

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 8
Date: 1950
Title: In days of old
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

In the days of old when the nights were bold
And suits were made of tin,
Young Ginger Megs with bandy legs,
Went out to fight for Min.

(NZ ex Australia, 1950)

--

Background Info: Based on a cartoon larrikin, Ginger Megs and his girl, Minnie Peters (Australia 1940s).

--

Lowenstein, 1974: 20 records the rhyme:

Ginger Meggs, Ginger Meggs,
What have you between your legs?
One fat sausage, two boiled eggs,
That's what I've got between my legs.

(Newcastle, 1950s)

--

Keywords: media culture, bawdy
Location: NZ (ex Australia)
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 9
Date: 1952-1963
Title: Think of me
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Think of me on the river,
Think of me on the lake,

Think of me on your wedding day,
And send me a piece of cake.

(NZ, 1952; Ashburton, 1963)

--

Keywords: remembrance
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 10
Date: 1951
Title: Your future
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Your future lies before you as a field of untrod snow,
Be careful how you tread it, for every mark will show.

(NZ ex Australia, 1951)

--

Location: NZ (ex Australia)
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 11
Date: 1938-1949
Title: True friends
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

True friends are like diamonds,
Precious and rare,
False friends are like autumn leaves,
Found everywhere.

(NZ, 1938; NZ ex Australia, 1949)

--

Keywords: friendship, loyalty
Location: Various NZ Australia,
Group size: 1
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 12
Date: 1980s-2006
Title: Rubbish bin
Gender: Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

X's in, X's in, X's in the rubbish bin.

(Hawarden, 1990s; Christchurch, 1990 x 3; Coromandel, 1990s; Methven, 2000;
Whakatane, 2000; Whangarei, 2000; Christchurch, 2001; Rotorua, 2002 x 2; Kerikeri,
2002; Sheffield, 2006; Timaru, 2006)

--

X's in, X's in X's in the cattle shit.

(Whangarei, 2000)

--

X's in, X's in, X's in the rubbish bin,
Eating chocolates one by one,
Now she's got a hairy bum.

(Christchurch, 1990s; Wellington, 2000; Auckland, 2000 x 2; Taumaranui, 2004)

--

X's in, X's in,
X's in the rubbish bin,
All the way to Wellington.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

X's in, X's in, X's in the rubbish bin,
Eating bogies one by one,
Now she's got a hairy bum.

(Christchurch, 2000; Nelson, 2001; Nelson, 2002; Blenheim, 2004; Christchurch, 2006)

--

Lisa's it, Lisa's it,
Lisa's in the rubbish bin,
Eating rubbish one by one,
Now she's got a dirty bum.

(Tauranga, 2000)

--

You're in, you're in the rubbish bin.
Eating maggots one by one.
I think he likes it quite a lot.

(Wellington, 2002)

--

Mark's it, Mark's it,
Sitting in the rubbish tip.
Eating chocolates one by one.
Mark has got a hairy bum.

(Whangarei, 1990s)

--

X's in, X's in, X's in the rubbish bin,
Fourteen boys kissing her,
All the way to Wellington.

(Christchurch, 2000 x2)

--

X's in, X's in, X's in the rubbish bin,
Eating bogies, eating snot,
He's a great big hairy clot.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

X's in, X's in, X's in the rubbish bin,
Eating bogies, eating snot,
X is in the dirty pot.

(Hamilton, 2000)

--

X's in, X's in, X's in the rubbish bin,
Eating bogies, eating snot,
Now you're in a baby's cot.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

X's in, X's in, X's in the rubbish bin,
With fifty girls all kissing him.

(Auckland, 1980s)

--

Alix's in, Alix's in,
Alix's in the bogey bin.
Eating bogeys one by one,
She must have a bogey bum!

(Blenheim, 2004)

--

X's in, X's in, X's in the rubbish bin,
Eating chocolates one by one,
She must have a smelly bum.

(Dunedin, 1990s)

--

X's in the bogey bin,
Y's in the bogey bin,
Eating bogeys one by one,
Now they have a hairy bum.

(Timaru, 2006)

--

Background Info: Sometimes chanted in conjunction with a game of tag or tiggy.
(Bauer, 2002, Sect.12:1)

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Various NZ

Group size: 2
Incidence: 38

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 13
Date: 2005
Title: Bluebells
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Bluebells, cockle shells,
Eevy ivy over,
To the east, to the west,
I met my boyfriend at the candy shop,
He bought me ice cream, he bought me beer.
He brought me home with a hickey on my bum.
I said, "Mum, Mum I feel sick call the doctor quick, quick ,quick."
Doctor, doctor, what's wrong?
You've got a hickey on your big, fat bum.

(Wairoa, 2005)

--

Keywords: bawdy
Location: Wairoa
Group size: 7
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 14
Date: 1960s- 2006
Title: Apple on a stick
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Apple on a stick,
Makes me sick,
Makes my heart beat 2, 4, 6.
Not because you're dirty,
Not because you're clean,
Not because you kissed a boy
Behind a magazine.

(Ashburton, 2000; Wellington, 2006)

Girls, girls, have a lot of fun,
Boys, boys, just pick their bums.

(Ashburton, 2006)

Boys, boys they're so dumb,
Here comes [X] with a prickle up his bum.
Close your eyes and count to 10.
If you muck up, you're a big fat hen.

(Christchurch, 2000; Porirua, 2003; Wairoa, 2005)

--

Apple on a stick,
Makes me sick,
Makes my heart beat 2,4,6.
Not because you're dirty,
Not because you're clean,
Not because you kissed a boy behind a magazine.
Girls, boys let's have some fun,
Here comes the boy with the stick up his bum,
Close your eyes and count to ten,
1, 2, 3,4..
You didn't muck up so you're my best friend.

(Timaru, 2006)

--

Apple on a stick,
Apple on a stick,
Makes my heart beat 2, 40, 6,
Not because it's dirty,
Not because it's clean,
Not because I kissed a boy behind a magazine.
Boys, boys, having fun,
Here come the girls with blue jeans on.
She can do the pom-pom,
She can do the twist,
But I bet you 5 bucks she can't do this (splits action)
Close your eyes and count to ten,
If you mess it all up you're a big fat hen.
1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10.
So you didn't mess it up,
So you're not a big fat hen.
The next one for more is a bumble bee,
And that will not be me.

(Christchurch, 2004)

--

Apple on a stick,
Makes me sick,
Takes my temperature to 2, 4, 6,
Not because I'm dirty,
Not because I'm clean,
Not because I kissed a boy behind a magazine.
Boys, boys are no fun,
Here comes Johnny with a prickle up his bum,
He can do the wibble, wobble,
He can do the split, splat.

(Porirua, 2003)

If you get it right, that's the end!

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Apple on the stick, makes me sick,
Makes my heart go 2,4,6 (two forty six)
Not because you're happy, not because you're sad.
Just because you kissed a boy behind a magazine.
The boys, the boys are having fun.
Here comes X with the blue berry bum.

(Upper Hutt, 2000; Mangakino, 2001)

--

Apple on a stick,
Makes me sick,
Makes my heart beat 2,4,6,
Not because it's dirty,
Not because it's clean,
Just because I read it in a magazine,
Saying boys, boys, they get all the fun.
Here comes Sandy with her blue jeans on.
She can wibble,
She can wobble,
She can even do the splits.
But I'll bet you fifty bucks,
She can't do this.
Close your eyes and count to ten,
If you muck it up, you've got to start again.
1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10.
You did it, so that's the end.

(Wellington, 2002; Wellington, 2006)

--

Apple on a stick,
Makes me sick,
Makes my heart beat 2,40,6,
Not because they're dirty,
Not because they're clean,
Just because I kissed the boy behind the magazine,
Singing boys, boys, they get the fun.
But here comes Jerry with her blue jeans on.
She can wibble,
She can wobble,
She can even do the splits.
But I'll bet you ten bucks,
She can't do this.
Close your eyes and count to ten,
If you muck it up, you've got to start again.
1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10 (carried out with eyes shut)
You did it, so that's the end.

(Wellington, 2002)

--

Apple on a stick, makes me sick,
Makes my head go 2,4,6,
Not because I'm dirty,
Not because I'm clean,
Not because I kissed a guy behind a magazine.
So come on girls, let's have some fun,
Here comes [X] with a mini skirt on.
She can do the handstand,
She can do the splits,
But I bet you 5 bucks, she can't do this,
Close your eyes and count to a hundred,
1,2, miss a few, 99, 100.

(Tauranga, 1980s - chanted by group with South African background)

--

Apple on a stick,
Makes me sick,
Makes my heart beat 2,40,6,
Not because it's dirty,
Not because it's clean,
Not because you kiss a boy behind a magazine.
Boys, boys, have a lot of fun,

Here comes Suzy with a mini skirt on.
She can wobble, she can wobble, she can do the splits,
But I bet you five bucks she can't do this.
Close your eyes and count to ten,
If you muck it all up you gotta start again.
1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10, (carried out with eyes shut)
So you didn't muck it up and that's the end.

(Nelson, 2000; Ashburton, 2000)

--

Apple on a stick,
Apple on a stick,
Makes my heart beat 2, 4, 6,
Not because it's dirty,
Not because it's clean,
Not because I kissed the boys behind the magazine.
Please, please, have a lot of fun.
Here comes Jessie with her new jeans on.
She can walk, she can talk,
She can do the splits.
But I bet you ten bucks she can't do this.
Close your eyes and count to ten,
If you muck it up then we will start again,
1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10.
We didn't muck it up so that's the end.

(Wellington, 2002)

--

Apple on a stick,
Apple on a stick,
Makes my heart beat 2, 40, 6,
Not because I'm dirty,
Not because I'm clean,
Bet you five bucks you can't do this.
Close your eyes and count to ten,
If you muck up you'll start again.
1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10.
You didn't muck it up, so that's the end.

(Upper Hutt, 2000; Wainuiomata, 2005)

--

Background Info: Variations in Turner,197:29:

Apple on a stick,

Apple on a stick,
Every time I turn around,
It makes me sick.

(Melbourne, 1963)

--

Apples on a stick,
Make me sick,
Makes my tummy go 2, 46,
Not because it's dirty,
Not because it's clean,
Not because I kissed my mommy behind the magazines.
Girls, girls, do you want to fight?
Here comes Dickey with her pants on tight.
She can wiggle, she can woggle,
She can do that,
I bet you ten dollars, you can do this.
Count to ten with your eyes closed.
A-baby one, a-baby two,
A-baby three, four, five,
Baby I don't take no jive.
A-baby six, a-baby seven,
A-baby eight, nine, ten.
You better back it up and do it again.

Texas, USA. Cited in Michels, B. 1983:11)

--

Bauer, 2002, Sect. 70:1- 2, makes reference to versions including the words 'blue berry bun' (Kaitaia, c. 2002). Also includes references to 'Here comes a man with a big shot gun' (New Plymouth, c. 2002) and 'Boys, boys, can do flips' (Auckland, c. 2002)

--

Onwuchekwa, 2003:125 records this skipping rhyme version from urban black America. Note the different beginning:

Hey girl, how about a fight?
'Cause here come Willie Mae
With the skirt on tight.
She can wiggle
She can woggle
She can do the split.
But I bet you five dollars
She can't do this.
Lady on 1 foot, 1 foot, 1 foot,

Lady on 2 foots, 2 foots, 2 foots..

--

Keywords: gender differences, taunt

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 3

Incidence: 20

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 16

Date: 1990s- 2006

Title: Hi-Low

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Clapping

Rhyme:

My name is high-low Jack-a-low,
Jack-a -low, hi-low,
Hi-lo, Jack-a-low, Boo! (Bro!)

(Napier, 1990s; Putararu, 2000; Gisborne, 2002; Auckland, 2003; Wairoa, 2005;
Ashburton, 2006)

--

My name is hi lo jiggilo,
Jiggilo, hi, lo,
Hi lo jiggilo,
Jiggilo, hi, lo.

(Tauranga, 2000)

--

My name is high-low, chickalow
My name is high-low, chickalow
High low, high low
Yo.

(NZ, 1990)

--

My name is hi low piccalo,
Piccalo hi low
High low piccalo,
Piccalo to you.

(Christchurch, 2006)

--

My name is high low, jigger low,
Jigger low, high low,
High low jigger low,
Hi Bro!

(Lower Hutt, 2005)

--

My name is hi low gigolo,
Gigolo high low.
Hi low gigolo,
Gigolo pal.

(Whakatane, 1990s)

--

My name is hi lo piccolo,
Piccolo hi low, hi low piccolo,
Piccolo hi low.

(Auckland, 2001)

--

Background Info: Hands are positioned with both sets of palms inwards, touching each others fingers back to back. (Personal informant)

--

Related to an Afro-American cheer "Hi-low-jigalow" mentioned in Gaunt, 2006:80-88.

--

Possibly associated with the early skipping rhyme described by Turner, 1969:27:
"High, low, dolly, dutch".

--

Keywords: nonsense
Location: Various NZ, Singapore Int. School
Group size: 2
Incidence: 12

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 17

Date: 1960s-2005

Title: Yankee Doodle

Gender: Female

Classification: Paorody

Rhyme:

Yankee Doodle, went to town,
Riding on a pony,
Stuck his finger up his bum,
And called it Macaroni.

(Wellington, 2003; Wairoa, 2005)

--

Yankee Doodle, went to town,
Riding on a pony,
Stuck a feather in his arse
And called it Macaroni.

(Titahi Bay, 1990s; Ashburton, 2000; Auckland, 2000)

--

Michael Jackson came to town,
Riding on his Harley.
Turned the corner,
Lost his quarter,
Then he went to Bali.

(Titahi Bay, 1990s)

--

Yankee Doodle, went to town,
Riding on a pony,
Stuck his finger up his bum,
And called it Hopoate!

(Based on infamous rugby incident, Rotorua, 2002)

--

Yankee Doodle, went to town,
Riding on a pony, (baby)
Turned the corner just in time,
To see a naked lady.

(Auckland, 1990s)

--

Yankee Doodle went to town,
Riding a Mercedes,
Turned the corner, just in time,
To see some naked ladies.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Yankee Doodle, went to town,
Riding on a pony,
When he was there
He cut his hair
And put it down his underwear!

(Rotorua, 1970s)

--

Yankee Doodle, went to town,
Driving his Mini Minor,
Couldn't hit the flamin' brakes,
And ended up in China.

Yankee Doodle, went to town,
Riding on a donkey,
Did a fart,
Flipped the cart,
And paralysed the donkey.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Yankee Doodle, went to town,
Riding on a donkey,
Did a fart,
And split the cart,
And called it macaroni.

(Auckland, 1960s)

--

Yankee Doodle went to town,
Riding on his Harley,

Stuck his girlfriend (a feather) on the back,
And said, "I love you darling."

(Titahi Bay, 1990s; Tauranga, 2001)

--

Yankee Doodle, went to town,
Riding on a pony,
Did a fart and broke the cart,
And paralysed the pony!

(Kerikeri, 1970s; Rotorua, 1970s; NZ ex Australia, 1990s; Dannevirke, 1990s;
Christchurch, 1990s; Amberley, 1990s; Ashburton, 1990s; Nelson, 1990s; Lumsden,
2003)

--

Yankee Doodle, went to town,
Riding on his hard-ee,
Stuck his girlfriend behind the back,
And said, "I love you, darling."
Yankee Doodle, keep it up,
Yankee Doodle, keep it up,
And we will have a baby.

(Wellington, 1990s)

--

Yankee Doodle came to town,
Riding on a pony.
The pony started,
Yankee farted,
And split his trousers,
Down the middle.

(Harwarden, 1990s)

--

Yankee Doodle went to town,
Riding on a Harley.
Turned the corner just in time,
To see the little darlings.

(Titahi Bay, 1990s)

--

Yankee Doodle, went to town,
Riding on a Harley,
Put a cork in his exhaust,
And blew himself to Bali.

(Napier, 1990s)

--

Yankee Doodle, went to town,
Riding on a donkey.
Got a rock, split his cock,
And called a little donkey.

(Timaru, 1990s)

--

Yankee Doodle went to town
Riding on a pony.
Hit a rock
Lost his cock,
Now he is a girl.

(Howick, 2006)

--

Background Info: Based on patriotic US song. Originally a 15th century Dutch harvesting song beginning "Yanker dudel doodle down".
Later sung with derision by British troops about American soldiers during the War of Independence.

--

Opie, 1992:439, records origins in America around 1768, discrediting the Dutch connection.

--

Macaroni was a type of Italian clothing that was considered fancy and overdressed (fop or dandy style).

--

Keywords: bawdy, scatological, rugby, fart lore
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 29

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 18
Date: 1944-1970
Title: Love many
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Love many, trust few,
Always paddle your own canoe.

(NZ, 1944; Ashburton, 1963; Christchurch, 1970)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 19
Date: 1963-1990s
Title: If all the boys
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

If all the boys lived over the sea,
What a good swimmer [X] would be.

(Ashburton, 1963; Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Location: Various NZ Australia
Group size: 1
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 20
Date: 1920s-2006
Title: I went to the pictures
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Tangle talk
Rhyme:

I went to the pictures tomorrow,

I took a front seat at the back,
I fell from the floor to the ceiling,
And hurt a front bone in my back.
A lady gave me a biscuit,
I ate it and gave it back.
I walked all the way home in a taxi
And saw a dead donkey die.
I picked up a stone that was too heavy
And hit the poor thing in the eye.

(Ashburton, 1950s)

--

Yesterday at three o'clock in the morning,
An empty house full of furniture caught alight.
The fire brigade came and put it out before it started,
Ran over a dead cat and half killed it.
Two naked men came running down the stairs,
With their hands in their pockets.
Two dead men went to hospital all right.

