the Kettle Boiling

Z12-RT3 – visit material

Keep the kettle boiling, never miss the loop you're out

c12

Keep the kettle boiling, Miss a loop You're out, you're out.

Pepper Games

W12

Salt, vinegar, mustard, pepper.

e15

High low jolly pepper

V21-WN4 – visit material

Salt = go faster, pepper = go slower

V21 – WN23

High, low, jolly, pepper, swing
"Repeat till person mucks up"

Trick

V8 – AK18

Trick is a criss-cross where you cross your rope over each other and jump.

e15

Criss cross

e15

Tricks

Wedding Game

S4 – visit material

ABC.

T15-NP1 – visit material

Alphabet. Name of 'boyfriend' but no more.

b16-HS4

Who will you marry? A, B, C, ... What will you get married in? Where will you get married? How many children will you have? Where are you going to live? (pigsty, farmyard...)

V21-WN4 – visit material

A, B, C.. as usual, but few details given.

L23 – visit material

You choose 3 things to wear, 3 places to get married, and 3 people to marry. You say each clothing item in turn till you trip, and that's the one you'll wear. Similarly with the others.

Q26 – visit material

ABC... choose place to get married (toilet, chapel), what to wear (hose...) yes, no, skip counting up to number of babies (offered by someone from Westland)

H33 – visit material

ABC... Will you get married? What will you wear? Where will you get married? Where will you live? Set choices in each case.

D36 – visit material

What will you wear to your wedding? – bra, knickers, wedding dress, nude.

Whisk

H33 – visit material

3 ropes in

Over the Moon

T5 – visit material

Over the moon (all do 1 jump, then all do 2 jumps ...)

V8-AK27 – visit material

Over the moon — 1st person does one jump, 2nd does 2 jumps &c.

Z18 – visit material

Under the moon (skip x1, then x 2 then x 3)

H-E-L-P

T15-NP1 – visit material

H, E, L and P spells H, E, L and P ...

If trip on H = highwaters (rope high), E = eyes closed; L = lollipop (turn round as jump), P = pepper (very fast).

Z18 – visit material

H E L and P Help!

Rhymes

N is the one that's having all the fun

W12

Fi, fi, fi said the tiger
 Calling someone at the do-o-or
 [Name] is the one that's having all the fun
 So we don't need [Name] any more
 Shut the door

W12 – visit material

Fie, fie, fie said the tiger, calling someone at the door-or-or (call name) X is the one who's having any [sic] fun so we don't need her any more, shut the door. (X jumps out)

e15

Vote, vote vote for Oralee
 In came someone at the door, Ngareta
 Nga the one that having all the fun
 So we don't need Oralee any more
 Shut the door.

e15

Fight, fight, fight for [Name],
 In comes [Name] at the door
 [Name] is the one who's having all the fun
 So we don't need [Name] any more
 Shut the door.

Jelly Beans

V8 – AK18

Jelly beans, jelly beans in a jar
How many do you think there are?
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6...

Sweetheart/sweetiepie rhymes

Q3 – visit material

Jam jam apple tart OR peanut butter marmite jam tell me the name of your sweet man ABCD...

T7 – visit material

Jam, jam apple tart, tell me the name of your sweetheart ABC... when married, where married, where going to have sex ... (in 1 version go through the alphabet for each of these and then make up suitable locations)

V8-AK27 – visit material

Jam jam apple tart, tell me the name of your sweetheart ABC... (if T) Tom, Tom wanna marry me? Tom, Tom wanna cup o' tea? Y/N, Y/N ...

W12

Strawberry, banana, apple pie
Tell me the name of your sweetie-pie
A-B-C etc. (Think of a name that begins with the letter you trip on.)

W12

Jam, jam, apple tart
Tell me the name of your sweetheart
A-B-C etc. (Think of a name that begins with the letter you trip on.)

d13 – visit material

Jam jam apple tart tell me the name of your sweet heart ABCD... Where will you get married (church, hospital, toilet, dump), Where will you have your children? How many children will you have?

b16 – HS4

We have one person on each end who turn the rope and the rest of us wait in line for our turns. We have many verses, some we make up, some we get out of a book. The one we remember is
Ice-cream soda,
Caramel crunch
Tell me the name of your honey-bunch
A-B-C...
So on till they stop on a letter and then you choose a name beginning with that letter. If Brackie lands on T, Trindy could be his honeybunch.

