

Rhymes, Poems, Jokes and Finger Plays

Here is the Beehive Author Unknown

Here is the beehive,
Where are the bees?
Hiding away where nobody sees,
Here they come creeping out of their hive,
1,2,3,4,5.

One snail, two snails Mary Gilmore

One snail, two snails
Had a little talk:
One snail, two snails
Went a little walk.
They came to a garden
And climbed up a tree
Where a jolly old kookaburra
Gobbled up the three.

Snails' Trails Glenda Mac Naughton

Snails tails leave silvery trails,
Silvery trails,
Silvery trails.
Snails tails leave slippery trails,
Slippery trails,
Slippery trails.
Silvery slippery slippery trails,
Slippery silvery silvery trails
Left behind by snails tails.



One two three Mother caught a flea Traditional

One, two, three Mother caught a flea,
Put it in a teapot and made a cup of tea.
The flea jumped out, Mother gave a shout,
Father came in with his shirt hanging out.

Slimy Worms Susie Davies

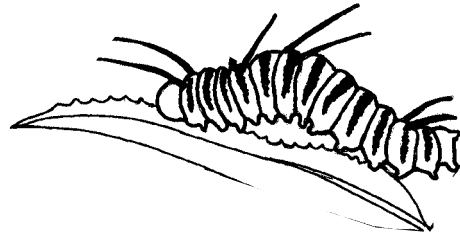
Worms, worms, slimy worms,
Worms that twist and wriggle,
A 100 worms in my hand,
Ooh! They make me giggle.

Today I saw a little worm Spike Milligan

Today I saw a little worm,
Wriggling on his belly,
Perhaps he'd like to come inside,
And see what's on the telly.

The Caterpillar Liza Pezzimenti

When I went walking just with me,
I had to stop—quite suddenly—
For there I saw, upon a wall,
A caterpillar, very small.
I picked her up and asked her name,
And on my hand she played a game.
I had to laugh at what she did,
Because she tickled as she slid.



The Ant Battalion Denise Totterdell

Listen carefully and you will hear
The thump, thump, thump of tiny feet.
It's the ant battalion they must be near:
Can't you hear their rhythmic beat?
They're laden up with many a crumb,
Quietly they work, not making a sound.
Then off they set, a rump-a-pum-pum:
Marching away homeward bound.



The Compost Bin Author Unknown

Here is the compost,
Here is the lid,
I wonder whatever inside is hid?

Cicada Kevin Gilbert

I'm a cicada
I can sing
the same old thing
the same old thing
I am a cicada
I can sing
the same old thing
the same old thing
all day.

Little Arabella Miller Ann Elliott

Little Arabella Miller
Found a woolly caterpillar.
First it crawled upon her mother,
Then upon her baby brother;
All said, 'Arabella Miller,
Take away that caterpillar.'

I Spied a Spider Traditional

I spied a spider
Crawling up the wall
I spied a spider,
Crawl, crawl, crawl.



What Do You Suppose? Anonymous

What do you suppose?
A bee sat on my nose.
Then what do you think?
He gave me a wink,
And said, 'I beg your pardon,
I thought you were a garden.'

Cockroach Sandwich Colin Mc Naughton

Cockroach sandwich
For my lunch
Hate the taste
But love the crunch!



Ozzie the Star

Jill Mc Dougall and Jenny Taylor

I'm Ozzie the Mozzie,
Muscle and mean
I'm a street fighting,
Back biting,
Drilling machine.
You might not see me coming,
But you know when I've been,
Cos' I'm Ozzie from the Mozzie
Olympian team.

Yes...

I'm Ozzie the Mozzie,
Athletic and lean,
I'm a low flying death defying,
Stunt machine.
I believe I'm the greatest
The world's ever seen,
And I'm the star of the Mozzie
Olympian team.

Smart Flies

Jill Mc Dougall and Jenny Taylor

I don't think most flies
Are too clever or wise.
They get stuck in your ears
And they crawl in your eyes.
They dirty the windows,
They dirty the wall,
And they don't seem to have
Any manners at all.
But I do think our flies
Are the smartest around.
They can crawl up a wall
Without sliding back down.
And if you decide
To go walking outside,
They'll sit on your back
And enjoy a free ride.



Worms

Opal Dunn and Sally Anne Lambert

Under a stone where the earth was firm
I found a wiggly wiggly worm:
'Good morning,' I said.
'How are you today?'
But the wiggly worm just wriggled away.



Honey Ant

Jill Mc Dougall and Jenny Taylor

Group 1

Honey ant honey ant,
Where do you sleep?

Group 2

I sleep in a tunnel,
So dark and so deep.

Group 1

Honey ant honey ant,
What's on your back?

Group 2

I carry sweet honey \
Around in a sac.

Group 1

Honey ant honey ant,
Don't run away.