(NZ, 1920-1950 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:103))

--

I went to the pictures tomorrow,
I got a front row seat at the back.
I bought an ice cream
With a cherry on the bottom.
I ate it and gave it back.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Background Info: Tangle talk is the deliberate juxtaposition of incongruities. (Opie 1967:25)

--

See also rhymes in this collection beginning: "Not last night but the night before"
, "One fine day" and "Ladies and Jellyspoons".

--

Factor, 1988:181, comments about the "complex mismatching of meaning, duplication of sound and maintenance of a number of rhythms" found in such rhymes.

Ladies and jellyspoons,

I come before you
To stand behind you
To tell you something
I know nothing about.
On Monday
Which is Good Friday
There will be a mothers' meeting
For fathers only.
Admission is free
Pay at the door,
Bring your own seats
And sit on the floor.

--

Keywords: logical nonsense, tangle talk
Location: NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 21
Date: 1948
Title: Ants in the teapot
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Ants in the teapot,
Bugs in the spout,
The ants got the wind up
And blew the fleas out.

(NZ ex Australia, 1948)

--

Keywords: ,
Location: NZ (ex Australia)
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 22
Date: 1980s-2005
Title: Hey little motor car
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping

Rhyme:

Hey, little motor car 1964
It went around the cor-or-or-or-ner,
Slammed on the brakes.
The brakes didn't work,
So I took it away to the garage
And I slammed on the brakes.
STOP.

(Auckland, 1980s; Whakatane, 1990s; Tauranga, 2000; Rotorua, 2002; Wairoa, 2005)

--

Bumper, car, bumper car number 84,
Went round the cor..
ner, bumped into a lamp post,
Had to go to the gar.
Age. How many children did you hit?
1,2,3..

(Springston, 1990s)

--

I'm a little motor car, number 48,
Went around the cor-or-or-or-ner,
Slammed on the brakes.
The brakes didn't work,
How many years was I in jail?
1, 2, 3..

(Blenheim, 1984)

--

I had a little bubble car, 1964
And I slammed on my brakes, like this.

(Hokitika, 1980s)

--

I'm a little bumper car, number 38,
Spinning round the corner,
Slam on your brakes.

(Ashburton, 2005)

--

I'm a little motor car,
Number forty eight,
I went round the corner,
And put on my brakes.

(Christchurch, 1990)

--

Hey little motor car, 1964,
And she went around the cor..ner,
And she stopped for a break,
And she pulled up at the sign,
And found she couldn't go,
So she went to the ga...as station.

(Whakatane, 2002)

--

I had a little motor car 1964,
I drove it round the coooooorner,
Beep beep,
Slam on the brakes.
But the brakes didn't work,
So I drove it round the coooooorner.

(Titahi Bay, 1990s; Lower Hutt, 2005)

--

Motor car motor car 1964
Turn around the cor..turn,
When you get to six,
You can do the splits,
2,4,6.

(Christchurch, 2005)

--

Motor car, motor car, 1964
I went around the corner,
I forgot to step on the brakes. (children try to catch the rope between their feet.)

(Hastings, 1960s; Titahi Bay, 2003)

--

Driving in my motorcar,
Number 48.
Going round the cor-ner,
Slammed on the brakes,
But the brakes didn't work,
So I took it to a garage,
How many miles can I go?
5,10, 15, 20..

(Hawarden, 2000)

--

There was a little racing car,
Number 64.
He went around the co-o-rner,
And slammed on the brakes just like this,
Then he went to get some petrol,
1, 2, 3..

(Ashburton, 1990)

--

Background Info: Rules for skipping to this rhyme:

On "cor" the skipper jumps out and runs around the person holding the rope, jumping back in and carrying on with "ner."

On "stop" the jumper should stop with the rope between her legs.

Many different versions of this rhyme going back to 1964 with "Had a little bobby car.. ". (Turner, 1978:16)

--

Opie, 1997:217-218 discusses the actions involved in this skipping rhyme. Popular in Britain in early 1960s, with the rhyme beginning: "I'm a little bubble car". Game noted by Canadian folklorist, Edith Fowke, in 1959-1960:

Had a little Austin in 1948,
Turned around the corner
And slammed on the brake.
Policeman caught me, put me in jail.
All I had was ginger-ale.
How many gallons did I drink? 2, 4, 6, 8..

(Vancouver, 1959)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 10
Incidence: 18

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 24
Date: 1970s-2006
Title: My mother, your mother
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

My mother, your mother
Lives down the street,
18, 19 Marble Street.
Every time they had a fight
This is what they told me.
Boys are rotten made out of cotton,
Girls are sexy made out of Pepsi,
Boys play rugby to get more ugly,
Girls have a shower to get more powers.
Boys play rugby, to get more ugly,
Girls go to Mars to get more bras,
Girls are cute, they don't wear suits,
Boys go to Venus to get a bigger penis,
Boys go to Jupiter to get more stupider,
Boys are weird, they want to grow a beard,
Boys get Coke, they can't take a joke,
Incy wincy lollipop
Incy wincy woo
The boys love you. (me.)
(And that is true - shampoo!)

(Variations of the above from:
Christchurch, 1970s; Te Aroha, 1990s; Awanui, 1990s; Ashburton, 1990s; Waimate,
1990s; Owaka, 1990s; Christchurch, 1990s x 4; Whangarei, 1990s; Tauranga, 1990s;
Whakatane, 1990s; Timaru, 1990s; Blenheim, 1990s; Coromandel, 2000; Masterton, 2000;
Whangaparoa, 2000; Auckland, 2000 x 6; Hamilton, 2001 x 2; Nelson, 2002;
Rotorua, 2002 x 4; Porirua, 2003; Napier, 2003; Wairoa, 2005; Lower Hutt, 2005;
Christchurch, 2006)

--

Alternative endings:
Itsy, bitsy, do,
Itsy, bitsy, spider,
On Channel Two.

(Blenheim, 2000)

--

Itchy witchy lollipop, (bitsy, wincy,bincy)
Itchy witchy woo,
The boys love you,
And that's not true. (Full stop, shampoo)

(Christchurch, 1990s x 2; Northland, 1990s; Coromandel, 1990s; Auckland, 1993 x 2;
Upper Hutt, 1994; Rotorua, 2000 x 4; Auckland, 2000 x 6; Putararu, 2000; Blenheim,
2000; NZ ex Australia, 2000; Napier, 2000; Methven 2000; Timaru, 2000; Waitakere
City, 2001 x 2; Northland, 2001; Auckland 2002; Whakatane, 2002; Taumaranui, 2004;
Gisborne, 2004; Hokitika, 2005)

--

Ishoo, wishoo, lollipop,
Ishoo, wishoo, zoo,
Ishoo, wishoo lollipop,
The world loves you!

(Auckland, 2001)

--

Ishy, wishy, lollipop,
Ishy wishy, iceblock.

(Auckland, 2002)

--

And that's not true said Winnie the Pooh.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

My mother, your mother lives down the street,
18, 19 Marble Street,
Every time they had a fight,
And this is what they say all night,
Girls go to Mars to get more bras,
Boys go to Jupiter, to get more stupider.
Incy wincy lollipop,
Incy wincy whoo,
Incy wincy lollipop,
The boys love you - that's not true.

(Arrowtown, 2006)

--

My mother, your mother lived in a tree
80, 90 Marble Street,
Every time they had a fight this is what they told me.
Boys are rotten made out of cotton,
Girls are sexy made out of Pepsi.

(Gisborne, 2000)

--

Background Info: Bauer, 2002, Sect. 70:4-7, recorded twelve versions of this rhyme
(Invercargill, Wanganui, Hawkes Bay x 2, Palmerston North, Hamilton x 2, Rotorua,
Auckland x 3, Tauranga, Kaitaia).

Alternative ending:
Bull dog, bull dog, hanky panky,
Fee fie foe thumb,
Pass it to the last one.

(Rotorua, c. 2002)

--

See also, Sutton-Smith, 1959:70, for the counting-out version from 1950s:

My mother and your mother
Were hanging out clothes.
My mother gave your mother
A pinch in the nose.
And what colour do you think the blood ran?
[Blue] B. L. U. E.

--

Withers, 1970:26 records this as a counting-out rhyme:

My mother and your mother lived across the way,
Two-fourteen East Broadway.
Every night they'd have a fight
And this is what they'd say:
Acka backa soda cracka,
Acka backa boo.
If your father wants tobacka,
Out goes Y. O. U.

--

Butler, 1989:72, records a variation:

My daddy and your daddy
Were diggin' in a ditch.
My daddy called your daddy
A bald-headed son-of-a-
Bring up your children not to play with sticks.
When they get older they'll learn to play with
Dick, my doggy, layin' in the grass.
Along came a bumblebee and stung him on his
Ask me no more questions,
I'll tell you no more lies.
When they get older,
They'll bake you cherry pies.

(USA, 1968)

--

Keywords: gender differences, bawdy, commercial product,
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 69

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 25
Date: 1983
Title: Tony (Toe knee) nutbrown
Gender: Female
Classification: Word play
Rhyme:

Tony Nutbrown knows I love him
(Toe knee, crotch, bum, cross arms, point)

(Christchurch, 1983)

--

Keywords: word play
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 967
Date: 1950s
Title: Hiss

Gender: Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Hiss, hiss,
Purple piss,
Now and then a fart is heard,
Followed by a thundering turd.

(NZ, 1950s)

--

Keywords: scatological, fart lore
Location: NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 82
Date: 1960s-2006
Title: X likes coffee
Gender: Female
Classification: Tease, skipping
Rhyme:

[X] likes coffee,
[X] likes tea,
[X] likes sitting on her boyfriend's knee.

(NZ, 2005; Christchurch, 2006)

--

Calling in, calling in,
My best friend is X,
[X] likes coffee,
[X] likes tea,
[X] likes sitting on her boyfriend's knee.

(Hastings, 1960s)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 83

Date: 1950s-2001

Title: Ask no questions

Gender: Male

Classification: Tease

Rhyme:

Ask no questions,
Get told no lies,
Shut your mouth,
Catch no flies.

(Auckland, 1950s)

--

Ask no questions
And you'll be told no lies,
Shut your mouth
And you'll catch no flies.

(Auckland, 1960s)

--

Ask no questions,
And I'll tell you no lies.
Keep your mouth shut,
Or you'll fill it with flies.

(Auckland, 1960s)

--

Ask me no questions,
Tell me no lies,
I saw a Chinaman doing up his..
Flies are a nuisance,
Bugs are a pest,
I saw a Chinaman doing up his vest.

(NZ, 1970s)

--

Ask no questions, tell no lies.
Have you seen a policeman doing up his
Flies are a nuisance, bugs are even worse.
That is the end of my dirty little verse.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Ching Chong Chinaman,
Sitting on a rock,
Along came an Irishman, (Gisborne - Englishman)
And shot off his cock..
Tails and ginger ale, fifty cents a glass,
If you don't want it you can shove it up your..
Ask me no questions,
I'll tell you no lies,
I saw fifty little boys, pulling down their..
Flies are a nuisance,
Mosquitoes are worse,
This is the end of my dirty little verse.

NZ, 2001; Gisborne, 2001)

--

Oh, the cuckoo is a pretty bird as she sits upon the grass,
With her wings neatly folded and her beak up her..
Ask no questions,
Tell no lies,
Did you ever see a policeman unbuttoning his
Flies are a nuisance,
Bugs are worse,
And that is the end of my little verse.

(Christchurch, 1960s)

--

Little Robin redbreast, sitting on a pole,
Whistle between his,
Old Mother Riley, went to milk a cow,
She milked it, she milked it,
She didn't know how.
She pulled its tail instead of its tits,
Old Mother Riley got a face full of,
Ships on the ocean, green, green grass,
Ever seen a Chinaman looking up his,
Ask no questions, tell no lies,
Ever seen a sailor man doing up his,
Flies are a nuisance, bugs are worse,
That's the end of my little verse.

(Rotorua, 1980s)

--

Background Info: Recorded under the classification of 'Nosey Parkers' by Opie, 1967:183. In 1773, "She Stoops to Conquer", Tony Lumpkin said, "Ask no questions, tell no fibs."

--

Variation in Turner, 1978:137:

Ask no questions,
Tell no lies,
Open your mouth,
And catch flies.

(Melbourne, 1973)

--

"Play and Folklore", Issue 15, 1988:7, records this version from 1950s:
Ching Chong Chinaman,
Muchee, muchee sad,
Ching Chong Chinaman,
Muchee, muchee mad.

--

Compare with rhymes beginning:

Suzy had a steamboat..
Higher up the mountain..
Mary had a canary..
Country girls are pretty..
Can can girls..

--

Factor, 1988:163 refers to these rhymes as 'avoidance' rhymes.

--

Keywords: retort, Chinese, predictive,
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 9

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 84

Date: 2005
Title: Boogie Avenue
Gender: Female
Classification: Elastics
Rhyme:

Boogie,
Boogies
Avenue.

(Lower Hutt, 2005)

--

Location: Lower Hutt
Group size: 8
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 85
Date: 2005
Title: One strike
Gender: Female
Classification: Elastics
Rhyme:

One strike,
Two strike,
Three strike,
You're out!

(Wainuiomata, 2005)

--

Location: Wainuiomata
Group size: 8
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 86
Date: 2005
Title: Jingle jungle
Gender: Female
Classification: Elastics
Rhyme:

Jingle jungle,

Batman's mungle,
Jingle jingle out!

(Wainuiomata, 2005)

--

Keywords: media, television
Location: Wainuiomata
Group size: 8
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 87
Date: 1970s-2006
Title: England Ireland
Gender: Female
Classification: Elastics
Rhyme:

England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales,
Inside, outside, puppy dogs' tails.

(Ashburton, 1970s; NZ ex Australia, 1980s; Taradale, 1980s; Masterton, 1990s;
Hamilton, 1990s; Christchurch, 1990s x 8; Methven, 1990s x 2; Ashburton, 1999 x 3
Gore, 2000; Tapanui, 2000; Christchurch, 2000 x 2; Auckland, 2000 x 6; Napier, 2000;
Dannevirke, 2000 x 2; Timaru, 2000; Rotorua, 2002; Gisborne, 2002 x 2; Kaiapoi,
2003; Dunedin, 2005; Wainuiomata, 2005; Howick, 2006; Wellington, 2006; Arrowtown,
2006)

--

England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales,
Inside, outside, monkeys' tails.

(Christchurch, 1970s)

--

England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales,
Inside, outside, donkeys' tails.

(Taupo, 1980s, Auckland, 2000)

--

Passion fruit and ice cream soda,
Yum, yum, yum, it's pavalova.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Jingle, jangle, centre spangle,
Jingle, jangle OUT.

(Auckland, 1960s; Auckland, 1990s; Christchurch, 1990; Tauranga, 1990s; Hamilton,
1990s; Auckland, 2000; Gisborne, 2002)

--

England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales,
2,4,6,8, inside, outside, shut the gate.
Inside, outside, inside, outside, out.

(Kaitaia, 1990s; Tauranga, 1990s)

--

Ingle, angle,
Silver bangle,
Ingle, angle
OUT.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales,
Inside, outside, inside, on.

(NZ ex Australia, 1970s; Auckland, 1980s; Porirua, 2003 x2)

--

Hey Mickey, you're so fine,
You blow my mind,
Hey Mickey, cut the cabbage,
Banana split, banana split,
Banana, banana, banana split,
Peek a choo, peek a choo
Peek a, peek a, peek a choo.

(Porirua, 2003)

--

Side, side, middle, middle,
Side, side, out.

Jingle, jangle, centre, spangle,
Dingle, dangle, out.
1, 1, 2, 2, boogie, boogie, avenue,
1, 1, 2, 2, boogie, boogie, out!

(Whakatane, 1990s)

--

Background Info: An elastics game where actions accompany the words. An elastic band is stretched between the ankles of two players, while a third player jumps between the bands. As each verse is repeated the child completes the jumping sequence at increasingly higher elastic heights. These stages are sometimes referred to as anklies, kneesies, underbums, hipsies, under arms, necksies. Also jumpsies, dancies or jump dancies. (Personal informant)

--

Elastics also known as French skipping (UK), Chinese skipping, American skipping, Twang (UK), Hoppe Strikk (Norway), Hoppa Gummiband (Sweden), Hoppe Elastic (Denmark), 'Lastics, Chin Chan (Turkey). www.jiscmail.ac.uk/archives/childlore.html (2002 archives) (Accessed 15 January, 2007)

--

This game was especially popular in 1960s and 1970s. Origins may be Asian with reports of similar sequences being played between rigid bamboo poles in Shanghai and in the Philippines in 1930s. Variations and further explanations and historical details can be found in the child lore mailing list archives - www.jiscmail.ac.uk/archives/childlore.html (2002 archives) (Accessed 15 January, 2007)

--

Variations of "puppy dogs' tails" include; monkeys' tails, on the rails and donkeys' tails.

--

Keywords: NZ culture
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 60

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 88
Date: 1970s- 2006
Title: Jelly on a plate
Gender: Female

Classification: Elastics

Rhyme:

Jelly on a plate,
Jelly on a plate,
Wibble, wobble,
Wibble, wobble,
Jelly on a plate.
Sausages in a pan,
Sausages in a pan,
Pop, bang, pop, bang,
Sausages in a pan.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Jelly in a pot,
Wibble, wobble, wibble, wobble,
Jelly in a pot.

(Timaru, 2004)

--

Jelly on a plate,
Boom, boom,
Wibble, wobble,
Jelly on a plate,
Boom, you're out!

(Wainuiomata, 2005)

--

Jelly on a plate,
Jelly on a plate,
Wibble, wobble,
Wibble, wobble,
Jelly on a plate.

(Wellington, 1950s; Auckland, 1970s)

--

Sausages in the pan, sausages in the pan,
Turn them over, turn them over,
Sausages in the pan.

(Waikanae, 2000)

--

Paper on the floor, paper on the floor,
Pick it up, pick it up,
Paper on the floor.

(Auckland, 1970s)

--

Sixpence on the floor,
Sixpence on the floor,
Pick it up,
Pick it up,
Sixpence on the floor.