Z18 – visit material

Jam, jam apple tart tell me the name of your sweetheart ABCD ...

W18

Jam, jam, apple tart
Tell me the name of your sweetheart
A-Z.

W18 – visit material

Jam, jam, apple tart ... letter; where going to live? where going to get married?
how many babies will you have? what sort of car will you have?

V21-WN15 – visit material

Jam, jelly, apple tart, tell me the name of my sweetheart, A, B, C ... will you
marry me? y/n/maybe so; what you wear, how many children?

V21 – WN23

Jam, jelly, apple tart
Tell me the name of your sweetheart.
A, B, C...

O28 – CH6 – visit material

Jam, jam, apple tart
Tell me the name of your sweetheart
ABC... until trip, then say a boy's name with that letter.
(NB: can do the same with twisting stalk off an apple)

G36

Jam, jam, apple tart
Tell me the name of your sweetheart
A-B-C-...Z-A-B-C...

Jam, Jam, Apple Tart is a very common game to play when you are skipping. The rules for this skipping game are: when you stop skipping or you muck up you will land on a letter and the other people that play have to pick a name of a boy or a girl (depending if you are a boy or a girl) that you like or perhaps they think you like. If you muck up while they are chanting the rhyme you get another chance.

“The rules for it are that for changing round people just really volunteer and when you land on a certain letter that's who you like, for example, if you land on S it may mean you like Stephen. Another rule is when you stop you go out and the next one comes in.”

Other ABC games**T5-WR2 – visit material**

ABCD... X, X will you come to tea, X, X, will you marry me? Y/N...

T5 – visit material

ABCD...

V8-AK1 – visit material

ABCD...

T5 – visit material

Do you like coffee do you like tea, do you like sitting on X's knee? Yes, No ...

Z14

“You go through the ABC, and on each letter you say

Hi, my name is ...

My husband's name is...

We come from ...

We sell...

On each letter you begin each name with that letter. E.g. Hi, my name is Ainslie, my husband's name is Adam, etc.”

S16

ABCD: Use one long skipping rope; 3 or more players

A-B-C-D... whatever they land on, you name a boy who starts with that letter then you sing this:

The girl's name likes coffee

The girl's name likes tea

The girl's name likes sitting on *the boy's name* [it doesn't say 's knee!]

Then you go: Yes, No, Yes, No... and if they land on No then they don't like that person.

V21 – WN23

ABC...

“Chant to see who you will marry”.

P27

A-B-C, skipping is easy as 1-2-3, come and play with me.

P27

A-B-C etc. and what letter you land on you say an animal that starts with that letter like C a cat.

O28 – CH8

Name Surname (e.g. Doug Smith) who will he/she marry?

A-B-C-D

What will he wear?

A-B-C-D... - until stops

P28 – CH16

ABC– you see how far you can get through the alphabet by skipping.

I35 – DN3 – visit material

Who will you marry? ABC – when you trip, think of boy's name with letter, then:

Do you like coffee?

Do you like tea?

Do you like sitting on N's knee?
 True/False until you trip
 How many children will you have 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and repeat until trip.
 (alternatively you ask questions and go yes/no till they trip).

C36

You like coffee,
 You like tea,
 You like sitting on your boyfriend's knee.
 A-B-C etc.

Once you've said the sentence the person who's skipping starts jumping the rope. If they stop on an alphabet letter, e.g. D, the rope-turners have to think of a boy's name starting with D, e.g. Daniel, David or Damien, then you say to the skipper your boyfriend is going to be Daniel.

D36 – visit material

Recite alphabet, if you trip think of a boy's name starting with the letter and say he sat on girl's knee.

C37 – IV1

Do you like coffee?
 Do you like sitting on Kimberly's knee? [NB no line about tea!]
 True – False...
 OR
 Begin with A-B-C-D...
 When you trip you think of someone's name beginning with that letter.
 Then you say Do you like coffee etc and put the name in.