Group 2

My children are calling,
I really can't stay.

Group 1

Honey ant honey ant,
Why run and hide?

Group 2

Your teeth are too sharp,
And your eyes too wide!

The Spider and the Fly. Ann Smith

Spiders trap insects in their webs in order to eat them. This poem can best be done with small puppets. A simple picture taped to a stick will work.

Mr Insect:

'Knock knock Mrs spider are you in?'
'Oh what a lovely web you spin!'

Mrs Spider:

'Hello Mr Insect how do you do'
'The web I spin is a trap for you!'

Mr Insect:

'Oh No! Mrs Spider – now I see'
'If I come in I will be your tea!'
GOOD BYE!'

Mrs spider:

'There goes dinner!'



Jokes

Why did the elephant lie in the middle of the road ? To trip the ants.

Why do bees hum? Because they don't know the words.

Why did the boy throw the butter out the window? He wanted to see the butter fly.

What is worse than a giraffe with a sore throat? A centipede with sore feet.

What has four wheels and flies? A garbage truck.

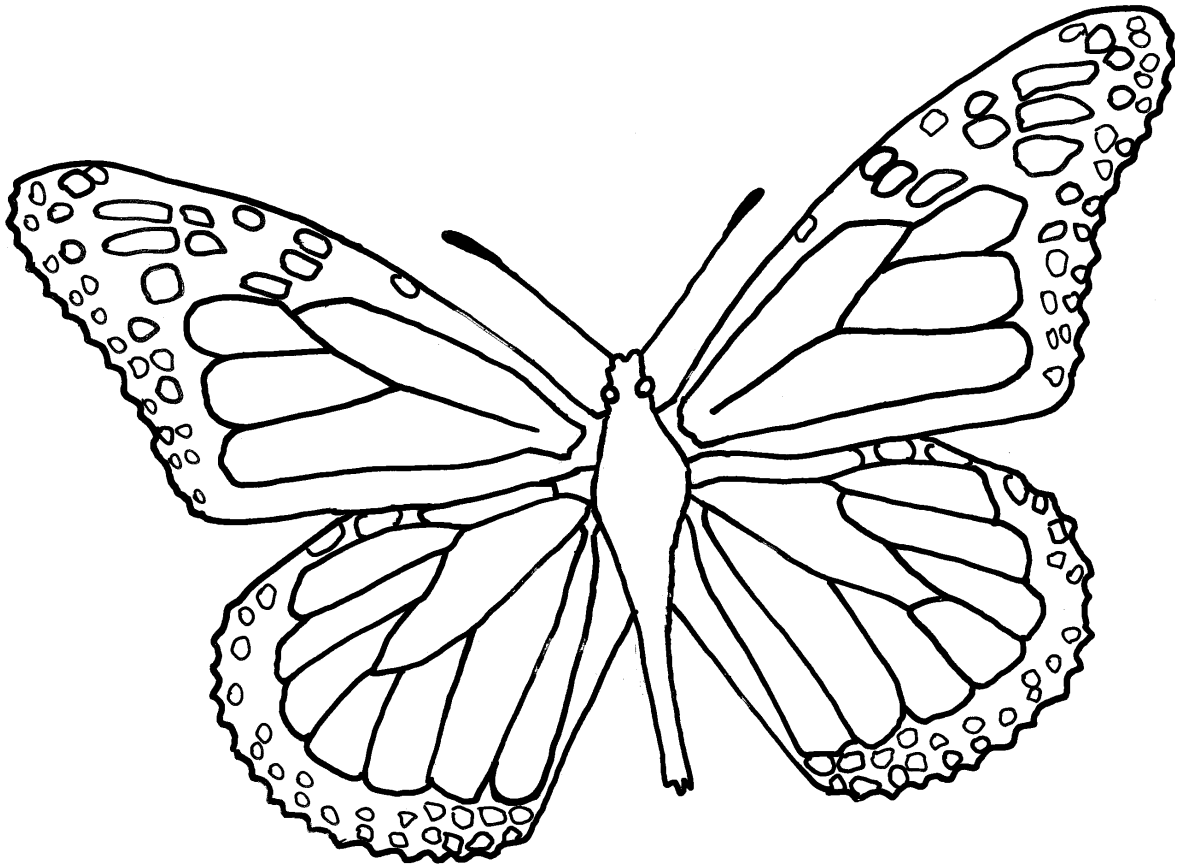
Why does a spider spin a web? Because it can't sew.

How can you tell which end of a worm is it's head? Tickle it in the middle and see which end laughs.

What's worse than finding a worm in your apple? Finding half a worm.

What's green and jumps all the time? A grasshopper with the hiccups.

What is smaller than an ant's mouth? An ant's dinner.