(NZ,1973)

--

Jelly on a plate,
Jelly on a plate,
Wobble, wobble,
Wobble, wobble,
Jelly on a plate.
Shake it to the left,
Shake it to the right,
Wobble, wobble, wobble, wobble,
Jelly on a plate.

(Timaru, 2002)

--

Background Info: Alternatives listed in Turner,1978:20:

Sausage in the pan..turn around.
Stockings falling down..pull 'em up.
Money on the floor..pick it up.
Burglar in the house..kick him out.
Jam on the shelf..pull it down.
Apples on the tree..pick them off.
Ants in your pants..scratch them off.
And others!

--

Opie, 1997:222 discusses variants including:

Baby on the floor..pick him up.
Spider on the wall..flick it off!
Bogey under the bed..shoo him out.
Marilyn [Monroe] at the show..show a leg.
Ice cream in the fridge..lick it up.

--

Keywords: food
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 8
Incidence: 9

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 90
Date: 2005
Title: Fight, fight
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Fight, fight little [X],
Call on your friend [Y].
At the door,
[Y] is the one with a pimple on her bum,
So we don't need her anymore.
Shut the door.

(Wainuiomata, 2005)

--

Background Info: Skipper calls in friend, who leaves at appropriate time.

--

Keywords: bawdy
Location: Wainuiomata
Group size: 8
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 91
Date: 1990-2006
Title: January, February
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

January, February...(jump in when your birthday is called).
1,2,3, (jump in when age is called).

(Christchurch, 1990; Lower Hutt, 2005; Tapanui, 2003; Christchurch, 2006)

--

Keywords: occasional rhyme, divination
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 8
Incidence: 4

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 93
Date: 2005
Title: Jumping in
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Jumping, jumping all the time,
Must not land on the jump rope line.
We must now count to ten.
Before we stop to rest again.

(Wainuiomata, 2005)

--

Location: Wainuiomata
Group size: 8
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 94
Date: 2005
Title: Boys have fun
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Boys, the boys
They have a lot of fun,
Here comes Johnny
With his zip undone.
Shake your wallah,
Shake your wallah,

You can't do the splits,
Bet you 5 bucks you can't do this!
Close your eyes and count to 10.
If you muck up you gotta start again.

(Wainuiomata, 2005)

--

Keywords: gender issues, bawdy
Location: Wainuiomata
Group size: 8
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 96
Date: 1990s-2006
Title: Double this
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Double double this this,
Double double that that,
Double this, double that,
Double double this that.

(Hamilton, 1990s; Tauranga, 1997; Rotorua, 1998; Putaruru, 1998; Blenheim, 1998 x 2;
Christchurch, 1999; Taupo, 2000; Auckland, 2000; Gisborne, 2000; Seddon, 2000;
Mosgiel, 2000; New Plymouth, 2001; Wellington, 2001; Papakura, 2001; Christchurch,
2003; Waitakere City, 2004; Ashburton, 2005; Hokitika, 2005; Wainuiomata, 2005)

--

Double, double, cheese, cheese,
Burger, burger, please, please,
Double cheese, burger please,
Double, double, cheese, cheese.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Freeze like this,
Double, double, this, this,
Double, double, that, that,
Doouble this, double that,
Double, double, this, that.
(Christchurch, 2000)

Dabba, dabba, this, this.
(Tauranga, 2000)

--

Double double ice ice
Double double cream cream
Double ice,double cream,
Double double ice cream.

(Waitakere, 2004)

--

Double, double, spice, spice,
Double, double, girl, girl,
Double spice, double girl,
Double, double, Spice Girl(s).

(Rotorua, 2000 x 2; Gisborne, 2000; Auckland, 2000)

--

Double, double, ham, ham,
Double, double, burger, burger,
Double ham, double burger,
Double, double, hamburger.

(Rotorua, 2000)

--

Double, double, men, men,
Double, double, black, black,
Double men, double black,
Double, double, Men in Black.

(Gisborne, 1998)

--

Background Info: Bauer, 2002,Sect. 70:21, recorded from Hawkes Bay the version:

Hammer hammer
Hard hard
Hammer hammer
Ware ware.
Hammer hard, Hammer, ware
Hammer Hammer hardware.

(Hastings, c. 2002)

--

Keywords: commercial product

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 8

Incidence: 29

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 98

Date: 1990-2006

Title: Sa inga

Gender: Female

Classification: Clapping

Rhyme:

Sa inga, inga, inga,
Ko ko ti ora mete
Greece, Greece, Greece,
Mete grass, grass, grass,
So inga, inga, inga, ko ko, ti ora
I don't know the rest, so haere ra.

(Wainuiomata, 2005)

--

Sa inga, inga, inga,
Toko te ora.
And a grass, grass, grass.
So inga, inga, inga,
Toko te ora.
We don't know the rest, so ha, ha, ha.

(Auckland, 2000; Christchurch, 2006)

--

Sa inga inga inga
Koko te o ra
Kire kire kire
Kira kira lira (repeat)
Don't know the rest, so ha ha ha.

(Blenheim, 1995)

--

Saringa, ringa, ringa, pa ka kei ora,
Keri, keri,keri, kera, kera, kera.
Saringa, ringa, ringa, pa ka kei ora,
Don't now the words, so ha ha ha.

(NZ, 1990)

--

Keywords: Pacific culture, Samoan
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 8
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 99
Date: 2005
Title: Sa maria
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Sa maria, maria,
Maria, maria, maria,
Cha cha maria,
Cha, cha, cha.

(Wainuiomata, 2005)

--

Keywords: Pacific culture
Location: Wainuiomata
Group size: 8

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 183
Date: 1990s-2004
Title: I'm rubber
Gender: Male
Classification: Retort
Rhyme:

I'm rubber, you're glue,
What you say
Bounces off me
And sticks to you.

(Northland, 2000; Taumaranui, 2004)

--

I'm the rubber, you're the glue,
Whatever you say, sticks to you.
You're the wee, and I'm the poo,
Whatever I say, sticks to you.

(Auckland, 1990s)

--

I'm rubber, you're glue,
Anything you say bounces offa me
And sticks to you.

(NZ ex USA, 1998)

--

I'm rubber,
You're glue,
Whatever you say,
Rebounds off me,
And sticks to you.

(Northland, 2000)

--

Background Info: Bauer, 2003:112 discusses the retort related to someone giving you something you don't want.

I'm a mirror,
You're the glue,
Everything you give to me,
Reflects off me and sticks to you.

(NZ, c. 2003)

--

This rhyme is usually accompanied by a hand being placed in front of the face of the speaker and sometimes the words..

Talk to the hand,
The head ain't home.
Leave a message
At the end of the tone.

(NZ, c. 2003)

--

Keywords: retort, scatological
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1
Date: 2001-2006
Title: Pizza Hut
Gender: Female
Classification: Action
Rhyme:

Pizza Hut, Pizza Hut,
Kentucky Fried Chicken and Pizza Hut,
McDonald's, McDonald's,
Kentucky Fried Chicken and Pizza Hut.

(Blenheim, 1995; Auckland, 2001; Auckland, 2002; NZ. 2004; Ashburton, 2006)

--

PK, Juicy Fruit and Arrowmint
PK, Juicy Fruit and Arrowmint
And mix it with chewing gum.

(NZ, 2005)

--

Background Info: Actions accompany this rhyme: triangular shape with hands for Pizza Hut, arms as flapping wings for KFC and arches with hands for McDonald's. Used in introduction to "Super Size Me" (2004) movie by Mike Moore, relating to America's fast food industry.

--

Keywords: Pizza Hut, McDonalds, commercial, product
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 6

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 2
Date: 1950s- 2006
Title: Kissing
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Tease - skipping
Rhyme:

X and Y sitting in a tree,
K . I . S . S . I . N . G,
First comes love, then comes marriage,
Then comes baby in a baby carriage.

(Auckland, 1950s; Christchurch, 1970s x 5; Palmerston North, 1970s; Auckland, 1970s;
Timaru, 1970s; Auckland, 1975 x 3; Dunedin, 1978; NZ ex UK, 1986; Ashburton, 1990s;
Hastings, 1990s; Auckland, 2000 x 4; Papakura, 2000; Oamaru, 2000; Thames, 2000;
Napier, 2000; Whakatane, 2000; Mangakino, 2000; Papakura, 2001; Timaru, 2002;
Hamilton, 2002; Tapanui, 2003; Christchurch, 2004 x 5; Timaru, 2006; Howick, 2006)

--

[Claudia] and [Callum] sitting in a tree,
K I S S I N G,
First comes love,
Then comes marriage,
Then comes baby in a baby carriage.
That's not all, that's not all,
The baby's playing basketball.
That's not all, that's not all,
The baby's drinking alcohol.
That's not all, that's not all,
The baby's sick in hospital.

(Christchurch, 2006)

--

X and Y sitting in a tree,
K . I . S . S . I . N . G,
First comes love, then comes marriage,
Then comes baby in a golden carriage.

(Hamilton, 1990s)

--

A, C, C, (when skipper trips think of a boy's name starting with the letter they
trip on)

X up a tree.K. I. S. S. I. N. G
First comes love,
Then comes marriage,

Then comes X junior in a baby carriage.

(Kerikeri, 1980s)

--

X and Y sitting in a tree,
K . I . S. S. I. N. G,
First comes love, then comes marriage,
Then comes baby in a baby carriage.
But that's not all, baby's playing basketball.
(Baby is peeing on the wall, baby is swimming in the adult pool)

(Auckland, 2000)

--

X and Y sitting in a tree,
K . I . S. S. I. N. G,
First comes love, then comes marriage,
Then comes baby in a baby carriage.
That's not all, that's not all,
The baby's playing basketball,
That's not all, that's not all,
The baby's drinking alcohol.

(Christchurch, 2000 x 4; NZ ex International school, China, 2000; Christchurch, 1990)

That's not all, 1, 2, 3,
X ends up on the D.P.B! (Christchurch, 2002)

--

X and Y in the shower,
Kiss, kiss, kissing,
For half an hour.

(Leeston, 2000)

--

X and Y up a tree,
Doing stuff they shouldn't be.

(NZ ex International School, China, 2000)

--

X and Y sitting in a tree,
K . I . S. S. I. N. G,

First comes Dad,
Then comes Mum,
Then comes a little baby's bum.

(Taumarunui, 2004)

--

X and Y sitting in a tree,
K . I . S . S . I . N . G ,

(Auckland, 1973; Kaeo, 1990s; Timaru, 2000; Nelson, 2000; Methven, 2000; Rotorua, 2000; Lawrence, 2000; Kawerau, 2002)

--

X and Y sitting in a tree,
Doing what they should be,
First comes steady,
Then comes marriage,
Then comes a baby,
Then a carriage.

(Timaru, 2006)

--

X and Y sitting in a tree,
F U C K I N G,
First comes love
Then comes marriage
Then comes a baby
In a golden carriage.

(Howick, 2006)

--

Background Info: Used as a taunt or tease to a couple perceived to be boyfriend and girlfriend.

--

Used in movie "Cry Baby" (1990) starring Jonny Dep. "Cry Baby and Allison sitting in a tree."

--

Also used as political satire: Saddam and Bush sitting in a tree..

--

Used by movie star gossip columnists: Brad and Angelina sitting in a tree..

--

Keywords: love, NZ culture, alcohol

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 2

Incidence: 61

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 3

Date: 1959,-2006

Title: Teddy bear

Gender: Female

Classification: Skipping

Rhyme:

Teddy bear, teddy bear, turn around,
Teddy bear, teddy bear, touch the ground.

(NZ ex UK, 1983; Upper Hutt, 1990s; Lower Hutt, 2006; Wellington, 2006)

--

Teddy bear, teddy bear, go upstairs, (Timaru, 1990s)
Teddy bear, teddy bear, say your prayers.
Teddy bear, teddy bear, turn off the light, (Wellington, 1990s)
Teddy bear, teddy bear, say good night.

(Methven 1970s; Auckland, 1970s x 2; Palmerston North, 1970s; Christchurch, 1975 x 2; Awanui, 1980s; Blenheim, 1980s; Auckland, 1980s x 2; Gisborne, 1980s; Hawarden, 1990s; Wellington, 1990s x 2; Whangarei, 1990s x 3; Porirua, 1990s; Te Aroha, 1990s; Napier, 1990s; Whangaparaoa, 1990s; Hamilton, 1990s; Palmerston, 1990s; Carew, 1990s; Springston, 1990s; Christchurch, 1990s x 14; Auckland, 2000 x10; Coromandel, 2000; Kerikeri, 2000; Howick, 2000; Dannevirke, 2000; Motueka, 2000; Tauranga, 2000 x 2; Ashburton, 2000; Greymouth, 2000; Waiuku, 2000; Rotorua, 2000; Whakatane, 2000 x 2; Nelson, 2000 x 3; Northland, 2002; Wairoa, 2002; Porirua, 2003 x 2; Fairlie, 2003; Timaru. 2003 x 2; Ashburton, 2005; Dunedin, 2005; Motueka, 2005; Lower Hutt, 2005 x 2; Wellington, 2006)

--

Variants:

Spell goodnight, G O O D N I G H T

(Rangiora, 2000)

--

Teddy bear, teddy bear, count down again.
Teddy bear, teddy bear, jump up high
Teddy bear, teddy bear, say good bye.

(Lower Hutt, 2006)

--

Teddy bear, teddy bear, tie your shoe,
Teddy bear, teddy bear, how old are you?
1,2, 3..

(Winton, 1975)

--

Teddy bear, teddy bear, turn around,
Teddy bear, teddy bear, touch the ground.
Teddy bear, teddy bear, count to ten,
Teddy bear, teddy bear, count down again.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Teddy bear, teddy bear, turn around,
Teddy bear, teddy bear, touch the ground.
Teddy bear, teddy bear, show your shoe,
Teddy bear, teddy bear, that will do.

(Christchurch, 2000; Taupo, 2000)

--

Teddy bear, teddy bear, turn around,
Teddy bear, teddy bear, touch the ground.
Teddy bear, teddy bear, jump up high,
Teddy bear, teddy bear, wave goodbye.

(Christchurch, 2003)

--

Teddy bear replaced by Koala bear in Christchurch, 1970s.

--

Background Info: Development of this rhyme can be traced back to a circle game known

as "Drop your Handkerchief," played in the early 1900s. The linked chant begins:

Lady, Lady, drop your purse,
Lady, Lady, pick it up.
Lady, Lady, touch the ground,
Lady, lady, turn around. (Abrahams, 1969:xviii)

--

Rhyme used in 1950s (Sutton-Smith, 1959:81):

I had a teddy bear, dressed in green,
I didn't want it so I gave it to the Queen.
The Queen didn't want it so she gave it to the King,
And the King said:
Teddy bear, teddy bear, touch the ground..

Includes the line "take your hook", where the skipper pulls above at an invisible hook. Other lines include: say your prayers, read a big book, look at the sky, wink one eye,

--

Alternative version in Botkin, 1944:793:

Old lady, old lady, touch the ground,
Old lady, old lady, turn around,
Old lady, old lady, point your shoe,
Old lady, old lady, 23 skidoo.

(USA, 1930-1940)

--

Keywords: action rhyme
Location: Various NZ, USA
Group size: 2
Incidence: 90

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 4
Date: 1970s- 2006
Title: Bambushes
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping Skipping
Rhyme:

Under the bambushes
Down by the sea, boom, boom, boom.

True love for you, my darling, true love for me.
We'll get married and have a family,
With 16 children all in a row.

(Christchurch, 1970s; Auckland, 1998; Tauranga, 1999; Methven, 2000; Blenheim, 2000;
Christchurch, 2000; Auckland, 2001 x 2; Rotorua, 2002; Gisborne, 2002; Porirua,
2003; Kaiapoi, 2003; Wellington, 2006)

--

Down by the banbushes,
Down by the sea,
True love for you my darling,
True love for me.
We'll get married and raise a family,
With 15 children all in a row,
Row, row, row your boat
Gently down the stream,
Toss the teacher overboard
And listen to her scream.

(Manurewa, 1970s; Hokianga, 1970s; Auckland, 1975; Coromandel, 1990s; Kerikeri,
1990s; Hamilton, 1990s x 3; Wellington, 1998; Auckland, 2000; Timaru, 2000;
Whakatane, 2000; Auckland, 2000; Masterton, 2000; Whakatane, 2000; Gisborne, 2000;
Awanui, 2000; Ngaio, 2000; Papakura, 2000; Christchurch, 2000 x 3; Rotorua, 2000 x 2;
Waitakere, 2001; Lawrence, 2002; Auckland, 2002; Kerikeri, 2002; Rotorua, 2002;
Christchurch, 2002 x 4; Wellington, 2002 x 2; Rotorua, 2003; Gisborne, 2003; Raumati,
2003; Blenheim, 2004; Hokitika, 2005; Lower Hutt, 2005)

--

Under the banbushes, under the sea,
True love for you my darling, true love for me.
When we get married, we'll raise a family,
And have sixteen children all in a ..
Row, row, row your boat
Gently down the stream,
Toss the teacher overboard
And listen to her scream.
Ahh, ahh, I've lost my bra,
I don't know where my knickers are,
Are they white or are they blue?
Did I flush them down the loo?
Or are they filled with chicken poo?

(Tauranga, 2002; Hamilton, 2002)

--

Down by the bramble bushes

Down by the sea,
Boom, boom, boom,
True love for you, my darling,
True love for me.

(Timaru, 2000; Christchurch, 1999; Wairoa, 1970s)

--

When we get married,
We'll have a family,
A boy for you and a girl for me.
Johnny in the bushes, Johnny in the sea,
Johnny broke a bottle and blamed it on me.
I told ma, ma told pa,
Johnny got a hiding with a ha, ha, ha,
(Johnny got a smacking on his oompa cha cha - Auckland, 2000)
How many hidings did he get,
1, 2, miss a few, 99, 100!

