

Snappy rhymes

Let's play and talk together

- ❖ Start this game by saying or singing the poem Willoughby, Wallaby Woo together. This verse was adapted from the Raffi song based on a poem by Dennis Lee.

Willoughby Wallaby Woo
An elephant sat on you;
Willoughby Wallaby Wee
An elephant sat on me!

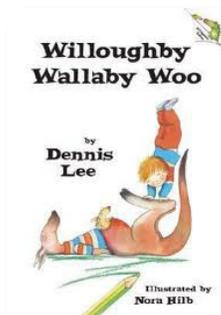
- ❖ Pick the name of someone in your family or a close friend that the elephant is going to sit on, e.g. daddy, a brother or sister, auntie, etc. Make a new rhyme by changing the last word in the first line to rhyme with the name of the person the elephant is going to sit on.

Willoughby Wallaby Waddy
The elephant sat on Daddy!

- ❖ Invite your child to make up a rhyme about the elephant sitting on someone else you know.

Willoughby Wallaby Washa
The elephant sat on Sacha!

A good read-together book



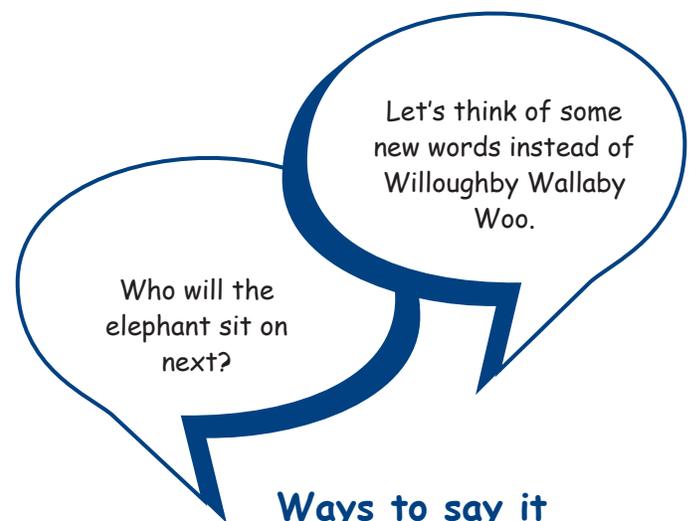
Willoughby Wallaby Woo by Dennis Lee

This activity helps children learn to hear the small parts of words and make up rhymes, and encourages them to play with language.



Hints for success

- ❖ This game encourages children to play with language. Show your child that it is fun to make up silly verses.
- ❖ Talk about all the different people you know that the elephant could sit on.



Ways to say it

More ideas for Snappy rhymes

Try this way

- ❖ Have the elephant sit on household objects, e.g. a chair, the table, the sofa.
- ❖ Change the beginning letters or the animals, e.g.
Billabee Ballabee Boo
A big bear sat on you!
or
Sillabee Sallabee See
A dinosaur sat on me!
- ❖ Invite older preschoolers to choose the letter sound to start the first line and name the letter that makes the sound, e.g., Billabee starts with the letter "B."



Physical activity

Dance or bounce around to the rhythm of the words, and sit down suddenly on the word "sat."

Healthy eating

Sing the rhyming song about the foods your child is eating and put your child's name into the song.

Willoughby Wallaby Woop
_____ is eating her soup!

or

Willoughby Wallaby Wilk
_____ is drinking his milk!

Book link

Down by the Bay by Raffi