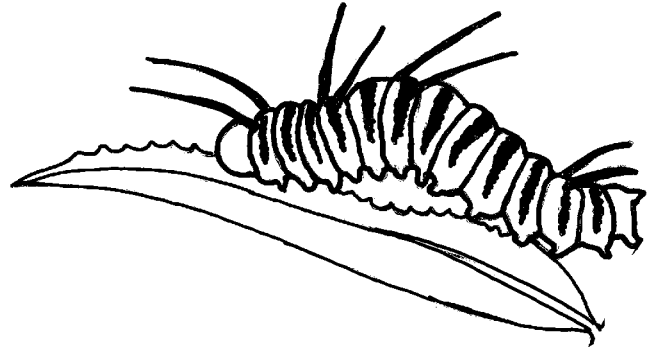
Music

How Does a Caterpillar Go? Author Unknown

Tune from ABC 'The New Useful Book' 2003 p 82 tune of 'How Does A Kangaroo Go?'

How does a caterpillar go?
Dear me does anybody know?
How does a caterpillar go?
From leaf to leaf
The whole day long.

How does a butterfly go?
Dear me does anybody know?
How does a butterfly go?
From flower to flower
The whole day long.



One elephant went out to play Author Unknown

One elephant went out to play
Upon a spider's web one day.
He thought it such a tremendous stunt
That he called for another little elephant.

Two elephants went out to play
Upon a spider's web one day.
He thought it such a tremendous stunt
That he called for another little elephant.

Three elephants went out to play
Upon a spider's web one day.
The web went creak, the web went crack
And all of a sudden, they all ran back.



Eency Weency Spider Traditional

Eency Weency Spider
Climbed up the water spout.
Down came the rain
And washed poor Eency out
Out came the sun
And dried up all the rain
And Eency Weency Spider
Climbed up the spout again.

Bugs Ann Smith

Can be said as a poem or sung a tune such as Don Spencer's wonderful tune for 'Bob the Kelpie' ABC. 1993 'Thumbs Up Australia' CD.

Bugs are neat, Bugs are sweet
Bugs are small and tickly (*Lightly run fingers over back of hand*)
Some can crawl (*Crawl base of hand and finger up arm*)
And some can fly (*Link thumbs and flap hands*)
And some can run so quickly. (*Run fingers very fast up arm and over back of head*)
Beetles always have six legs (*Hold up six fingers*)
Millipedes have many (*Show millipede running with moving fingers*)
Spiders have eight eyes, eight legs (*Hold up four fingers on each hand*)
But earthworms don't have any. (*Put hands behind your back*)

Caterpillar Deanna Hoermann

Caterpillar crawling round,
Trying not to make a sound.
Comes a magpie from the sky;
Caterpillar bye bye!

Earthworm Song Fay White

This is a wonderful song which presents scientific concepts about earthworms in a fun way. Available on 'Singing Landcare' CD by Grapevine Music Telephone (03)54615002 or Download order form from website www.users.netconnect.com.au/~fwmusic (many other wonderful songs with environmental themes on the same CD.)



Creating songs.

There are songs around like 'The Ants Go Marching' or 'Little Miss Muffet' which are fun, but don't really add to children's science learning. It is better to write your own so you can bring out the science concepts you wish to introduce or reinforce.

An easy approach is to choose a tune well known to the children, preferably one that does not need to rhyme.

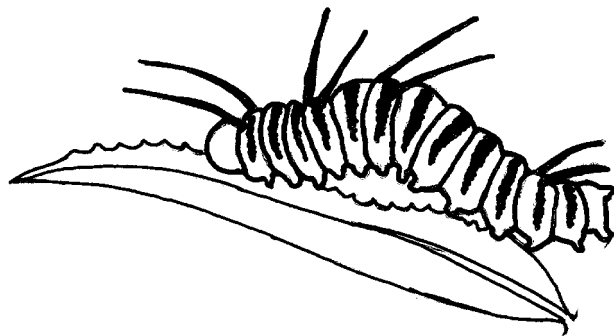
Two such tunes are: 'Here we go round the mulberry bush.' and 'The wheels on the bus.'

Some examples:

Caterpillars Ann Smith

Mulberry bush tune

'This is the way we munch on a leaf
Munch on a leaf
Munch on a leaf
This is the way we munch on a leaf
Munch on a leaf
Until our skin must split'



Case Moth Ann Smith

Wheels on the bus tune

'The case moth caterpillar makes a house
Makes a house
Makes a house
The case moth caterpillar makes a house
From tiny bits of stick'



Ants Ann Smith

Wheels on the bus tune

Ants give a message
When they touch their heads
Touch their heads
Touch their heads
Touch their heads
Ants give a message
When they touch their heads
'This way to the food'



Pupa Song Ann Smith

Caterpillar becoming a pupa in a cocoon.