(Blenheim, 1990s x 2; Auckland, 1990s; Napier, 1990s; Auckland, 1998; Whangarei, 1998; Porirua, 1998; Wellington, 1999; Napier, 2000; NZ ex UK, 2000; Northland, 2000; Gisborne, 2000; Whakatane, 2000; Christchurch, 2002; Lower Hutt, 2002; Wellington, 2002; Napier, 2002; Auckland, 2002; Porirua, 2003)

--

Under the bram bushes, my boyfriend said to me,
Kiss me, hug me, tell me that you love me,
Under the bambushes my boyfriend said to me,
Pinch me, kick me, tell me that you hate me.
Down by the bambushes, my boyfriend said to me,
Get lost!

(Northland, 2001)

--

Under the bram bushes, under the sea,
Boom, boom, boom,
True love for you, my darling, true love for me.
When we get married,
And raise a family,
A boy for you and a girl for me.
Dum, da, da, dum, dum, dum, dum.
(I-diddli-idy will we! - Christchurch, 2000)
(Johnny broke a bottle under a tree-boom, boom, boom - Otaki, 2002)

(Dunedin, 1978; Auckland, 1980s; Wellington, 1990s; Auckland, 1990s x 2;
Christchurch, 1995; Rotorua, 1998; Ashburton, 1998; Greymouth, 1998; Christchurch,

2000; Timaru, 2000; Dannevirke, 2000; Waipukurau, 2000; Auckland, 2002)

--

Under the bram bushes, under the sea,
Boom, boom, boom,
True love for you, my darling, true love for me.
When we get married,
And raise a family,
A boy for you and a girl for me.
How many fishes in the sea?
Twelve plus twelve is twenty four,
Kick the teacher out the door.
If she says 'Don't do that',
Hit her on the head with a baseball bat.

(Kaiapoi, 2002; NZ, 2003)

--

Under the bram bushes, under the sea,
True love for you, my darling, true love for me.
When we get married, and raise a family
With sixteen children all in a ..
Row, row, row your boat gently down the stream,
Merrily, merrily, life is but a dream.

(Hamilton, 1979; Auckland, 1980s; New Plymouth, 1980s; Auckland, 1990s; Ashburton, 1998; Blenheim, 2000; Porirua, 2003; Wellington, 2003; Tauranga, 2004)

--

Under the bram bushes, under the sea,
True love for you, my darling, true love for me.
When we get married,
We'll have a family,
A girl for you and a boy for me.
Um diddle um dum,
Sexy. (said with a flick of the hair on both sides with hands)

(Christchurch, 1979; Christchurch, 1980s x 3; Foxton, 1983; Christchurch, 1990s x 3; Ashburton, 1992; Christchurch, 1999; Christchurch, 2000; Ashburton, 2000; Timaru, 2000)

--

Under the mountain, under the sea,
Boom, boom, boom.
True love for you, my darling, true love for me.
Boom, boom, boom.

(Paraparaumu, 1970s)

--

Down by the bamby, down by the sea,
True love for you, my darling, true love for me.
When we get married,
We'll raise a family, with 60 children all in a row,
Row, row, row your boat gently down the stream,
Toss the teacher overboard and listen to her scream.
Teacher, teacher, get it right,
If you don't we'll kick you out.
If she says 'Don't do that',
Hit her on the head with a baseball bat.
Teacher, teacher, I declare,
I can see your underwear.
Is it blue or is it brown?
Oh my gosh, it's falling down!

(Whangaparoa, 2000)

--

Under the bram bushes, under the sea,
Boom, boom, boom,
True love for you my darling, true love for me.
When we get married, and raise a family
With sixteen children all in a ..
Row, row, row your boat gently down the stream,
Chuck your teacher overboard,
And listen to her scream, scream, scream scream,
Down the alley way, crocodile, crocodile,
1, 1, 2, 2, flush him down the loo!
3, 3, 4, 4, Kick your brother out the door.

(Whangaparoa, 1998; Auckland, 1998; Auckland, 2000; Rotorua, 2000; Auckland, 2000;
Hamilton, 2002; Auckland, 2002 x 3; Timaru, 2002; Gore, 2002; Greytown, 2002;
Tauranga, 2002)

--

Under the bram bushes, under the tree,
True love for you, my darling, true love for me.
When we get married, and raise a family
With sixteen children all in a ..
Row, row, row your boat gently down the stream,
Chuck your teacher overboard,
And listen to her scream, scream, scream scream,
Screaming down the Nile,

Look, look, look, look, there's a crocodile.
Dial, dial, dial, dial, emergency,
1, 1, 2, 2, Boogie boogie avenue.

(Auckland, 1990)

--

Under the bram bushes, under the sea,
My mother said, my lover said,
Let me go free.
Boom, boom, boom.

(Taupo, 2003)

--

Under the bram bushes, under the sea,
My mother said,
That we would be friends for ever more, more, more.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Under the bamby bushes,
My boyfriend came to me,
Tic, tac, toe,
Give me a yes,
Give me a no,
Tic, tac, toe.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Under the bram bushes,
Under the sea,
Too late for me, my darling,
Too late for me.

(Hamilton, 2002)

--

Under the bamboo,
Under the sea,
I have a girlfriend,
Under the sea.

(Auckland, 1994)

--

Under the bambushes,
Under the sea,
Boom, boom, boom,
True love for me and you,
Through and through, boom, boom, boom.
My mum lives down Marble Street,
And this is what she told me,
Girls are sexy made out of Pepsi,
Boys are dicks, made out of sticks.

(Rotorua, 2002)

--

ALTERNATIVE ENDING:

Loo, loo, loo, skip to the loo my darling.

(Christchurch, 1990s x 2; Rotorua, 1990s; Mangakino, 2001; Gisborne, 2001; Tauranga, 2002; Auckland, 2002; Christchurch, 2004; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Background Info: The most popular rhyme in this collection.

--

Possible origins in the lyrics of a vaudeville musical, "Sally in Our Alley" (1902) by African-American songwriters Cole and Johnson. Also known as "The Cannibal King",

A Cannibal King with a big nose ring
Fell in love with a dusky maiden
And every night by the pale moonlight
Off to the lake he waded.
He hugged and kissed his pretty little miss
Under the bamboo tree
And every night by the pale moon light
Sounds like this to me..
Carumph (*kiss* *kiss* noise)
Carumph *kiss* *kiss*
Carumph diddy oddy aye aye aye (Repeat)
We'll build a bungalow big enough for two
Big enough for two my honey,
Big enough for two,
And when we're in it, how happy we'll be
Under the bamboo, under the bamboo tree.

--

Variations include bambi bushes, bean bushes, bramble bushes, bam bam bushes, ban bushes, bamb'ry bushes, bag bushes.

--

Version recorded by Knapp, 1976:131:

Under the bamboo, under the tree,
Big enough for you, my darling,
Big enough for me.
After we're married, happy we'll be,
Under the bamboo, under the tree.
If you'll be m-i-n-e, mine, I'll be t-h-i-n-e, thine,
I'll love you all the time,
You're the best, of all the rest,
And I'll love you all the time.
Rock 'em, sock 'em, any old time,
Match in the gas tank, boom-boom.

--

Keywords: school, family values, bawdy, scatological, violence

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 2

Incidence: 153

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 5

Date: 1970s-2006

Title: Row your boat

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Parody

Rhyme:

Row, row, row your boat,
Gently down the stream,
Push your teacher overboard
And listen to her scream,

(Christchurch, 1970s x 2; Auckland, 1975; NZ ex UK, 1980s; Glentunnel, 1990s;
Hawarden, Dunedin, 1990s; Christchurch, 1990s x 5; Auckland, 1997 x 2; Wellington,
1998; Wellington, 2000; Dannevirke, 2000; Amberley, 2000; Northland, 2000; Tauranga,
2000; Rotorua, 2000 x 2; Wellington, 2000; Nelson, 2000 x 2, Whakatane,
2000; Timaru, 2000; Gisborne, 2001; Blenheim, 2002; Fairlie, 2003; Christchurch,
2003; Kumeu, 2003; Lower Hutt, 2006)

--

Scream, scream, down the aisle,
Look there's a crocodile,
Dial, dial 1, 1, 2, 2 .
Boogie, boogie avenue.

(Auckland, 2000; Whangarei, 2000; Kumeu, 2003; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Row, row, row your boat,
Gently down the stream,
If you see a funny man,
It's probably Mr Bean!

(Christchurch, 2004)

--

Row, row, row your boat,
Gently down the stream,
Putt, putt, putt, putt,
You're out of gasoline!

(Whakatane, 1990s)

--

Row, row, row your boat,
Gently down the stream,
If your teacher comes along,
Remember to push her in.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Row, row, row your boat,
Gently down the stream,
We're coming to a waterfall,
You're going to have to scream!

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Row, row, row your boat,
Gently down the stream,
If you see a crocodile,
Don't forget to scream. Ahh!

(Rotorua, 1990s x 2; Wellington, 1998; Christchurch, 2000; Swanson, 2001; Lower Hutt, 2002; Christchurch, 2003)

--

Row, row, row your boat,
Gently down the stream,
Ha, ha fooled you all!
I'm a submarine.

(Lower Hutt, 1980s; Waitakere City, 2000; Auckland, 2000; Rotorua, 2002)

--

Row, row, row your boat,
Gently down the stream,
Push your teacher overboard
And listen to her scream,
Ohh, ahh I lost my bra,
Don't know where my knickers are.
Are they white,
Or are they blue,
Or did I flush them down the loo?
Ohh ahh, there they are, in my boyfriend's car.

(Greymouth, 1990s; Porirua, 1998; Christchurch, 2000)

--

ALTERNATIVE ENDINGS:
Five (10) days later, nothing to be seen,
But the teacher's underwear
Floating down the stream.

(Hamilton, 2002; Wellington, 2002; Timaru, 2006)

--

Scream, scream screaming down the aisle,
Look, look, look, there's a crocodile,
Dial, dial, dial, 1, 1, 2, 2, boogie, boogie avenue.

(Gore, 2002)

--

Not because you're dirty,
Not because you're clean,
But my mummy says,

You're the fairy queen.

(NZ, 2000)

--

Row, row, row, your boat,
Gently down the stream,
Shoot the guys over there
And listen to them scream.

(NZ ex Australia, 2002)

--

Row, row, row your boat,
Gently down the stream,
Tip your teacher overboard
And listen to her scream,
Ohh, ahh I lost my bra,
Don't know where my knickers are.
Ohh ahh, there they are,
Riding in Michael Jackson's car.

(Christchurch, 2001)

--

Background Info: Variations to the rhyme, "Row, row, row your boat, gently down the stream, merrily, merrily, merrily, life is but a dream."

--

Keywords: school, authority, media culture

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 2

Incidence: 61

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 6

Date: 1951

Title: Little deeds

Gender: Female

Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

Little deeds are like little seeds,
They grow to flowers or to weeds.

(NZ ex Australia, 1951)

--

Location: NZ (ex Australia)

Group size: 1

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 7

Date: 1951

Title: Laughing

Gender: Female

Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

Laughing makes us fat they say,
Worry makes us thin,
So be among the happy ones,
Just crack your face and grin.

(NZ ex Australia, 1951)

--

Location: NZ (ex Australia)

Group size: 1

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 26

Date: 1970s-2006

Title: Jingle bells

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Parody

Rhyme:

Jingle bells,
Batman smells,
Robin laid an egg,
Wonder Woman lost her bosoms,
On her way to bed.
Hey!

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Jingle bells,
Batman smells,
Robin laid an egg, (Christchurch, 2004)
The Batmobile, lost a wheel,
And the Joker got away.

(Auckland, 1990s; Waiuku, 1990s; Nelson, 1990; Christchurch, 1997; Porirua, 2000;
Timaru, 2002; Lumsden, 2003; Lower Hutt, 2006)

--

Jingle bells,
Batman smells,
Robin ran away.
The Batmobile lost a wheel,
And blew up Pak 'n Save.

(Rotorua, 2002)

--

Jingle bells,
Batman smells,
Robin wet the bed,
Oh what fun it is to ride,
Inside Sponge Bob's head.

(Lower Hutt, 2006)

--

Jingle bells,
Batman smells,
Robin laid an egg,
Rudolf got a 44,
And shot him in the head.
Barbie tried to save his life,
But Goodie Dude from Mexico,
(G.I. Joe and Action Man)
Stabbed her with a knife.

(Oamaru, 2004)

--

Jingle bells, Batman smells,
Robin ran away,
Big bad wolf,
Got a gun and blew Santa Claus away. Hey!
Barbie doll, Barbie doll,

Tried to save his life.
But Action Man killed her then,
With a six foot carving knife.

(Christchurch, 2001)

--

Jingle bells jingle bells,
Robin flew a way,
Father Christmas pooped his britches,
On his great big sleigh.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Jingle bells,
Batman smells,
Robin laid an egg,
Catwoman lost her boxers,
On the way to bed.

(Christchurch, 1994)

--

Jingle bells,
Batman smells,
Robin ran away.
Santa Claus lost his balls,
On the motorway,
Hey!

(Papakura, 2001)

--

Jingle bells,
Batman smells,
Robin laid an egg,
Super Granny lost her fanny,
On the way to bed.
Hey!

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Jingle bells,

Batman smells,
Robin laid an egg,
Super Granny lost her fanny,
On the motorway!

(Auckland, 1990s; Tauranga, 2002; Upper Hutt, 2004)

--

Jingle bells,
Batman smells,
Robin flew away,
He couldn't stand the odour,
So he jumped into the hay,
Hey!

(Gisborne, 2003)

--

Jingle bells,
Batman smells,
Robin flew away,
Wonder Woman did a fart,
And blew up the USA. Hey!

(Wellington, 1994; Northcote, 2004)

--

Jingle bells,
Batman smells,
Robin laid an egg,
Big Fat Penguin, went up to heaven,
And Cat Woman blew up the USA,
Hey!

(Christchurch, 1998)

--

Jingle bells,
Batman smells,
Robin laid an egg,
Batman lost his smell,
And Robin's egg cracked.

(Kerikeri, 2002)

--

Jingle bells,
Batman smells,
Robin ran away.
Spiderman, wet his pants,
No-one wants to play.

(Auckland, 1960s)

--

Jingle bells,
Robin smells,
Batman flew a way.
He lost his pants,
While over France,
And found them in Bombay.

(Kerikeri, 2002; Auckland, 2006)

--

Jingle bells,
Batman smells,
Robin ran away,
Father Christmas lost his whiskers,
On a windy day.
(Nelson, 1970s)
And found them between his legs.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Jingle bells, jingle bells,
Santa Claus is dead.
Rudolf got a (gattling gun - Christchurch, 2001) (mimi gun-2002) (M 16 - Dunedin,
1980s)
44 and shot him in the head.
(Teddy bear, teddy bear, shot him in the head - Rotorua, 2000)
Barbie doll, Barbie doll, tried to save his life.
G I Joe from Mexico, (Mighty, mighty G I Joe - Auckland, 2000)
Stabbed her with a knife.

(Whakatane, 1990s; Christchurch, 1990s; Auckland, 2000; Rotorua, 2002)

--

Jingle bells,
Batman smells,

Robin laid an egg,
The Batmobile lost a wheel,
And Catgirl did a reel.
And landed in the bay.

(Palmerston, 2000; Rotorua, 2000)

--

Jingle bells,
Batman smells,
Robin laid an egg,
The Batmobile lost a wheel,
On the motorway.

(Hamilton, 1990s; Christchurch, 2000; Wellington, 2001)
(And blew up the USA - Dannevirke, 2000)
(On a sunny day - Ashburton, 1970s)
(Now Wonder Woman is dead - Upper Hutt, 2004)
(And the Joker went out to beg. - Christchurch, 2000)
(And landed in the bay - Henderson, 1990s)

--

Jingle bells, Jingle bells,
Jingle all the way,
Old McFarley,
Lost his Harley,
On the way to bed.

(Ashburton, 1998)

--

Jingle bell, Batman smells,
Robin laid an egg.
Oh what fun it is to see the duosplit today.

(Wellington, 2000)

--

Jingle bells,
Batman smells,
Robin flew away,
Wee Willie Winkie died that night,
Cos he held his breath with all his might.

(Christchurch, 1998)

--

Jingle bells,
Batman smells,
My balls are made of brass.
Every time they clang together,
Sparks fly out my arse.

(Christchurch, 1990)

--

Jingle bells,
Triton smells,
Octopus ran away.
Dolphin got disqualified,
And Marlin won the day.
Hey! (related to a school's team competition - partisan)

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Jingle bell, jingle bell,
Jingle bell rock,
Santa's got a hickey (condom) (pompom -Christchurch, 1990s)
On the end of his cock. (Rotorua, 2000)
The reindeer (Rudolf) are pregnant,
The elves are gay.
Santa's got a condom
On the end of his sleigh.
That's the jingle bell way.

(Auckland, 2005)

--

Jingle bells, Batman smells,
Robin flew away,
Father Christmas lost his whiskers,
Flying T.A.A. (Australian airline)

(Dunedin, 2000)

--

Jingle bells, Batman smells,
Robin ran away,
Batman (Wonder Woman, Catwoman) done (sic) a great big fart,
And blew up USA.

(Waiuku, 1990s; Dunedin, 2000; Auckland, 2000; Upper Hutt, 2004)

--

Jingle bells, Batman smells,
Robin ran away,
Father Christmas lost his britches,
(Whiskers - Hororata, 1990; Te Awamutu, 2000; Rotorua, 2002)
(Drawers - Auckland, 2002)
(Knickers - Wellington, 1994; Waitakere City, 1990s ; Auckland, 2003)
(Balls - Blenheim, 2004)
On the motorway.

