

Chatter Cards

Fun Outdoors



Coventry City Council

Families **talk** now

<http://www.coventry.gov.uk/speechandlanguagedevelopment>

Chatter Cards are designed to be taken with you when you are out and about. You could take them on the bus, attach them to the pushchair using the silver ring, or keep them in your bag.

You can take cards on and off the ring, make and add your own cards, or stick them on the fridge to remind you to take time to talk today!

Be careful that the silver ring is closed properly so that it can't hurt your child.

Here are some ideas to help you develop your child's language and learning using the outdoors. Learning doesn't only happen at school or nursery. It happens everywhere you go. You can help your child learn words and communication skills while you go to the shops, play outdoors, sit on the bus...all the time!

If you would like some advice or support about a child's speech & language development, please contact your local Family Hub.

Picnics



Why not have a teddy bears picnic?

You can invite dolls, dinosaurs and other toys too.

Talk about how many cups you might need or what sort of food you might take to your picnic.

Weather



Talk about what the weather is like today.

What sort of clothes shall we wear?

Talk about the weather sounds that you can hear, like the rain, wind and thunder.

Make some noisy rainmakers using empty plastic bottles. Put rice or pasta inside your bottle so it makes a lovely sound when you shake it.

Sing songs such as ‘it’s raining it’s pouring.’

Going to the park



Go for a walk to the local park.

Make a list or pictures of six things you might see on the way, such as a leaf, a pebble, a dog, a park bench etc.

You can use lots of maths words in the park such as “up” and “down”, “high” and “low” or “heavy” and “light” on the swings and seesaw.

Write a letter



**Write a letter to someone special.
This could be someone in your family or
your child's friends at nursery.**

**Take the letter to the postbox together.
Talk about the journey your letter will
take, and who will look after it.**

**Talk about other people we see when you
are out and about, such as a shopkeeper
or a policeman.**

Listening



Listen for sounds when you are out and about.

Talk about quiet and loud sounds, such as a noisy bus.

When you get home try to remember all the sounds you have heard.

Have fun trying to remember and make the sounds together.

Looking



Talk about keeping safe and crossing the road together.

Talk about the colours and sizes of different cars and vans.

Look for numbers on buses or car registration plates.

Guess what colour the next car to come past will be.

Talk about where you might go in a car, train, or an aeroplane.

Go shopping



When you go shopping, let your child help you find things in the supermarket. Why not make them a simple list using pictures.

Talk about which things are lighter and heavier, such as a tin of beans or a packet of crisps.

Talk about the colours of things such as pink shampoo or yellow bananas.

Den building



Make a den.

Use rugs and blankets to make a den.

**Act out your favourite story in your den
or read a book together**

**You can pretend your den is a house, cave
or a spaceship!**

Invite your teddies round for tea in the den.

Exploring



Collect things like leaves, twigs and daisies.

Count how many are in your pile.

Talk to your child. Listen to their ideas while you sort your treasures together.

Digging is a good way to find interesting things like creepy crawlies.

Sing songs



There are lots of songs about things you might find outside.

Have fun together singing some of the songs on the following pages.

Twinkle Twinkle Little Star

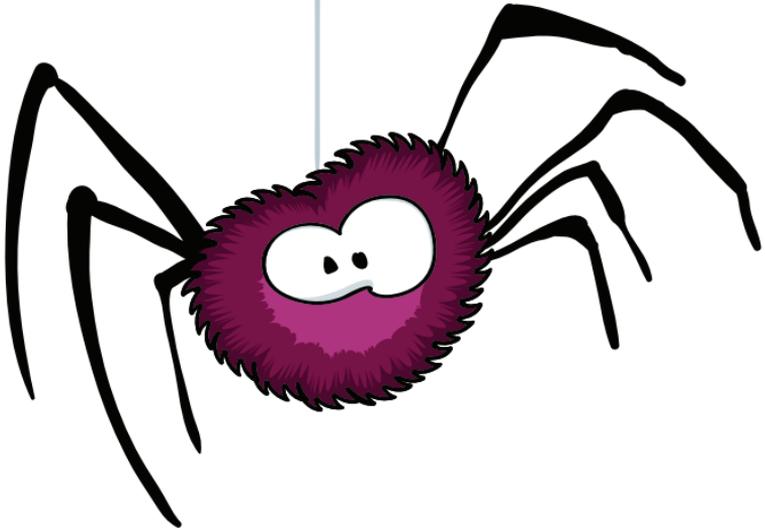


Twinkle, twinkle little star.
How I wonder what you are.

Up above the world so high.
Like a diamond in the sky.

Twinkle, twinkle little star.
How I wonder what you are.

Incy Wincy Spider



Incy wincy spider
climbing up the spout.
Down came the rain
and washed the spider out.
Out came the sunshine
and dried up all the rain.
Then incy wincy spider
climbed up the spout again.

Row Row Row Your Boat



Row row row your boat,
gently down the stream.
Merrily, merrily, merrily,
merrily, life is but a dream.

Row row row your boat,
gently down the stream
and if you see a crocodile
don't forget to scream.

Ahhh!