(Sung by the caterpillar to the tune of Three Blind Mice with appropriate actions)

I am full

I am full

I am fat

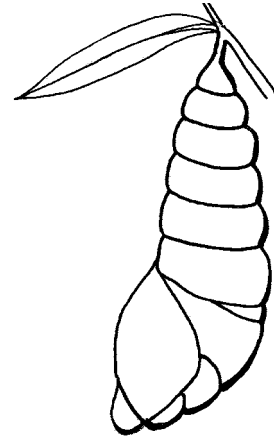
I am fat

Oh my gosh I'm feeling tired

I'm making myself a place to hide

I'll soon have wings to open wide

But now I sleep.



Pill Bug (Slater) Ann Smith

Twinkle twinkle tune

Slater slater small and grey

Hiding in the leaves all day

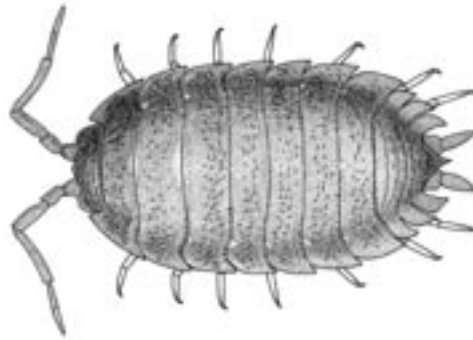
Birds can eat you

Lizards too

What's a slater going to do?

Curl around and roll up tight

Until those animals are out of sight.



The Compost Bin Critters Song Ann Smith

Have you seen the muffin man? tune.

We all live in a compost bin

A compost bin

A compost bin

We all live in a compost bin

There's food for us inside there.

There are earthworms in the compost bin

The compost bin

The compost bin

There are earthworms in the compost bin

And slugs and ants and beetles

There are centipedes in the compost bin

The compost bin

The compost bin

There are centipedes in the compost bin

They eat up other critters.

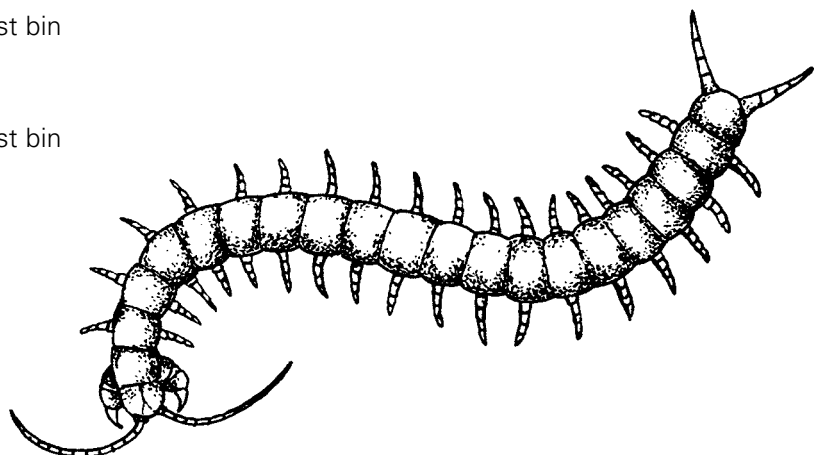
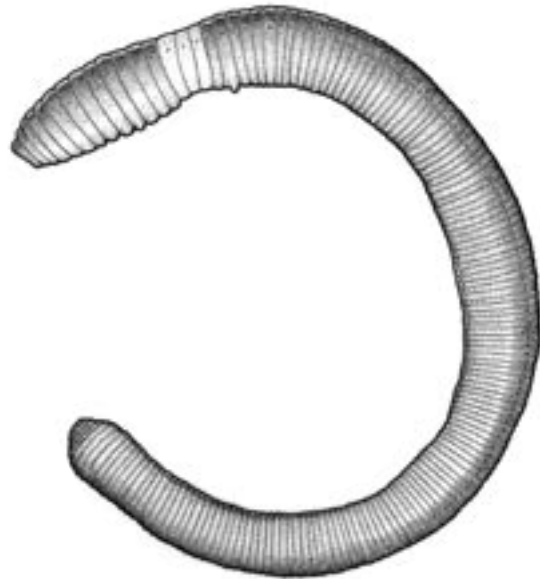
Its dark and warm in the compost bin

The compost bin

The compost bin

Its dark and warm in the compost bin

No birds get in to eat us



Bug listening Game with Musical Instruments.

Many bugs can make a sound by moving their wings very fast (Fly, Bee, Mosquito) or moving their legs or parts of their wings over each other (Crickets and Grasshoppers) or moving a part of their body that acts like a drum (Cicadas)

In this experience children have an instrument of their choice such as a shaker or triangle. They take turns to shut their eyes and listen for another 'bug' making the same sound then fly to their friend.