(Auckland, 1990s x2)

--

Jingle bells, Santa smells,
A little Christmas pie.
Hops on his sleigh,
And burps on his way.
Then he flies away.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Jingle bells,
Batman smells,
Robin laid an egg,
The batmobile drove away.
And squashed poor Robin dead.

(Auckland, 2001)

--

Wonder Woman lost her bosoms on the motorway. (freeway - Gisborne, 1980s)

(Upper Hutt, 1980s; Manurewa, 1980s; Dannevirke, 1980s; Auckland, 1990s; Auckland, 2000; Gisborne, 2001)

--

Wonder Woman lost her fanny on the motorway.

(Auckland, 1998)

--

Wonder Woman lost her bosom halfway up the stairs.

(Christchurch, 1984; Palmerston, 2000)

--

Wonder Woman lost her knickers on the Milky Way.

(UK, 2004; NZ, 1990s; Christchurch, 1980s; Porirua, 2000)

--

Wonder Woman did a big fart and blew up the USA.

(Rotorua, 1980s; Owaka, 1990s; Christchurch, 1990s; Lower Hutt, 1990s; Auckland, 1990s x 2; Papakura, 2000; Tauranga, 2000; Porirua, 2000; Dannevirke, 2000; Hawkes Bay, 2002; NZ ex Australia, 2002)

--

Wonder Woman lost her bosoms, flying to LA.(USA)

Wonder Woman lost her boobies on the motorway. (Auckland, 1990s)

Wonder Woman lost her bosoms on the way to bed.

(Oxford, 1978; Dunedin, 1980s; Christchurch, 1990s x 3; Christchurch, 1990s: Dunedin, 1990s; Glentunnel, 1990s; Ashburton, 1996; Christchurch, 2000 x 2)

--

Wonder Woman lost her legs on the way to bed.

(Motueka, 1990s; Christchurch, 1990s; Ashburton, 1998)

--

Wonder Woman lost her bra, on the motorway.

(Paraparaumu, 2000; Lower Hutt, 2000)

--

Wonder Woman lost her bra on a windy day.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Superwoman lost her knickers on the motorway -hey!

(Whangarei,1990s)

--

Old cat granny lost her fanny on the motorway.

(Whakatane, 2000)

--

Background Info: Variations in Turner, 1978:119:

Jingle bells, Batman smells,
Robin fires away.
The batmobile lost a wheel
And landed in the bay.

(Melbourne, 1967)

--

Rowan, 2005 records:

Jingle bells,
Batman smells,
Robin flew away,
Uncle Billy sold his willy,
For a Milky Way.

(Yorkshire, c.2005)

--

A discussion of this rhyme is included in an article in "Play and Folklore", Issue 13, 1987:14 on melodic structures in children's play lore.

--

Keywords: authority, scatological, commercial product, media culture,
Location: Various NZ, Australia
Group size: 2
Incidence: 119

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 27

Date: 1960s-1970s

Title: Daniel Boone

Gender: Male

Classification: Parody

Rhyme:

Daniel Boone was a man,
A very, very big man.
But the bear was bigger,
So he ran like a nigger, up a tree.

(Auckland, 1960s; Christchurch, 1970s)

--

Background Info: Sung to the tune of 'Daniel Boone.'

--

See Turner, 1978:139, for variations:

Daniel Boone ran up the hill,
To see the Indian dance.
Daniel Boone came down the hill,
With onions in his pants.

(Melbourne, 1973)

--

Keywords: Topical rhyme, racist
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 28
Date: 1980-2006
Title: What's the time?
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Bawdy, skipping
Rhyme:

What's the time?
Half past nine,
Hang your breeches (knickers) on the line.
Where's the line?
On the grass.
Where's the grass?
Up your ass.

(Blenheim, 1980s)

--

What's the time?
Half past nine, (ten to nine)
Hang your knickers on the line.
When they're dry, bring them in.
Put them in the biscuit tin.
Eat a biscuit, eat a cake,
Eat your knickers by mistake!

(Owaka, 1960s; Te Aroha, 1990s; Hamilton, 1998; Rotorua, 2002; Blenheim, 2004;
Ashburton, 2006)

--

What's the time?
Half past nine,
Hang your britches on the line.
When they're dry, bring them in.
Stuff them in the rubbish bin.

(Wellington, 1960s)

--

What's the time?
Half past nine,
Hang yer britches on the line.
What's the time?
Half past ten.
Time to bring them in again.

(Christchurch, 1970s)

--

Background Info: Opie, 1967:44 records these variations:

What's the time?
Half past nine,
Put the napkins on the line.
When they're dry, bring them in.
Don't forget the safety pin.

What's the time?
Half past nine,
Hang your breeches on the line.
When the copper comes along.
Pull them off and put them on.

--

Sutton-Smith, 1959:102 records the version:

What's the time?
Half past nine,
Hang your breeches on the line.
What's the time?
Ten to ten,
Time to bring them in again.

(NZ, c.1950s)

--

From Rowan,2005:

What's the time?
Half past nine.
Phone your uncle on the line.
If he falls,
Break his balls,
Take them up to Santa Claus.

(East London, c. 2005)

--

Keywords: bawdy, ball bouncing game
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 9

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 29
Date: 1970s-2000
Title: Nigger, nigger
Gender: Female
Classification: Hand stand
Rhyme:

Nigger, nigger pull the trigger
Pop-bang-go!

(Ashburton, 1970s; Wairoa, 1970s)

--

Nigger, nigger,

Pull the trigger
On the way to Hokitika.
Pop bang,
Banana split.
(Handstand)

(Christchurch, 1978; Christchurch, 2000)

--

Nigger, nigger,
Pull the trigger
On the way to Hokitika.
Pop, bang, go.

(Tauranga, 1970s; Auckland, 1980s; Christchurch, 1980s; Christchurch, 1990)

--

Background Info: Chanted before completing a handstand on the word 'GO'.

--

Keywords: racist, NZ place name
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 6
Incidence: 8

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 31
Date: 1940s-2006
Title: Wash dishes
Gender: Female
Classification: Action, skipping
Rhyme:

Wash the dishes,
Dry the dishes,
Turn the dishes over.

(Whangarei, 1940s; Tolaga Bay, 1950s; Christchurch, 1960s; Christchurch, 1960s;
Masteron, 1960s; Wellington, 1970s; Auckland, 1980s; Ashburton, 2006; Wellington,
2006)

--

Shake the mattress,
Shake the mattress,
Turn the mattress over.

(Auckland, 1960s)

--

Background Info: Actions involve children holding hands in pairs, facing each other, and swinging their arms from side to side. On the third line they swing arms over their heads so they are now standing back to back, with hands still joined. Sutton-Smith, 1959:84, had not recorded this chant prior to 1900s.

Alternative versions:

Wash the dishes,
Wipe the dishes,
Ring the bell for tea.
Three good wishes,
Three good kisses,
I will give to thee.

--

Botkin, 1944:779 records the following, very insensitive verse with very similar actions. Children in pairs swing their arms from side to side, turning around on the final lines, now back to back:

Wash your mother's dishes,
Hang 'em on the bushes.
When the bushes begin to crack,
Hang 'em on the nigger's back.
When the nigger begins to run,
Shoot him with a leather gun.

--

Darian-Smith, 2005:53 notes a similar rhyme being used in knuckle bones game and recorded in Australia in 1950s by Dorothy Howard:

Skim the milk, skim the milk,
Turn the dishes over.

--

Keywords: racist,
Location: Various NZ, Australia, Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 10

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 32

Date: 1980s-2005

Title: Do your ears hang low?

Gender: Female

Classification: Camp song, Bawdy

Rhyme:

Do your ears hang low?

Do they wobble to and fro?

Can you tie 'em in a knot?

Can you tie 'em in a bow?

Can you throw them 'ver your shoulder like a Continental (regimental) soldier?

Do your ears-hang-low?

(NZ ex USA, 1980s; Taupo, 1980s; Rotorua, 1990s)

--

Do your balls hang low?

Do they wobble to and fro?

Can you tie them in a knot?

Can you tie them in a bow?

Can you throw them over your shoulder

Like a regimental soldier?

Do your balls-hang-low?

(Auckland, 1990s)

--

Eh by gum does your belly touch your bum?

Do your tits hang low?

Can you tie them in a bow?

Don't know! Never tried!

(Christchurch, 1980)

--

Does your dick hang low?

Does it wobble to and fro?

Can you tie it in a knot?

Can you tie it in a bow?

Can you throw it over your shoulder,

Like a Continental soldier?

Does your dick hang low?

(Rangiora, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Often sung as a Guide or Scout song, also at summer camps USA. Said to have origins in the military, sung to the tune of "Turkey in the Straw".
(Personal informant)

--

Variations in Turner, 1978:94:

Do your ears hang low?
Can you toss them to and fro?
Can you tie them in a knot?
Can you tie them in a bow?
Can you throw them over your shoulder
Like a Continental soldier?
Do your ears hang low?

(Melbourne, 1930)

Also beginning;

Do your tits hang low?

(Victoria, 1967)

--

Keywords: bawdy, military
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 6

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 33
Date: 1973
Title: Does your mum drink wine?
Gender: Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Does your Ma drink wine?
Does she drink it all the time?
Does she get a funny feeling,
When her tits hit the ceiling?

(NZ ex Scotland, 1973)

--

Background Info: Similar tune as "Do your ears hang low?".

--

Keywords: bawdy
Location: NZ (ex Scotland)
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 35
Date: 2005
Title: Hey now you're a porn star
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Hey, now, you're a porn star,
Get your gear off.
Go play,
You're a rock star,
You're an all star.

(NZ ex Australia, 2005)

--

Keywords: bawdy
Location: NZ (ex Australia)
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 36
Date: 1970s-2006
Title: Here comes the bride
Gender: Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Here comes the bride,
Fair, fat and wide,
Slipped on a banana skin,
And went for a ride.

(Auckland, 1990s)

--

Here comes the bride,
Fair fat and wide,
Two pounds of sausages
Hanging from her side.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Here comes the bride,
All dressed in white,
Slipped on a banana skin,
And went for a ride. (Auckland, 1966)
Where did she go?
She went to Mexico.
What did she wear?
Pink underwear.
With whom did she go?
She went with Romeo.

(Blenheim, 2000)

--

Here comes the bride,
Big, fat and wide,
Slipped on a banana skin,
And went for a ride.

(Christchurch, 1970s; Auckland, 1975; Rotorua, 2002)

--

Here comes the groom,
Taking up all the room,
He slips on a broom,
And slides across the room.

(Rotorua. 2002)

--

Here comes the bride,
Big, fat and wide,
Slipped on a banana skin,
And hurt her backside.

(NZ ex Australia, 2005)

--

Here comes the bride,
Big, fat and wide,
Where is the groom?
He's in the bathroom.
Why is he there?
He lost his underwear.
Why did he lose it?
He let the bride use it.

(NZ ex International School, China, 2000)

--

Here comes the bride,
Big, fat and wide,
Where is the groom?
He's in the bathroom.
Why is he there?
He lost his underwear.
Great waterfall,
He's peeing up the wall.
Here comes the usher,
The old toilet flusher.

(NZ ex International School China, 2000)

--

Here comes the bride,
Big, fat and wide,
Here comes the groom,
Skinny as a broom.

(Auckland, 1950s; Christchurch, 1970s x 2; Rotorua, 1970s)

--

Here comes the bride,
Fair, fat and wide,
See how she wobbles,
From side to side.

(Auckland, 1970s)

--

Here comes the bride,
All dressed in white,
Slipped on a banana skin,

And went for a ride.

(Auckland, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Variations:

She cannot get in the front door, she has to get in the side.
She wobbles from side to side.
Six yards of muslin, wrapped round her hide.

Opie, 1967:303

--

Turner, 1978:86:

Here comes the bride,
All dressed in white.
Slipped on a banana skin,
And laughed til she died.

--

Keywords: Occasional rhyme
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 6
Incidence: 17

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 37
Date: 1948 -2002
Title: Tinker, tailor
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Tinker, tailor, soldier, sailor,
Rich man, poor man,
Beggar man thief.

(NZ ex Australia, 1948; Auckland, 1960s x 2; Christchurch, 1960s; Awanui, 1980s;
Christchurch, 1990s; Dannevirke, 2000; Whakatane, 2002)

--

Background Info: Opie, 1967:339, In 1823 a recount given from 1770s of the rhyme which foreshadowed the destiny of a young school boy. "Sowja, sailor, tinker,

tailor, apothecary, plow-boy, thief.." used when counting buttons on a new waistcoat. Girls similarly counted beads on a necklace to predict their future.

--

Sutton-Smith,1959:41, describes Flower and Grass Games being played by girls where details relating to a husband and future life is determined by pulling off petals or ears of a rye grass. (1870-1920)

--

Turner, 1978:106 records 1960s version of this universal rhyme:

Tinker, tailor, soldier, sailor,
Rich man, poor man,
Beggar man thief.
Lady, baby, gypsy queen,
Elephant, monkey, mandarin.

(Canberra, 1961)

--

Opie, 1992:404 records variation:

Lady, lady on the sea-shore,
She has children one to four,
The eldest one is twenty-four,
Then she shall marry a tinker, tailor..

--

Onwuchekwa, 2003:122 records from urban black America:

Gypsy, Gypsy, please tell me,
What my husband's gonna be.
Rich man, poor man, baker man, thief,
Doctor, lawyer, Indian chief.

--

From Gullen, 1950:11comes the Scottish variant:

A laird, a lord,
A rich man, a thief,
A tailor, a drummer,
A stealer o' beef.
(Button count rhyme)

A lord, a laird, a lily, a leaf,

A piper, a drummer, a hangman, a thief.
(Counting rings on a top)

--

Keywords: divination
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 8

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 100
Date: 1994-2006
Title: A, B, C, going up
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping, Action
Rhyme:

A B C, we're going up,
We're going down,
We're going criss cross,
Karate chop, lollipop,
Turn around, touch the ground
Pull the chain,
End the game. (start again).

(Christchurch, 2004; Arrowtown, 2006; Ashburton, 2006)

--

A, B, C,
Going up, going down,
Going criss cross, lollipop,
Turn around, touch the ground,
Giddy up, giddy up, get busy, get busy.
I want to feel your bodies.
I want to ride your Harley.
Want to throw a party.
I want to do karate.
Oops I'm sorry (punch)

(Auckland, 2000; Wainuiomata, 2005)

--

Going up, going down,
Going criss cross lollipop,
Turn around, touch the ground,
Paper, scissors, rock,

(Hokitika, 2000)

Smokey, wokey, down your back,
Which finger was that?

(Timaru, 2005)

--

A, B, C, we're going up,
We're going down,
We're going criss cross, lollipop, karate chop.
Turn around, touch the ground,
Paper, scissors, rock,
Spiders crawling down your hair,
Blood dripping down your back, ten fingers.

(Christchurch, 2004)

--

We're going up, we're going down,
We're going criss cross lollipop,
Turn around, touch the ground.
Paper, scissors, rock.

(Played as an elimination game, Gisborne, 2001; Kaiapoi, 2003; Timaru, 2003)

--

A,B,C,
We're going up, we're going down,
We're going criss cross lollipop,
Turn around, touch the ground.
Freeze.

Mercy! (Gisborne, 2000)

(Blenheim, 1990s; Kerikeri, 2000; Christchurch, 2000; Dannevirke, 2000; Mangakino,
2001; Auckland, 2001; Papakura, 2002; Christchurch, 2003)

--

A, B, C,
Going up, going down,
Going criss cross, lollipop,
Turn around, touch the ground,
Get up, get up, get busy, get busy.
I can see your body,

Get up, get up, get busy, busy.
I can ride a Harley.
Get up, get up,
Get busy, busy,
I can do karate.
Get up, get up,
Get busy, busy,
Boys are really ugly, (farty)
Get up, get up,
Get busy, busy,
I freeze, I freeze,
I freeze, like this!

(Christchurch, 2000; Wellington, 2000; Northland, 2000; Gisborne, 2001)

--

I can call my Mummy beep, beep, beep,
Hello Mummy
Get up, get up,
Get busy, busy.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Get up, get up, get busy, busy.
I can drive a Harley.
Get up, get up,
Get busy, busy, busy,
I can do karate.
Get up, get up,
Get busy, busy, busy,
Look at my new body.

(Auckland, 1993)

--

ALTERNATIVE ENDINGS:

Get up. Pump it nice and hard, pump, pump and stop!
(Auckland, 1994)

Want to play your guitary.
(Hamilton, 2000)

I wanna break my body,
Giddy-up, giddy-up, get busy, busy.
(Rotorua, 2000)

Going to a party.
Pull the chain and start again.
(Wellington, 2003)

Full stop. Slime. Yuck!
(Rotorua, 2000)

Electric shock,
I left my sock in the butcher's shop.
(Blenheim, 1990s)

I can see Bob Marley.
(Nelson, 2000)

--

Background Info: Variation on spider theme in "Play and Folklore", Issue 7, 1984:4.
Spoken in a spooky voice, accompanied by appropriate actions.

Ten nails on your back,
Blood running down your back.
Spiders running up your arm.
Spiders running down your arm.
Feel a little breeze,
Feel a little squeeze,
Now feel the chill.

(Victoria, Australia, 1980s)

=====

Keywords: modern culture,
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 8
Incidence: 32

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 102
Date: 2005
Title: Eentsy weentsy
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Eentsy weentsy lollipop,
Eentsy weentsy woo,
Eentsy weentsy lollipop
The boys love you and that is true,
Shampoo!

(Wainuiomata, 2005)

--

Keywords: commercial product, modern culture

Location: Wainuiomata

Group size: 8

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 103

Date: 2005

Title: Timi, tame, hare

Gender: Female

Classification: Clapping

Rhyme:

Time, tame hare,

Timi, tame, hare,

Timi, tame, timi, tame,

Timi, tame, hare. (repeated like a tongue twister)

(Wainuiomata, 2005)

--

Keywords: Pacific culture

Location: Wainuiomata

Group size: 8

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 104

Date: 1997-2006

Title: Waltzing Matilda

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Parody

Rhyme:

Waltzing Matilda,

Who bloody killed her?