Birthday Rhymes

T7 – visit material

All in together girls, just like the weather-girls, when it is your birthday please jump in. J, F, M, A, M, J, J, A, S, O, N D. All out together girls, just like the weather-girls, when it is your birthday please jump out. J, F, M, A, M, J, J, A, S, O, N D.

W12

When is your birthday? Please jump in
 January etc
 When is your birthday? Please jump out
 January etc

W12 – visit material

When it is your birthday please jump in. January ...; When it is your birthday, please jump out, January...

Z12-RT3 – visit material

All together girls ?? weather, when it's your birthday please jump out; months but also days and numbers

d13 – visit material

When it is your birthday please jump in/out JFMA...

Z14

“The rope gets turned at a medium pace and the people turning it call out the months of the year. When your month gets called you have to jump in. It’s especially fun when you have lots of people jumping in.”

T15-NP1

Months: jump in on birthday, but stay in as long as can.

e15 – visit material

When it's your birthday please jump in.

V21-WN4 – visit material

Months recited, have to jump in on your birthday month, and then out again next time your birthday month comes round.

Little Motor Car

Q3 – visit material

Bubble car bubble car go round co::::rners, slam on your brakes.

c12

Had a little motor car 1964

And it went around the cor-or-or-or-ner [On *cor* jump out and run around person holding the rope, jump back in then carry on rhyme with *ner*]

And I slammed on the brakes

But the brakes didn’t work,

So I went to the ga-a-a-a-rage

And I slammed on the brakes. Stop. [And meant to have rope in between legs.

NB. The syllables were not indicated exactly like this.]

W18

Had a little motor car in 1964

And I took it round the cor-r-r-r-ner

But the car wouldn’t start

So I took it to the ga-a-a-a-rage. [the hyphens were not supplied]

Captain Cook

c12

Captain Cook lost one arm. [Put one hand behind back.]

Captain Cook lost the other arm. [Put other hand behind back.]

Captain Cook lost one eye. [Shut one eye.]

Captain Cook lost the other eye. [Shut other eye.]

Captain Cook lost one leg. [Jump on one leg.]

Captain Cook lost the other leg. [Jump out of rope.]

d13 – visit material

Captain Cook lost an arm, both arms, a leg, eyes (skip mimicking appropriate disability)

Z18 – visit material

Captain Hook lost one arm, another arm, one leg, eyes.

W18

Captain Cook sailed the ocean
 Captain Cook sailed the sea
 And the waves got higher and higher and over
 Captain Cook lost one arm.
 (Keeps going until he's lost all of his body.)

W18 – visit material

Captain Cook lost a leg (skip on one leg) -- loses arms and eyes and then run out with eyes shut.

Eevy Ivy Over

S4 – visit material

Bluebells cockleshells ivi aivi √uv\

T5 – visit material

Bluebells, cockleshells ivi aivi √uv\.

V8-AK27 – visit material

Bluebells, cockle shells ivi aivi √uv\

c12

Blue bells, cockle shells, eevy, ivy, over.

d13 – visit material

Sea shells cockle shells ivi aivi √uv\

T15-NP1 – visit material

/ivi, aivi, √uv\

P27

Blue bells, Cockle shells, Eeny, eeny over.

Cinderella

T5

Cinderella dressed in yella went upstairs to kiss a fella, kissed a snake by mistake how many kisses did it take? 1, 2, 3, ...

b16-HS4

Cinderella dressed in yellow went upstairs to meet a fella, on the way she saw a snake, how many doctors did it take? (count)

O28 – CH8

Big rope: **Cinderella, Cinderella**
Cinderella, Cinderella dressed in yella
Went upstairs to kiss her fella
How many kisses did she get?
1-2-3...

C37 – IV1

Cinderella
Dressed in yellow
Went up the stairs to kiss her fellow
How many kisses did she get?
1-2-3-...

