



Rumble, Tumble, Roll Down

Hum a nursery rhyme and add movements, enjoying its rhythm in a relaxed exchange.

Helps Your Child Grow



Emergent Literacy

Repeating favorite rhymes and melodies while acting out the song helps your baby notice its sound pattern and enjoy joining a shared language game.

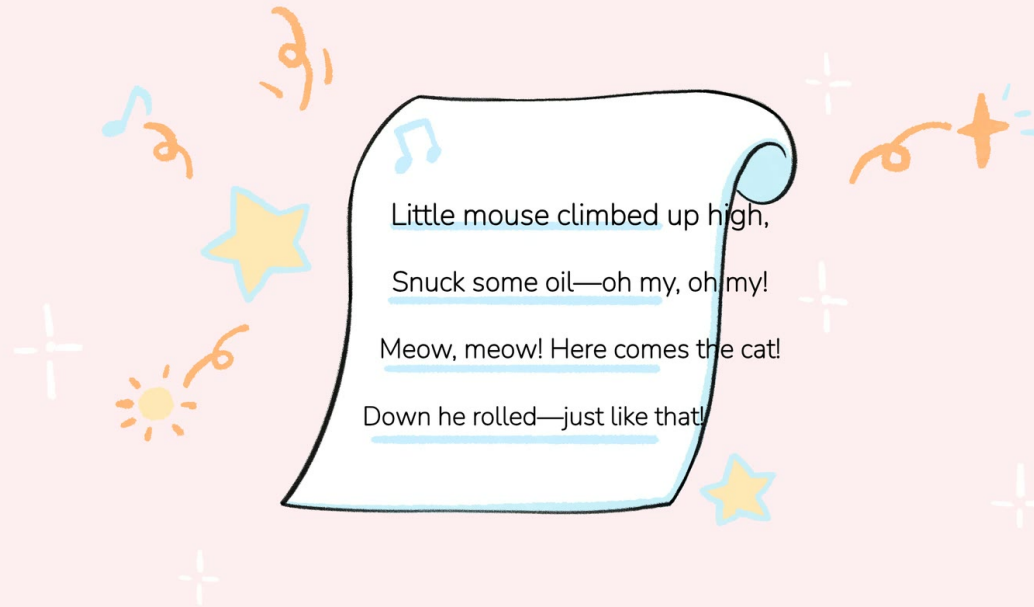


Relationships with Adults

Sharing a familiar rhyme in a warm, playful setting gives your baby a positive experience of back-and-forth interaction with you.



What You'll Need



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1. A nursery rhyme with a clear repeated rhyme