Lying in the grass with a dagger (digger, finger, needle) up her arse.

Along came Granny chopped off her fanny.

Took her to the movies, chopped off her boobies.

Took her to bed and chopped off her head.

And that was the end of Waltzing Matilda.

(Timaru, 1970s; Wellington, 1990s; Ashburton 1995; Howick, 1997; Christchurch, 1998;

Christchurch, 1998; Ashburton, 2000; Auckland, 2000; Nelson, 2001; Auckland, 2001; Tauranga, 2002; Howick, 2006; Sheffield, 2006)

--

Rotten Matilda, who bloody killed her?
Lying in the grass with a dagger up her arse.

(Christchurch, 1990s; Auckland, 1997)

--

Along came a granny,
And chopped off her fanny,
And they both had roasted vagina for tea. (Private girls' school version!)

(Christchurch, 2002)

--

We all sing Matilda,
Who bloody killed her?
Lying on her bed,
With a bullet in her head.

(Tauranga, 2002)

--

Waltzing Matilda, who bloody killed her?
Lying in the grass, with a stick up her arse.
Along came a granny, and stuck it up her fanny.

(Arrowtown, 2006)

--

Waltzing Matilda, who bloody killed her?
With a knife in her heart,
And a dagger up her arse.
I did!

(Howick, 2006)

--

Background Info: In Turner, 1978:81, the parody of this rhyme is related more to a school or football chant:

Waltzing Matilda,

Boo for St. Kilda
Up with the Blues
And down with the Saints.

(Melbourne, 1973)

--

Keywords: bawdy, Australian
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 8
Incidence: 19

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 105
Date: 1980s-2005
Title: Donald Duck
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Bawdy - skipping
Rhyme:

Donald Duck had a fuck,
Underneath the army truck,
Mrs Sinclair didn't care,
Because she fucked a polar bear.

(Wainuiomata, 2005)

--

Donald Duck had a fuck,
Underneath the army truck,
Sergeant Green saw the scene,
Put it in a magazine.
Which page was it on? 1,2..

(Awanui, 1990s; Nelson, 2000; Northland, 2002; Orewa, 2000; Coromandel, 2000;
Waitakere City, 2000)

--

Donald Duck had a fuck,
Underneath the army truck,
Colonel Bean saw the scene,
Put it in a magazine.

(Manurewa, 1981)

--

Donald Duck had a fuck,
Underneath a garbage truck.

(Dannevirke, 2000)

--

Donald Duck had a fuck,
Underneath the army truck,
Captain Cook had a look,
And wrote it in his little book.

(Coromandel, 1998)

--

Donald Duck had a fuck,
Underneath the ice cream truck.
How many babies did he have?

(Springston, 1998)

--

Donald Duck had a fuck,
Underneath the concrete truck,
How long did it go for?

(Springston, 1998)

--

Donald Duck sat on a pin,
How many inches did it go in?
5,10..

(Hawarden, 1990s)

--

Donald Duck had a fuck,
Underneath an army truck.
How many girls did he fuck?

(NZ, 2004)

--

Background Info: Turner, 1978:140 has following variation:

Donald Duck had a fuck,
Got stuck, better luck,
Next time, Donald Duck.

(Melbourne, 1973)

--

From Lowenstein, 1974:17:

Donald Duck was having a fuck
In the back of an old man's truck,
He got stuck up Daisy Duck,
Wasn't that rotten luck.

(Newcastle, 1955)

--

Keywords: media culture, bawdy, cartoon characters, commercial products
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 14

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 106
Date: 2000
Title: Now I lay me down to sleep
Gender: Male
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Now I lay me down to sleep,
I pray my bladder doesn't leak.
If I should die before I wake.
I pray my Lord will dry my lake.

(Palmerston North, 2000)

--

Now I lay me down to sleep,
Ask the Lord my soul to keep.
Come in peace to the land of dreams.
"CRASH - destroy the world."

(Motueka, 2000)

--

Background Info: From Knapp, 1976:171 comes:

Now I lay me down to sleep,
A bag of apples at my feet.
If I die before I wake,
You'll know it was a stomach ache.

(Rhode Island, 1964)

Now I lay me down to sleep;
My car is parked across the street.
If it should roll before I wake,
I pray the Lord put on the brake.

Now I lay her on the bed,
I pray to God I'll use my head.

--

Onwuchekwa, 2003:102 includes variations from urban black America:

Now I lay me down to slumber,
I pray the Lord I hit the number.
If I should die before I wake,
Put all I own on 208.

Now I lay me down to sleep,
I pray the double lock will keep,
May no brick through the window break
And no one rob me till I wake.

Now I lay me down to sleep,
A bag of peanuts (candy) at my feet,
If I should die before I wake,
You'll know I died of a belly ache.

--

From Withers, 1948:197:

Now I lay me down to sleep,
A bag of peanuts at my feet.
If I should die before I wake,
Give them to my sister Kate.

--

Keywords: scatological, gambling, violence, greed

Location: Palmerston North
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 107
Date: 1980s-2006
Title: Tarzan the monkey man
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Tarzan the monkey man
Swinging from a rubber band
Hit the sun, burnt his bum,
And that's the end of chapter one.

(Whangarei, 1980s; Tauranga, 1980; Hawarden, 1990s; Christchurch, 1990s; Auckland, 2000; Hamilton, 2000; Rotorua, 2002; Gisborne, 2002; Greytown, 2002; Lumsden, 2003; Timaru, 2006)

--

Tarzan the monkey man
Swinging from a rubber band,
Hit the door,
Went through the floor,
That's the end of chapter four.

(Timaru, 2006)

--

Tarzan the monkey man,
Swinging from a rubber band,
Lost his shoe, done a poo
And that's the end of chapter two,
Hit the tree and did a wee (broke his knee)
And that's the end of chapter three,
Hit the door, then the floor,
And that's the end of chapter four.

(Lower Hutt, 1990s; Rotorua, 2002; Oxford, 2003; Tauranga, 2003)

--

Tarzan, monkey man,
Swinging on a rubber band,
He went so high,

And hit the sky,
And landed in a pig sty.

(Timaru, 1980s)

--

Tarzan the monkey man,
Swinging on a rubber band,
Hit a tree, broke his knee,
That's the end of chapter three.

(Lumsden, 2003)

--

Tarzan the monkey man,
Swinging on a rubber band,
Went to the loo,
Did a poo,
That's the end of Chapter Two.

(Lumsden, 2003)

--

Tarzan the monkey man,
Swinging on a rubber band,
Lost his grip,
Fell on his bum,
That's the end of chapter one.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Tarzan the monkey man,
Swinging on a rubber band,
Hit a tree,
Did a pee
That's the end of chapter three.

(Auckland, 2000; Tapanui, 2003; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Tarzan the monkey man,
He slips, he falls,
He's hanging by his balls.
They rip, they tear,

He doesn't really care.

(Auckland, 2000; Christchurch, 2003)

--

Tarzan swings,
Tarzan falls,
Tarzan breaks his mar - balls.

(Gisborne, 1967)

--

Tarzan swings,
Tarzan falls,
Jane hangs on to Tarzan's balls.
Now we know why Tarzan calls.
A-a-a-a-a-h!

(Rangiora, 1970s)

--

Background Info: Turner, 1978:129, records variations including:

Tarzan, the monkey man,
Swinging from a 'lacca band,
Down comes Superman
And kicks him in the dunny-can.

(Melbourne, 1970-73)

--

Lowenstein, 1974:40 records:

Tarzan swings, Tarzan falls,
Tarzan breaks his cast-iron balls.

(Geelong, 1938)

Tarzan swings, Tarzan falls,
Tarzan swings by the hair of his...
Don't be mistaken, don't be misled,
Tarzan swings by the hair of his head.
(Melbourne, 1973)

--

Keywords: media culture, scatological
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 27

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 108
Date: 1970s-2006
Title: It dick dog shit
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Counting-out
Rhyme:

It dit, dog shit,
You are it.

(Nelson, 1970s)

--

Ip dip dog shit,
What colour stood in it?
RED
R. E. D.
Ip dip dog shit,
Who stood in it?
SUE
S. U. E.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

It dick dog shit,
You stood in it.

(Hokitika, 2003)

--

It bit dog shit,
You stood in it.

(Springfield, 1997; Nelson, 2000)

--

It bit,
Donkey shit.

You are not it.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Ip dip pen and ink,
Who's it? You stink.

(Wellington, 1970s)

--

Ip dip, a little bit of chip,
You are not it.

(Northland, 1990s)

--

Ick dick dog shit,
This person is not it.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Ig dig, dog shit,
You are it.

(Whangarei, 2000)

--

It pick dog shit,
You are it.
It pick dog shit,
You stood in it.

(Nelson, 2001)

--

Ip dip dog shit,
Who trod in it?
What colour is it?
B-R-O-W-N.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Ick bick dog shit,
You are not it / Who stood in it?

(Auckland, 2002)

--

It bit bugger shit,
You are not it.

(Hokitika, 2003)

--

Ip dip (bit) dog shit,
You are not it!

(Masterton, 1990s; Palmerston Nth, 1990s; Christchurch, 1997; Amberley, 2000;
Raumati South, 2000; Thames, 2000; Christchurch, 2000; Northland, 2001; Kerikeri,
2002)

--

Which one will I pick?
It dit dog shit.
Ick dick dog shit.
Ig dig dog shit.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

It bit bugger shit.
Ick bick dog shit.
Ip dip bird shit.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Ip dip doo,
The cat's got the flu,
Dog's got the chicken pox,
Out goes you!

(New Plymouth, 1970s; Auckland, 2000)

--

Ip dip sky blue,
Who's it, not you.
Not because you're dirty,
Not because you're clean,
My mum says you're the fairy queen,
So out you must go, 'cause my mum said so.

(Wellington, 1970s; Auckland, 2000)

--

It dit dog shit,
Who stood on it.

(Christchurch, 2002; Arrowtown, 2006)

--

It dit, dog shit,
Which one will I pick?

(Oxford, 1978)

--

It dit dog shit, You stood in it.
What colour was it?

(Blenheim, 2004)

--

It dip bird shit,
You are not it.

(Tapanui, 2003)

--

Ink pink, dog shit,
You are not it.

(Tauranga, 1990s)

--

Background Info: With a 'dip' the person, rather than be selected for a game, is eliminated. The selected person must stand aside, and allow the remainder to face the ordeal. This can be an anxious, drawn out process.

Variations in Turner, 1978:9 include:

Ick shit,
Dick shit,
Out.

(Melbourne, 1973)

--

Opie,1984:31 records the counting-out dip:

Ip, dip, sky blue,
Who's it? Not you.
God's words are true,
It must not be you.

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 3
Incidence: 35

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 109
Date: 1990s-2006
Title: Joy to the world
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Joy to the world the teacher's dead.
We barbequed her head.
What happened to the body?
We flushed it down the potty.
Round and round it went,
Round and round and round, it went.
Until it overflows (Rununga, 2004)
Hallelujah, the school burned down.

(Rotorua, 1990s; Christchurch, 1990; Orewa, 1990s; Twizel, 1998; New Plymouth, 1999;
Papakura, 2000; Christchurch, 2000; Auckland, 2000 x 3; Whangarei, 2000;
Christchurch, 2000 x 2; Waitakere City, 2001; Wellington, 2001 x 2)

--

Joy to the world the teacher's dead.
We barbequed her head.

What about the body?
We flushed it down the potty.
With peanut butter and honey,
And round and round it goes.

(Christchurch, 1998)

--

Joy to the world,
The school burned down,
And all the teachers too.
The principal is dead,
We shot her in the head,
The secretary too,
We flushed her down the loo!
Tra la, la, la, la la, la, la la.

(Auckland, 1990s; NZ ex Vanuatu, International School, 2000)

--

Joy to the world the teacher's dead.
We cut off her head,
And used it for bread
What about the body?
Flushed it down the potty.
And round and round it goes,
And round and round it goes.

(Te Aroha, 1990s)

--

Joy to the world the teacher's dead.
We barbequed her head.
What about the body?
Flushed it down the potty.
The teacher is dead!

(Rangiora, 1990s; Geraldine, 2002)

--

Joy to the world the teacher's dead.
We barbequed her head.
What about the body?
Flushed it down the potty.
Round and round it goes,
The toilet overflows,

Down to the sewerage where she belongs.

(Hamilton, 2000)

--

Joy to the world,
We chopped off (teacher's name) head.
And as for the body,
We flushed it down the potty,
Round and round it goes,
Round and round it goes.

(Ashburton, 2000)

--

Joy to the world the teacher's dead.
We barbequed her head.
What about the body?
Flushed it down the potty.
What about her bum?
We ate it like a plum,
And down, down, down,
And down it went.

(Hamilton, 2000)

--

Joy to the world,
The King is dead,
They chopped off his head.
They barbequed his body,
And flushed it down the potty,
Round and round it goes,
And round, and round it goes.

(Auckland, 2006)

--

Keywords: authority, violence,
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 26

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 111

Date: 1990s-2003
Title: Walking through the jungle
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Walking through the jungle
With a tummy ache,
Needing to go to the toilet,
Whoops! Too late.

(Christchurch, 2003)

--

When you're walking through the jungle,
Got a belly ache,
Want to go to the toilet,
(Raspberry sound) Too late!

(Rotorua, 1990s)

--

Keywords: scatological,
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 112
Date: 1990s-1998
Title: We have joy
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

We have joy, we have fun,
Flicking boggies at the sun,
But the sun got too hot
And turned them into snot.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

We have joy, we have fun,
Flicking bogies at the sun.
When the sun gets high and hot,

All our bogies turn to snot.

(Christchurch, 1998)

--

We have joy, we have fun,
Flicking bogies at the sun.
When the sun gets too hot,
All the bogies turn to snot.

(Hamilton, 1990s)

--

Keywords: scatological, bawdy
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 113
Date: 2000
Title: Mrs Martin
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Mrs Martin fell down fartin',
Got up blinking, ran away stinkin'.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Keywords: scatological,
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 114
Date: 1905-1990s
Title: Mrs Morgan
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Bawdy, skipping
Rhyme:

Mrs Morgan played the organ,
At the Sunday school.
Mrs Martin came up fartin'
And blew her off the stool.

(Christchurch, 1950s x 2; Auckland, 1960s x 3; Ashburton, 1970s; Christchurch, 1990s; Dunedin, 1990s)

--

Mr Brown went to town,
To buy a box of peaches.
He did a fart behind the cart,
And blew the box to pieces.

(Gisborne, 1905)

--

Old Mother Mason,
Broke her basin,
Travelling down to the railway station.
How much do you think it cost?
Penny, two pence..

(Dunedin, 1910 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:74))

--

Keywords: scatological,
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 8
Incidence: 10

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 115
Date: 1960-1990s
Title: Milk, lemonade
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Milk, milk, lemonade.
Around the corner
Chocolate's made.

(Palmerston North, 1960s; Wellington, 1970s; Awanui, 1970s; Christchurch, 1990s x 2)

--

Background Info: Pointing to appropriate body parts associated with rhyme.
Turner, 1978:121 records:

Milk, milk, lemonade.
Around the corner
Chocolate's made.

(Melbourne, 1957-1975)

--

Onwuchekwa, 2003:141 records a variation from urban black America:

Ice cold beer
Get it right here.
Step round the corner
Get your hot dogs here.

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1478
Date: 1970s
Title: Daisy, Daisy
Gender: Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Daisy, Daisy, give me your tits to chew.
I'm half crazy, and my balls are turning blue.

(Oamaru, 1970s)

--

Daisy, Daisy, give me your tits to chew.
I'm half crazy, all for a root from you.
It won't be a stylish entry.
I can't afford a frenchie,
But you'll look sweet, upon the seat,
With a bicycle tube up you.

(Palmerston North, 1972)

--

Background Info: Based on the song known as "Daisy Bell", composed by Harry Dacre, 1892. www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Daisy_Bell (accessed 15 January, 2007)

--

Keywords: bawdy
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 117
Date: 2000-2002
Title: Missed me
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Tease
Rhyme:

Missed me, missed me,
Now you've got to kiss me.

(Hamilton, 2000; NZ ex UK, 2000; Owaka, 2002)

--

Background Info: Girls chant this rhyme generally, while boys do the chasing.

--

Onwuchekwa, 2003:138 records this version from urban black America:

You missed me, you missed me,
Your mother drinks whiskey.
You missed, you missed,
Your father swallowed my piss.

--

Keywords: alcohol, scatological
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 119

Date: 2000
Title: Who do we appreciate?
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Partisian
Rhyme:

We are [school] we are cool.
We're gonna beat your stupid school.
Kick you, punch you, 'til you're sore.
Then we're going to slam the door. 1,2,3,4,
Push you down onto the floor
5,6,8 who do we appreciate?

(Whangarei, 2000)

--

Keywords: partisan, school
Location: Whangerei
Group size: 10
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 120
Date: 1960s-2006
Title: Made you look
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Tease
Rhyme:

Made you look,
Made you stare,
Made you lose your underwear.

(Oamaru, 1960s; Dunedin, 1960s; Hamilton, 1980s; Christchurch, 1980s; Kerikeri, 1990s; Rotorua, 2000; Christchurch, 2000; Nelson, 2000 x 2; Waikanae, 2000; Taradale, 2002)

--

I don't care, I don't care,
I can buy another pair.

(Auckland, 1990s; Christchurch, 1990s; Hamilton, 2004; Upper Hutt, 2004; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Made you look,

Made you stare,
Made the barber cut your hair.
Cut it long, cut it short,
Cut it with a knife and fork

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Made you look, you dirty chook
Hanging on a butcher's hook.

(Nth Canterbury, 1960s; Rangiora, 1970s; Hamilton, 1970s; Thames, 1990s)

--

Look up, look down,
You owe me half a crown.