Teddy Bear

Q3 – visit material

Teddy bear

T5 – visit material

Teddy bear

T5 – WR2

Teddy bear, teddy bear turn around,
Teddy bear, teddy bear touch the ground
Teddy bear, teddy bear jump up high,
Teddy bear, teddy bear say Goodbye

V8-AK1 – visit material

Teddy bear

V8-AK27 – visit material

Teddy bear

Z10 – visit material

Teddy bear

W12

Teddy bear, teddy bear touch the ground
Teddy bear, teddy bear turn around,
Teddy bear, teddy bear go up stairs
Teddy bear, teddy bear say your prayers.
Teddy bear, teddy bear turn out the light
Teddy bear, teddy bear say Goodnight

Z12-RT3 – visit material

Teddy bear

c12

Teddy bear, teddy bear touch the ground
 Teddy bear, teddy bear turn around,
 Teddy bear, teddy bear climb up the stairs
 Teddy bear, teddy bear say your prayers.
 Teddy bear, teddy bear turn out the light
 Teddy bear, teddy bear say Goodnight

T15-NP1 – visit material

Teddy bear

S16

Teddy bear (3 or more players; use one long skipping rope)
 Teddy bear, teddy bear turn around,
 Teddy bear, teddy bear touch the ground
 Teddy bear, teddy bear climb up the stairs
 Teddy bear, teddy bear say your prayers.
 Teddy bear, teddy bear turn out the light.
 Teddy bear, teddy bear say Goodnight

a15

Teddy bear, teddy bear turn around,
 Teddy bear, teddy bear touch the ground
 Teddy bear, teddy bear go up stairs
 Teddy bear, teddy bear say your prayers.
 Teddy bear, teddy bear say Goodnight
 Teddy bear, teddy bear turn out the light.

e15

Teddy bear, teddy bear turn around,
 Teddy bear, teddy bear touch the ground
 Teddy bear, teddy bear go up stairs
 Teddy bear, teddy bear say your prayers.
 Teddy bear, teddy bear turn out the light.
 Teddy bear, teddy bear say Goodnight

e15 – visit material

Teddy bear

b16-HS4

Teddy bear teddy bear touch the sky

W18

Teddy bear, teddy bear turn around,
 Teddy bear, teddy bear touch the ground
 Teddy bear, teddy bear climb up the stairs

Teddy bear, teddy bear say your prayers.
 Teddy bear, teddy bear turn out the light
 Teddy bear, teddy bear say Goodnight
 “Goodnight”

W18 – visit material

Full version of teddy bear.

V21-WN4 – visit material

Teddy bear teddy bear brush your teeth (among the usual ones) but rhyme line not given.

V21 – WN23

Teddy bear, teddy bear turn around,
 Teddy bear, teddy bear touch the ground
 Teddy bear, teddy bear go up the stairs
 Teddy bear, teddy bear, say your prayers
 Teddy bear, teddy bear, say goodnight.

Q26 – visit material

rhyme used, but no details

P27

Teddy bear, teddy bear turn around,
 Teddy bear, teddy bear touch the ground
 Teddy bear, teddy bear turn off the light
 Teddy bear, teddy bear say Goodnight

P27

Teddy bear, teddy bear, touch the ground
 Teddy bear, teddy bear, turn around
 Teddy bear, teddy bear, count to 10.
 Teddy bear, teddy bear, start again.

O28 – CH6 – visit material

teddy bear: standard version

O28 – CH8

Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear Touch the Ground

P28 – CH16

Teddy bear, teddy bear touch the ground (so you touch the ground)
 Teddy bear, teddy bear turn around, (so you turn around)
 Teddy bear, teddy bear climb up the stairs (so you imagine you are climbing up stairs)
 Teddy bear, teddy bear turn off the light (so you imagine again you are turning off the light switch)
 Teddy bear, teddy bear say your prayers (so you put your head down and pray)
 Teddy bear, teddy bear say Goodnight (so you say goodnight)

-the rule is that if you touch the rope, you are out.

K31 – TM1 – visit material

Teddy bear, teddy bear touch the ground
 Teddy bear, teddy bear turn around
 Teddy bear, teddy bear do the splits

H33 – visit material

rhyme used

I35 – DN3 – visit material

Teddy bear, teddy bear turn around,
 Teddy bear, teddy bear touch the ground
 Teddy bear, teddy bear climb the stairs
 Teddy bear, teddy bear say your prayers.
 Teddy bear, teddy bear turn out the light
 Teddy bear, teddy bear say Goodnight
 Do actions.

