



Bookbug's Song and Rhyme Library

'Three Crows'

This is a traditional well known nursery song in Scots. It's a popular choice for children of all ages.

How to use this song with babies:

- You can sing this to baby, cradled in your arms or on your lap, with lots of eye contact and facial expression
- **Wiggle 3 fingers to catch baby's attention** as you sing the first verse. Add actions to each verse in section below and use a simple version as you sing to baby

How to use this song with toddlers:

- Toddlers will enjoy joining you in the actions alongside each verse: rubbing their **eyes and pouting on 'greetin' for his maw'**; **holding cheek and showing pain on 'fell and broke his jaw'**; **shaking head and flapping arms on 'couldnae flee at aw'**. They will likely grasp and copy the actions before they can sing the words
- Highlight the counting aspect of the song, holding up 3 fingers from the start, curling 2 down to leave 1 raised **as you sing 'The first crow...'**, raising a second for **'The second crow...'** etc

How to use this song with 3 to 5-year-olds:

- Older children will continue to enjoy this song and the actions
- In a group, invite three volunteers to stand/sit on a bench as the three crows and do the actions in front of their friends, while all join in the singing
- Talk about the Scots words in the song, check to make sure they understand them and talk about other Scots words they may know