(Tolaga Bay, 1970s)

--

Made you look, you dirty chook,
Sitting in a cow poop.

(Waiuku, 2000)

--

Made you look,
Brook, the chook.

(Waikanae, 2000)

--

Background Info: Used in response to a trick being played, such as "Look up there".
Opie, 1967:62-63:

Made you look,
Made you stare,
Made the barber cut your hair.
Cut it long, cut it short,
Cut it with a knife and fork.

(UK, 1950s)

Made you look, made you stare,
Made you cut the barber's hair,

The barber's hair was rough and thick,
Made you use his walking stick.

(UK, 1950s)

Made you look, made you stare,
Made you cut the barber's hair,
The barber's hair was full of fleas,
Made you eat a bit of cheese.

(UK, 1950s)

Look up, look down,
You owe me half a crown,
Look at the door,
You owe me more.

(UK, 1950s)

--

Turner, 1978:103:

Made you look,
Made you stare,
Made the barber cut your hair.
Cut it long, cut it short,
Cut it with a knife and fork.

(Melbourne, 1959)

Made you look, you dirty chook.
Stole your mother's pocket book.
Turned it in, turned it out,
Turned it into sauerkraut.

--

Onwuchekwa, 2003:106, records from urban black America:

Look up, look down,
Made you look, you dirty crook,
You stole your mama's pocket book.
I turned it in, I turned it out,
I turned it into sauerkraut.

--

Location: Various NZ, Australia
Group size: 2

Incidence: 24

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 121

Date: 1996

Title: My name is

Gender: Female

Classification: Action

Rhyme:

My name is dogfish, catfish,
Wiggle wack in a sack,
1,2,3,4,
I will open up the door.
You will see me and push me down the stairs.
Make me do the dishes, make me say my prayers.
Let me wipe the baby's bottom
And kiss it all over
And set me free, over over.

(Auckland, 1996)

--

Location: Auckland

Group size: 10

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 122

Date: 1950

Title: In my pocket

Gender: Female

Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

Down, way down deep,
A little hankie I must keep,
When my nose is bothering me,
Out pops my hankie as quick as can be.

(Christchurch, 1950)

--

Location: Christchurch

Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 125

Date: 1990s-2006

Title: My boyfriend

Gender: Female

Classification: Clapping

Rhyme:

My boyfriend gave me an apple,
My boyfriend gave me a pear,
My boyfriend gave me a kiss on the lips
And took me to the fair.
I gave him back his apple,
I gave him back his pear,
I gave him back the kiss on the lips,
And kicked him in the air.

(Christchurch, 2006)

--

My boyfriend gave me an apple,
My boyfriend gave me a pear,
My boyfriend gave me a kiss on the lips
And threw me down the stairs.
I gave him back his apple,
I gave him back his pear,
I gave him back the kiss on the lips,
(And kicked him you know where! - Christchurch, 2000)
And threw him down the stairs.

(Christchurch, 2000 x 2; Mangakino, 2000; Auckland, 2002 x 2; Christchurch, 2004)

I took him to a movie, to see a sexy (scary) film.
And while I wasn't looking, he kissed another girl.
I took him to the dairy to buy some bubble gum,
When he wasn't looking, I stuffed it up his bum.

(Christchurch, 1998; Christchurch, 2000 x 3; Greytown, 2002; Hokitika, 2003;
Christchurch, 2004; Barrytown, 2004; Ashburton, 2006)

--

My boyfriend gave me an apple,
My boyfriend gave me a pear,
My boyfriend gave me a kiss on the lips
And threw me down the stairs.
I gave him back his apple,

I gave him back his pear,
I gave him back the kiss on the lips,
And threw him down the stairs.
I threw him over London,
I threw him over Spain,
I threw him over the Harbour Bridge,
And he never came back again.
I threw him over London,
I threw him over France,
I threw him over the Harbour Bridge,
Without his underpants.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

My boyfriend gave me an apple,
My boyfriend gave me a pear,
My boyfriend gave me a kick up the bum,
And threw me down the stairs.
I gave him back his apple,
I gave him back his pear,
I gave him back his kick up the bum,
And threw him down the stairs.

(Hokitika, 2005)

--

My boyfriend gave me an apple,
My boyfriend gave me a pear,
My boyfriend gave me sunscreen,
And threw me down the stairs.

(Hamilton, 2003)

--

My boyfriend gave me an apple,
My boyfriend gave me a pear,
My boyfriend gave me sixty five cents
And took me to the fair.
I gave him back his apple,
I gave him back his pear,
I gave him back his sixty five cents,
And took his underwear. (and threw him down the stairs - Carew, 1990s)

(Awanui, 1990s; Christchurch, 1990s; Auckland, 1990s; Kaiapoi, 2003)

--

I threw him over London,
I threw him over France,
I threw him over the Harbour Bridge,
And saw his underpants.
He took me to a movie, to see a sexy film.
And while I wasn't looking, he kissed another girl.
We went to the ice cream shop, to buy some bubble gum,
And while he wasn't looking,
I stuck it up his bum.

(Arrowtown, 2006)

--

I made him do the washing,
I made him do the floor,
I made him clean the baby's bum,
In 1994.

(Wellington, 2002)

--

We went to the dairy to buy some bubble gum,
When he wasn't looking,
I shoved it up his bum.
We went to the movies,
To see a sexy film,
When I wasn't looking
He kissed another girl.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

He took me to the candy store,
To buy some bubble gum,
And when I wasn't looking,
He shoved it up my bum.
(I shoved it up his bum.)
I took him to the doctors,
To get the gum pulled out,
And when he wasn't looking,
I pulled it out myself.

(Kaiapoi, 2003)

--

I threw him over Jupiter,
I threw him over Mars,
I threw him over a rugby field,
And nearly broke his arm.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

I threw him over Jupiter,
I threw him over Mars,
I threw him over the USA,
And kicked him up the arse.

(Auckland, 2001; Kerikeri, 2002)

--

I kicked him over London,
I kicked him over France,
I kicked him over Paris,
And he lost his underpants.

I threw him over London,
I threw him over France,
I threw him over the Waikato Bridge,
And he lost his underpants.

(Hamilton, 2002)

--

He flew me over to Paris,
He flew me over to France,
He flew me over the world and back,
And all the way back to dance.

(Auckland, 2004)

--

His mother went to England,
His mother went to France,
His mother went to China,
And found his underpants.

I threw him over England,
I threw him over Spain,
I threw him over Disneyland,
And back he came again.

(Rotorua, 2002)

--

I threw him over London,
I threw him over Perth,
I threw him over Disneyland,
And right around the earth.

(NZ ex Australia, 2000)

--

I went to the pub,
And my boyfriend bought
A bottle of rum,
And I went back home,
And I showed my bum.

(Northland, 1998)

--

I took him back home,
To tuck him into bed,
But when he wasn't looking,
I farted on his head.

(Tauranga, 2002)

--

In 1992 the horse went out to poo,
In 1993 the horse went out to wee,
In 1994 the horse went out the door,
In 1995 the horse stood on a hive.

(Auckland, 2003)

--

Background Info: Also begins, "I gave my boyfriend an apple.."

--

Derived from the American skipping rhyme beginning (Opie, 1988:478):

Twelve o'clock striking, (or Nine o'clock striking.)
Twelve o'clock striking,

Mother, may I go out?
All the boys are waiting
For to take me out.
One will give me an apple,
One will give me a pear,
One will give me fifty cents
To kiss behind the stair.
I'd rather wash the dishes,
I'd rather scrub the floor,
I don't want an apple,
I don't want a pear,
I don't want fifty cents
To kiss behind the stair.

(New York, 1926)

--

Similar versions in Opie, 1997:289:

I don't want your apple,
I don't want your pear,
I don't want your fifty cents
To kiss me on the stair.
I'd rather wash the dishes,
I'd rather sweep the floor,
I'd rather kiss a Chinaman
Behind the kitchen door.

Massachusetts, 1920s)

--

Knapp, 1976:123-124 records similar variations with the lines:

My boyfriend gave me peaches,
My boyfriend gave me pears,
My boyfriend gave me fifty cents,
To fix the broken stairs.

Nine o'clock is striking; Mother may I go out?
All the boys are waiting for to take me out.
Some will give me apples, some will give me pears.

(USA, 1943)

--

Keywords: gender differences, NZ culture, rugby, fart lore
Location: Various NZ

Group size: 2
Incidence: 38

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 126
Date: 1984
Title: Traffic lights
Gender: Female
Classification: Elastics
Rhyme:

Traffic lights, traffic lights
Inside, outside, traffic lights.

(Hamilton, 1984)

--

Location: Hamilton
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 127
Date: 1905-2000
Title: Queenie, Queenie
Gender: Female
Classification: Game
Rhyme:

Queenie, Queenie who's got the ball?
See I haven't got it, I haven't got it,
So Queenie, Queenie who's got the ball?

(Canterbury, 1960s; NZ ex UK, 1960s; Rotorua, 1970s; Hamilton, 1982)

--

Allabella, Allabella, who's got the ball? (Gabriella)
See I haven't, I haven't, I haven't at all.

(Christchurch, 1960s)

--

Ali baba, Ali baba, who's got the ball?
I haven't got it, in my little pocket.
Ali Baba, Ali Baba, who's got the ball?

(Scottish childhood recall, 1950s)

--

Bella, bella, who's got the ball?

(Whakatane, 1970s)

--

Queenie, Queenie, who's got the ball?

Is she big or is she small?

Is she fat or is she thin?

Or is she like a rolling pin?

(Waipukurau, 2000)

--

Background Info: In this game, the leader, with her back to the group, throws the ball over her head to the group. The catcher hides the ball behind her back and when the leader turns around she has to guess who has the ball. If she guesses correctly, she remains Queenie for the next round.

(Personal informant)

--

Described in Turner, 1978:50. Variations include:

Queenie, Queenie, who's got the ball?

Is she fat or is she small?

Is she thin or is she tall?

Queenie, Queenie, who's got the ball?

(Melbourne, 1963)

--

Sutton Smith, 1959:51, describes details of the 'Queenie' game and the 1905 chant:

Alla Balla, who has got the ball?

See, I haven't,

See, I haven't,

See, I haven't at all.

--

Opie, 1984:290-294, records details of the game and variations including:

Ali Baba, Ellebella Cinderella, Alabala.

--

Location: Various NZ, Scotland
Group size: 8
Incidence: 8

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 128
Date: 1950s-2006
Title: Eeny, meenie, minie mo
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Counting-out
Rhyme:

Eenie, meenie, minie, mo
Catch a nigger by the toe,
If he squeals, let him go,
Eenie, meenie, minie, mo.

(NZ ex UK, 1948; Hokitika, 1950s; Auckland, 1960s x 5; New Plymouth, 1960s; NZ ex UK, 1960s; Wellington, 1970s; Tolaga Bay, 1970s; Christchurch, 1970s x 2; Auckland, 1970s; Rotorua, 1970s x 3; Hamilton, 1978; Whakatane, 1990s; Orewa, 1990s; Waiuku, 1990s; Rotorua, 1990s; Blenheim, 1990s; Amberley, 2000; Sheffield, 2006)

--

Eenie, meenie, minie, mo
Catch a tigger by the toe,
If he squeals, let him go,
Eenie, meenie, minie, mo.

(Auckland, 1980s; Blenheim, 1990s; Owaka, 1990s; Christchurch, 1995 x 3; Taupo, 2000; Christchurch, 2000; Nelson, 2001; Gisborne, 2002; Gore, 2002; Fairlie, 2003; Auckland, 2004 x 2; Auckland, 2006: Lower Hutt, 2006)

--

My mother said to pick this one,
Because she had an itchy bum.

(NZ ex UK, 1990s)

--

My mother says to count to ten, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5,
My father said to count back again. 10, 9, 8.

(Auckland, 2002; Auckland, 2006)

--

Pig's snout - you are out!

(Christchurch, 2000; Nelson, 2001; Arrowtown, 2006; Timaru, 2006)

--

Eenie, meenie, minie, mo
Catch a piggy by the toe,
If he squeals, let him go,
Eenie, meenie, minie, mo.

(Christchurch, 1990s; Auckland, 2000)

--

Eenie, meenie, minie, mo
Catch a figure (finger) by the toe,
If he squeals, let him go,
Eenie, meenie, minie, mo.

(Manurewa, 2000; Christchurch, 2000)

--

Eenie, meenie, minie, mo
Catch a beggar by the toe,
If he screeches, let him go,
Eenie, meenie, minie, mo.

(Auckland, 1940s)

--

Eenie, meenie, minie, mo
Catch a goblin by the toe,
If he squeals, let him go,
Eenie, meenie, minie, mo.

(Wellington, 1968; Christchurch, 2000)

--

Eenie, meenie, minie, mo
Catch Richard Loe by the toe,
If he squeals, let him go,
Eenie, meenie, minie, mo.

(Lower Hutt, 1990s)

--

Eenie, meenie, minie, mo
Catch a squirrel by the toe,
If he squeals, let him go,
Eenie, meenie, minie, mo.
My mother said to catch this one,
But I said to count to ten,
1, 2, 3..

(Christchurch, 2000; Gisborne, 2000)

--

Eenie, meenie, minie, mo
Catch a spider by the toe,
If he squeals, let him go,
Eenie, meenie, minie, mo.
My mother said to catch this one,
Ick, dick dog shit, you are not it.

(Christchurch, 1990)

--

Eeny, meeny, miney, mo,
Out of this you must go.

(Hamilton, 2005)

--

Eenie, meenie, minie, mo,
Catch a twiglet by the toe,
If it squeals, let it go,
Eenie, meenie, minie, mo.
My mother says count to 10,
1,2, 3...
Pig snout, you're out.
My mother said to pick the best one.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Eeny meeny miny mo,
Caterpillar on my toe.
If he squeals any mo'

Eeny, meeny, miny, mo.

(Upper Hutt, 2004)

--

Eeny, meeny, miny, mo,
Catler, wheeler, whiler, wo.
Black fish, spotted trout,
Irry, orry you're out!

(Christchurch, 1960s)

--

Eenie, meenie, miney mo
Put a baby on the po.
When it's done, wipe its bum,
Shove the paper in the dun.
Out you must go.

(Nelson, 1970s; Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Eenie, meenie, miney, maney
Catch a granny by the fanny,
If she moves, suck her boobs,
Eenie, meenie, miney, maney.

(Whangarei, 2000; Northland, 2000)

--

Eenie, meenie, miney , mo
Catch a robber by the toe,
If he hollers, make him pay,
A million dollars every day. (\$50)

(NZ ex USA, 1990s; Christchurch, 1999)

--

Eeny meeny makaraka,
Dare dom sickaraka,
Eeny meeny lollipop,
Bang wang full stop,
And you are not it.

(Tauranga, 2000)

--

Eenie, meenie, minie, mo
Catch a monkey by the toe,
If he chatters, let him go,
Eenie, meenie, minie, mo.

(Twizel, 2000)

--

Background Info: A universally well-known counting-out rhyme chanted in a group with the leader pointing to each player in turn on count of a syllable. The child on whom the last word falls is the chosen one, or alternatively is 'counted-out'.
Compare beginnings of:

Eeny, meeny, mony, my, Barcelona, bona, stry. (Wisconsin)
Ena, mana, mona, mite, Basca, lora, hora, bite. (Cornwall)
Hana, mana, mona, mike, Barcelona, bona, strike. (New York)
Ene, tene, mome, mei, Pastor, lone, bone, strei. (Germany)

(Opie, 1992:12)

--

Bauer, 2003:111, notes these versions:

Eeny meeny miney mangi
Catch a mangi by the tangi.
If he squeals
Steal his wheels,
Eeny meeny miney mangi.

Eeny meeny macka racka,
Ree a ria, donna nacka.
Chicka pocka lolly poppa,
Rang tang boosh.

--

Bauer, 2002, Sect. 17:4, records various replacements for the word 'nigger' as tigger, tiger, moa, nickle, and tula.

Eeny meeny miny mit
Catch your girlfriend by the tit,
If she slips, kiss her lips,
Eeny meeny miney mit.

--

This collection included suggestion to catch Richard Loe (All Black).

--

Sutton-Smith, 1959:62-63, noted that prior to 1900 the form Enna Deena Dinah Doe was most commonly used. After that time it became Ennie, Meenie, Minie, Moh.
Variations such as:

Eena deena dina doe,
Catla weela wila woe,
Each peach pear plum,
Out goes Tom Thumb.
O-U-T spells out.

(Moeraki, 1900; Westland, 1895 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:63))

Eena deena dina doe,
Catla weela wila woe,
Spit spot must be done,
Twiddlum twaddlum, twenty one,
O-U-T spells out and out you must go.

(Sutton-Smith, 1959:63)

Eena deena dina doh,
Cotched a nigger by the toe,
Why did you let him go?
Because he bit my finger so.

(Wellington, 1870 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:63))

--

Recorded by Bolton, 1888, Newell, 1903
(Opie, 1967:96).

--

For further historical possibilities.
www.recess.ufl.edu/transcripts/2004/0511.shtml
(accessed 15 January, 2007)

--

Eeny, meeny, miney mo,
Catch a Jap by the toe,
If he hollers, make him say:
"I surrender, USA."

(Botkin, 1944:768)

--

Variation in Turner, 1969:11:

Eena deena dina dus,
Catala weena wina wus,
A way flour flock,
Allago pallago we wo wis.
O-U-T spells out,
The rotten, dotten, dirty, dishclout,
Out boys out.

(Central Victoria, 1875)

Also variation in Bolton, 1888:98.

--

Discussion in Turner, 1969:12, of connections with early counting systems (Anglo-Cymric score) which survived in England from pre-Christian times. Also discussed in Bolton 1880:60-61 and Opie, 1992:12-15. Possible connection to Druids relating to selection for human sacrifices. Anglo-Cymric counting systems used by shepherds counting sheep, fishermen, and even knitting women counting their stitches. Welsh-Cumbrian connections.