C36

Teddy bear, teddy bear turn around,
 Teddy bear, teddy bear touch the ground
 Teddy bear, teddy bear climb up the stairs
 Teddy bear, teddy bear say your prayers.
 Teddy bear, teddy bear turn out the light
 Teddy bear, teddy bear say Goodnight

D36 – visit material

Usual variant

G36

Teddy bear, teddy bear turn around,
 Teddy bear, teddy bear touch the ground
 Teddy bear, teddy bear climb up the stairs
 Teddy bear, teddy bear say your prayers.
 Teddy bear, teddy bear turn out the light
 Teddy bear, teddy bear say Goodnight
 “Goodnight.”

“Rules: You can have as many people in the rope as you want. You try and get through as much as you can without stopping.”

C37 – IV1

Teddy bear, teddy bear turn around,
 Teddy bear, teddy bear touch the ground
 Teddy bear, teddy bear climb the stairs
 Teddy bear, teddy bear say your prayers. [it actually said prays]
 Teddy bear, teddy bear turn out the light
 Teddy bear, teddy bear say Goodnight
 “Goodnight.” (jump out)

Miscellaneous

	Q3 – visit material
numbers	
	Q3 – visit material
England Ireland Scotland Wales	
	Q3 – visit material
ice-cream soda (foot patterns)	
	Q3 – visit material
1, 2,,2 2, 4, 6	
	Q3 – visit material
spider web	
	Q3 – visit material
jingle jangle	
	T5 – visit material
/wesaid/ <West Side X fingers 3 and 4. Greeting/farewell (?) <TV	
	V8-AK27 – visit material
Spanish dancer, Spanish dancer does the splits, Spanish dancer, Spanish dancer gives the kick, Spanish Dancer, Spanish dancer turns around, Spanish dancer, Spanish dancer goes to town.	
	W12 – visit material
See saw Marjorie Dawe, someone did a patiro.	
	Z12-RT3 – visit material
The beat (jump in and out, don't miss the beat)	
	d13 – visit material
Cat and mouse	
	Z18 – visit material
I saw you at the pub last night kissing X How many kisses did they have? 1, 2, 3,...	
	V21 – WN23
Jordan, Jordan, Ollie, Ollie, 360 [pronounced three-sixty]	
	V21 – WN23
‘Sa ma lia a malia ma lia a malia choo choo train ma lia malia 1-2-3.’ ‘Sa Ma Lia Ma Lia. Ma Lia Ma Lia Choo Choo train.’	

L23– visit material

Donald Duck sat on a pin,
How many inches did it go in? (count)

L23 – visit material

Another one about a motor car, how many miles did it travel (count)

P27

Row, row, row your boat
Gently down the stream
Chuck the teacher overboard
And listen to scream:
“Oh, ahh,
I lost my bra
I don’t know where my knickers are
They could be black or white
They could be full of dynamite.”

P27

2-4-6-8 who do you appreciate?

P27

Donald Duck had a fuck
Underneath the army truck,
Mrs Green saw the scene
And put it in a magazine.
How many girls did he fuck?
1-2-3 etc.

P27

Mummy, Mummy, take out the trash
Daddy, Daddy, do the granden [garden?]
Sister, sister do the dishes
Brother, brother wash your hands
- and start again.

P27

Under the band bushes

O28 – CH8

Skip, skip, skip to the loo

K31 – TM1 – visit material

Girl: Fuck, fuck, I’m in trouble (then skip till you trip)
Boy: Shame, shame, shame,
I don’t want to go to school no more
There’s a big fat teacher at the door, door, door
She caught me eating gum
Smacked me on the bum

I don't want to go to school no more.

H33 – visit material

Wash the dishes, dry the dishes, turn the dishes over

C37 – IV1

Diddly diddly Dandy

I'm a stick of candy

Lick me fast

Lick me slow

How many do you think I'll last?

1-2-3...