Catch Their Attention

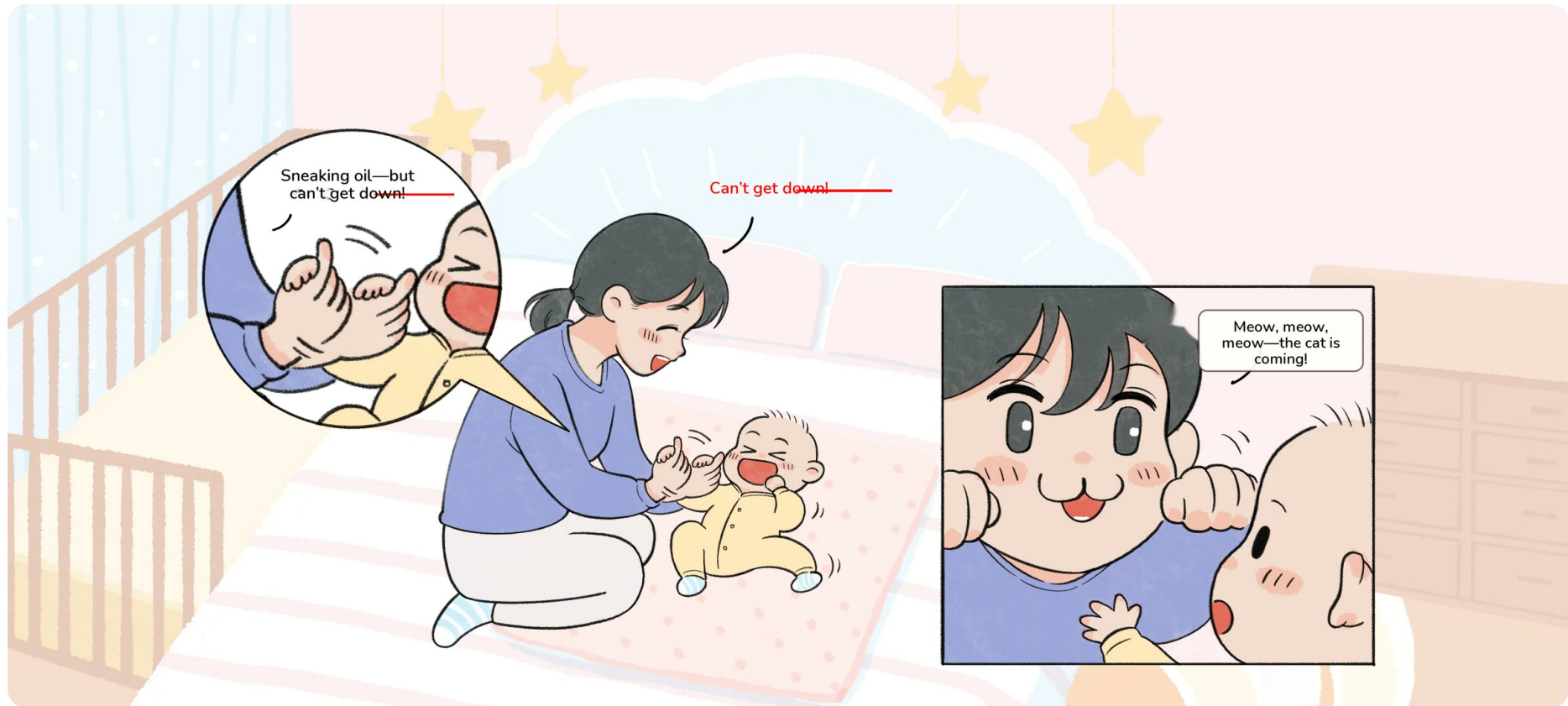
Before singing, act like a character in the rhyme and greet your baby. When they look toward you, begin the song and movement.

Observations

- Turns toward the sound of your voice
- Looks at you and shows that they want to play together

Tips

- A 4-month-old does not understand the rhyme's lyrics yet, but they can experience your voice, rhythm, expression, and presence.
- Watching your mouth and expressions - and hearing the rhythm and feeling in your voice - is part of the rhyme interaction.



Repeat the Rhyming Sound

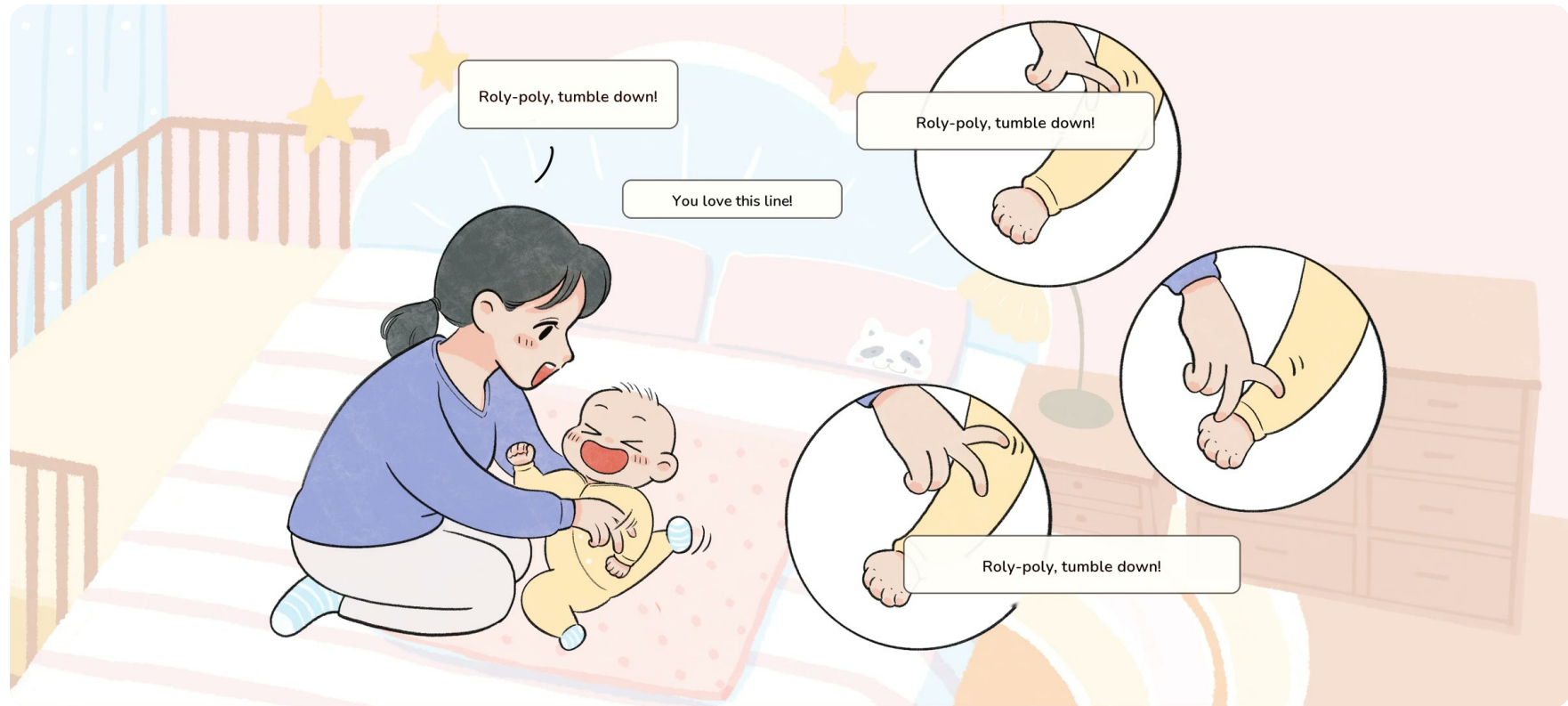
Stretch the final rhyming word slightly and add a simple interaction so your baby can notice the matching sounds. Change the action to fit each verse and keep the exchange playful.

Observations

- Listens attentively to the melody
- Giggles when you playfully engage them

Tips

- Gentle kicks, a wiggle, or a focused or excited expression can all be ways your baby responds to the rhyme with their body.
- Performing the actions while helping your baby move can increase their sense of participation and hold their attention.
- Once the rhyme is familiar, pause just before a repeated sound or word and look expectantly at your baby, inviting a sound or movement in response.



Follow Your Baby's Interest

Look toward your baby as you sing and follow their interest. If a word, line, or movement captures them, repeat it in the same way several times.

Observations

- Shows happiness when a favorite part of the melody plays
- Listens closely to you sing and moves along

Tips

- When you follow your baby's interest, they feel noticed and answered - and are more likely to keep playing with you.
- No special time is needed. Sing during an open moment and treat the rhyme as a small game you share.
- Continue while your baby is enjoying it. If their attention moves away, let the interaction end naturally instead of finishing every verse.
- Repeat the same rhyme over time. As your baby grows and becomes familiar with it, they may progress from watching and listening to making sounds, copying actions, and joining in.