--

From Devon, England:

Eena, meena, mona, mi,
Pasca, lora, vora, vi,
Eggs, butter, cheese, bread,
Stick, stock, stone-dead. (Personal informant)

--

Keywords: racist, bawdy, political, WWII, NZ culture, Maori,

Location: Various NZ, USA

Group size: 4

Incidence: 71

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 129

Date: 2005

Title: Mummy and daddy

Gender: Male

Classification: Bawdy

Rhyme:

Mummy and daddy in the shower,
Humping and humping for 24 hours.

(Hamilton, 2005)

--

Location: Hamilton
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 130
Date: 2005-2006
Title: Scooby Dooby Do
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Scooby dooby do did a poo.
Shaggy thought it was candy, (chocolate)
So he took a little bite,
And his face turned white,
And that's the end of Shaggy.

(Hamilton, 2005; Sheffield, 2006)

--

Keywords: media culture, scatological
Location: Hamilton
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 131
Date: 1990s-2005
Title: One day when I was walking
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

One day when I was walking,
I saw my boyfriend talking
To a girl with strawberry curls,
And this is what he said to her,
I love you, I kiss you,

So I pushed him in the lake,
And he swallowed a snake,
And ended up with a belly ache.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

One day I went a walking,
I heard my boyfriend talking,
To the prettiest girl with the strawberry curl.
And this is what she said, said, said,
I L.O. V. E , love you
I K. I. S. S, kiss you.
So I jumped in a lake
And swallowed a snake
And came home with a belly ache.

(Carew, 2000)

--

Down by the banks..
With a hip hip hop a crackle and a pop.
One day when I was walking,
To see my boyfriend talking,
To a little old lady with chocolate curls,
And this is what she told him.
I L.O.V.E you, love you
I K. I.S.S kiss you.
I jumped in a lake
And swallowed a snake
And ended up with a belly ache.

(NZ, 2005)

--

Keywords: romance, jealousy, revenge
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 968
Date: 1960s- 2002
Title: Hot snot
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

Hot snot and boogie pie,
All mixed up in a dead dog's eye.
Eat it fast,
Eat it quick.
Wash it down with a cold cup of sick!

(Gisborne, 2000; Christchurch, 2002 x 2)

--

Hot snot and boogie pie,
All mixed up in a dead dog's eye.
Make it quick,
Make it thick
Wash it down with a cold cup of sick!

(Oxford. 1984)

--

Hot snot and boogie pie,
All mixed up in a dead dog's eye.
Stir in greenies,
Good and thick
Wash it all down with a cup of cold sick.

(Blenheim, 2002)

--

Hot snot and boogie pie,
All mixed up in a dead man's eye.
Stir in the maggots, nice and thick.
And wash it all down with a cup of cold sick.

(Whangarei, 1970s)

--

Hot snot and boogie pie,
All mixed up in a dead man's eye.
Horses' liver, red and thick,
Drink it down with a cup of sick.

(Hastings, 1960s)

--

Background Info: Often chanted among friends, simply to get a reaction.

--

Opie, 1967:162 recorded the following in a section under 'school dinners':

Hotch scotch, bogie pie,
Mix it up with a dead man's eye.
Hard boiled snails, spread on thick,
Wash it down with a cup of sick.

(UK, 1950s)

--

Keywords: scatological, bawdy
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 5
Incidence: 7

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 969
Date: 1990s-2006
Title: Hey diddle
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Hey diddle, diddle,
The cat did a piddle.
Right in the middle of the kitchen floor.
The little dog laughed to see such fun,
And added a few drops more.

(Te Aroha, 2000)

--

Hey diddle diddle the cat did a piddle,
The cow did a poo on the moon,
The little dog barfed to see such fun,
And ate it all up with a spoon.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Hey diddle, diddle,
The cat did a piddle.

Right in the middle of the kitchen floor.
The little dog laughed to see such fun,
So the cat did a little bit more.

(New Plymouth, 1980s; NZ. 1990s x 2; Christchurch, 1998; Ashburton, 1998;
Ashburton, 1998; Hamilton, 2000; Northland, 2000; Timaru, 2001; Tauranga, 2002;
Glentunnel, 2003; Kumeu, 2003)

--

Hey diddle diddle,
The cat did a piddle,
On the kitchen floor,
It smelt so bad,
We all went mad,
And that was the end of Tiddler.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Hey diddle diddle,
The cat did a piddle,
The cow jumped over the moon,
The little dog laughed,
When he slipped on his arse,
And the dog ran away with the spoon.

(Invercargill, 2002)

--

Hey fiddle fiddle,
The piggy in the middle,
The frog ran into a tree,
The little dog laughed,
For the frog got hurt,
And the bear ran away with his tea.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Hey diddle, diddle,
The cat did a piddle.
Over the kitchen mat,
The little dog laughed to see such a sight,
And the dog piddled over the cat.

(Napier, 1998)

--

Hey diddle diddle the cat and the fiddle,
The cow jumped over the moon,
The little dog laughed to see such fun,
And the dish ran away with the chocolate biscuits.

(Wellington, 2002)

--

Hey diddle diddle the cat did a piddle,
The cow did a fart on the moon,
The moon did a plop,
That landed on my cock,
On one summer's afternoon.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Hey diddle diddle,
The cat and the fiddle,
The cow jumped over the moon,
The guy from TV,
Said, " Hey shake with me,"
And soon they were in a cartoon.

(Hamilton, 2002)

--

Background Info: Turner, 1978:142 recorded:

Hey diddle diddle,
The horse and the cart.
The cow did a piddle,
The horse did a fart.

(Melbourne, 1973)

Hey diddle diddle
The cat and the fiddle,
The cow jumped over the moon
And burnt out on re-entry.

(Melbourne, 1973)

--

Keywords: scatological, bawdy
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 21

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 132
Date: 1990s-2005
Title: I gave my boyfriend an apple..
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

I gave my boyfriend an apple,
I gave my boyfriend a pear
I gave my boyfriend a kiss on the cheek
And he pushed me down the stair.
I gave him back his apple,
I gave him back his pear,
I gave him back the kiss on the lips
And pushed him down the stairs.
He flew over Spain, (Egypt,Disneyland)
And lost his underwear.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

I gave my boyfriend an apple,
I gave my boyfriend a pear,
I gave my boyfriend a kiss on the lips,
And he threw me down the stair.
I took back the apple,
I took back the pear,
I took back the kiss from his lips
And threw him down the stair.
I took him to the lolly shop,
And bought him bubble gum.
And when he wasn't looking,
I stuck it up his bum.

(Auckland, 2002)

--

Background Info: Opie, 1988:478. Also begins, "My boyfriend gave me an apple.."
Derived from the American skipping rhyme beginning:

Twelve o'clock striking, (or Nine o'clock striking)
Twelve o'clock striking,
Mother, may I go out?
All the boys are waiting
For to take me out.
One will give me an apple,
One will give me a pear,
One will give me fifty cents
To kiss behind the stair.
I'd rather wash the dishes,
I'd rather scrub the floor,
I don't want an apple,
I don't want a pear,
I don't want fifty cents
To kiss behind the stair.

(New York, 1926)

--

Keywords: teenage culture, revenge
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 133
Date: 1970s-2006
Title: Ohh Ahh
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Ooh, ah I lost my bra,
I don't know where my knickers are.
Are they blue?
Are they white?
Are they filled with Vegemite? (dynamite)

(Whangarei, 2000; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Ohh ahh I lost my bra,
Don't know where my undies are,
Are they red or are they blue,
Or did I flush them down the loo?
Ohh ahh here they are,
Hanging on my boyfriend's car,

(Going peep, peep.)

(Blenheim, 2002; Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Ooh, aah, I lost my bra,
Don't know where my knickers are.
I left them in my boyfriend's car. (policeman's car)

(Upper Hutt, 1980s; Manurewa, 1994; Waiuku, 2001; Christchurch, 2000; Auckland, 2000; Blenheim, 2002)

--

Ah, ah I lost my bra,
I don't know where my knickers are.
Are they white?
Are they pink?
Are they filled with dynamite?
Ooh there they are,
Hanging on my boyfriend's car.

(Tauranga, 2002)

--

ALTERNATIVE ENDINGS:
Are they blue or are they white?
Are they filled with dynamite?

(Blenheim, 2004)

--

Are they covered with Vegemite?

(Blenheim, 2002)

--

Background Info: These lines are incorporated in many of the rhymes in this collection.

--

Keywords: revenge, love, bawdy, commercial product

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 2

Incidence: 13

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 135

Date: 1950s-2006

Title: One fine day

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Tangle talk

Rhyme:

One fine day in the middle of the night,
Two dead men got up to fight.
A blind man went to see them play,
A dumb man went to shout hurray.
Back to back they faced each other,
Drew their swords and shot each other.
The blind man saw them,
The deaf man heard the noise,
And came and shot those two dead boys.

(NZ, 1970s)

--

One fine day in the middle of the night,
Two dead men got up to fight.
A blind man went to see fair play,
A dumb man went to shout hurray.
Back to back they faced each other,
Drew their swords and shot each other.
A paralyzed donkey walking by,
Kicked the blind man in the eye.

(NZ ex UK, 1950s)

--

One fine day in the middle of the night,
Two dead men got up to fight.
Back to back they faced each other,
Drew their swords and shot each other.

(Christchurch, 1950s; Hastings, 1960s; Southland, 1970s; Timaru, 1970s; Auckland, 1990s; Gisborne, 2001 x 2; Ashburton, 2006)

--

One fine day in the middle of the night,
Two deaf boys got up to fight.
Back to back they faced each other,

Drew their swords and shot each other.
A deaf policeman heard the noise,
And came and arrested those two dumb boys.

(Northland, 1970s)

--

One fine day in the middle of the night,
Two dead men got up to fight.
Back to back they faced each other,
Drew their swords and shot each other.
A paralyzed donkey passing by,
Kicked the blind man in the eye,
Knocked him through a nine inch wall,
Into a dry ditch and drowned them all.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

One fine day in the middle of the night,
Two dead men got up to fight.
Back to back they faced each other,
Drew their swords and shot each other.
The blind man saw them,
The deaf man heard them,
The ambulance raced around a straight corner,
And almost killed a dead cat.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

One good day in the middle of the night,
Two dead men got up to fight.
The blind man went to see fair play,
The dumb man went to shout hurray.
Back to back they faced each other,
Drew their swords and shot each other.
Back to back they faced each other,
Drew their swords and shot each other.

(Tauranga, 2002)

--

Early one morning, late one night,
Two dead boys got up to fight.
Back to back they faced each other,

Drew their swords and shot the other.
A deaf policeman heard the noise,
Came and got those two dead boys.
If you don't believe this lie is true
Ask the blind man, he saw it too.

(Christchurch, 1990s x 2; Auckland, 2000)

--

Background Info: Modern version heard in 1830s (Opie, 1967:25-26).
Recorded in 1480 by a professional minstrel (Bodleian Library) as:

I saw iij hedles playen at a ball,
an hanlas man served hem all,
Whyll iij movthles men lay & low,
iij legles a-way hem drow. (Opie, 2000:142)

--

Possibly evolved from tangle-worded couplets popular in 'Miracle Plays' and
folksongs since the Middle Ages. See www.folklore.bc.ca/Onefineday.htm (accessed 15
January, 2007)

--

Compare with rhyme beginning "One fine day, in the middle of the night." (Victoria,
Aus. 1940s). (Turner,1978:124-5)

--

Similar versions Opie, 1967:23.

--

Keywords: tangle talk
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 17

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 136
Date: 1970s-2000
Title: One plus one
Gender: Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

1 + 1the fun has just begun in the bedroom,

2 + 2 he's up to my shoe, in the bedroom,
3 + 3 he's up to my knee,
4 + 4 he's shut the door,
5 + 5 he's fucking me alive,
6 + 6 he's licking my tits,
7 + 7 it feels like heaven,
8 + 8 the doctor's at the gate,
9 + 9 the twins are doing fine,
10 +10 let's do it again in the bedroom.

(Christchurch, 1970s)

--

How did mummy and daddy make me?
Do wah diddy diddy dum diddy do.
Do what daddy did to Mummy to make me! (Refrain repeated after each line)
No. 1 the story's just begun.
No. 2 I'm telling it to you.
No. 3 He's got me on his knee.
No. 4 He's got me on the floor.
No. 5 My legs are open wide.
No. 6 He's pulling down his knicks.
No. 7 It feels like heaven.
No. 8 The doctor's at the gate.
No. 9 The twins ate doing fine.
No. 10 And they're doing it again.
(Refrain repeated after each line.)

(Tauranga, 2000)

--

Background Info: Similar version in Butler, 1989:56, the sequence being:
the action began, they pulled off their shoes, he undressed me, he closed the door,
they lay side by side, he took out his dick, he took her to heaven, the doctor was
late, the baby was crying, we start over again.
The chorus refrain being "All day and all night".
(USA, 1974,)

--

Keywords: sex, bawdy
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 140

Date: 2000-2004
Title: Apples, peaches
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Apples, peaches, pears and plums,
Tell me when your birthday comes.
January, February...December.

(Christchurch, 2000; Auckland, 2000; Taumarunui, 2004)

--

Keywords: occasional rhyme
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 6
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 141
Date: 2004
Title: Ace, choice
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Ace, choice,
Sexy, spunky.. (repeated until skipper trips)

(Taumarunui, 2004)

--

Keywords: Bawdy
Location: Taumarunui
Group size: 15
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 143
Date: 2004
Title: Arty farty
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Arty Farty had a party,

All the farts were there.
Tutty Fruity did a beauty,
I went out for air.

(Auckland, 2004)

--

Keywords: scatological, fart lore
Location: Auckland
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 146
Date: 1870-1990
Title: The big ship sails
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Game
Rhyme:

The big ship sails down the ally,ally-o,
The ally, ally-o, the ally, ally-o,
The big ship sails down the ally, ally-o,
On the last day of September.

The captain said, "This will never, never do,
Never, never, do, never, never do."
The captain said, "This will never, never do,
On the last day of September."

The big ship sank to the bottom of the sea.
The bottom of the sea, the bottom of the sea,
The big ship sank to the bottom of the sea,
On the last day of September.

We all dip our heads in the deep blue sea,
The deep blue sea, the deep blue sea,
We all dip our heads in the deep blue sea,
On the last day of September.

(NZ ex Yorkshire, 1940s, NZ ex Scotland, 1940s; NZ ex UK,1950s; Auckland, 1950s;
Christchurch, 1970s; Rotorua, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Based on a traditional song that involves forming a human chain and skipping under an arch, around and between two parallel lines, eventually all becoming tangled. (Personal informant)

--

Referred to by Sutton-Smith, 1959:24, as dating back to 1870 in Nelson and 1900s in Christchurch.

--

Became well known through the film "The Taste of Honey", 1961, and the recording by Frankie Vaughan "The Alley Alley Oh", 1964. Details in Opie,1985:50-54.

--

Keywords: traditional game
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 20
Incidence: 6

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 147
Date: 1970s-2006
Title: Beans
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Beans are good for the heart,
The more you eat the more you fart.
The more you fart the better you feel,
So eat your beans with every meal.

(NZ, 2000; Christchurch, 2006; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Beans, beans, the musical fruit,
The more you eat the more you toot.
Beans, bean, are good for the heart,
The more you eat the more you fart.
The more you fart the better you feel,
So eat your beans with every meal.

(Taumarunui, 2004)

--

Beans, beans, vegetables, fruit,
The more you eat the more you toot.

(Tauranga, 2001)

--

Beans, beans, the musical fruit,
The more you eat the more you toot.
The more you toot the better you feel,
So eat baked beans with every meal.

(Auckland, 2000; Christchurch, 2000; Hamilton, 2002; Methven, 2003; Tapanui, 2003)

--

Beans, beans, the magical fruit,
The more you eat, the more you fart.
The more you fart, the better you feel,
So eat baked beans at every meal.

(Te Awamutu, 1990s; Auckland, 2004; Auckland, 2000)

--

Baked beans are good for the heart,
The more you eat, the more you fart.

(Te Awamutu, 1990s; Nelson, 2001; Auckland, 2002; Hamilton, 2002)

--

Baked beans are good for the heart,
Baked beans make you fart.
The more you fart the better you feel,
Baked beans for every meal.

(Dunedin, 1960s; Christchurch, 1988; Christchurch, 1990s x,2; Tolaga Bay, 2000;
Christchurch, 2000; NZ, 1970s; Whangarei, 2000)

--

Background Info: In the Simpson's episode, "The Whacking Day", Bart is expelled for singing a version of this song instead of a psalm as requested. (4th Season, Episode 20)

--

Keywords: scatological, fart lore
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 3
Incidence: 25

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 148

Date: 1940-2006

Title: Birdie,birdie

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

Little bird flying by,
Dropped a bomb in [Sally's] eye,
Now, now [Sally] don't you cry,
Aren't you glad that cows don't fly?

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Birdie, birdie flying by,
Dropped a drop in mummy's eye,
Mummy, mummy don't you cry,
Aren't you glad that cows can't fly.

(Auckland, 1960s)

--

One day when I went walking by,
I saw a birdie in the sky.
He dropped a message in my eye.
Thank heavens [X] does not fly!

(NZ, 1984)

--

Ha, ha, ha, hee, hee, hee,
A little brown bird flew over me.
It dropped an anchor in my eye,
It's a damn good thing, that cows can't fly.

(Ashburton, 1940s)

--

Birdie, birdie, in the sky,
Dropped his mail in [X's] eye,
Now don't you fret and don't you cry,
Just be thankful cows can't fly.

(Wellington, 1960s)

--

Birdie, birdie, flying high,
Dropped a speck in [X's] eye.
[X, X,] don't you cry,
Aren't you glad that cows don't fly?

(Porirua, 1960s; Leeston, 1960)

--

Said the farmer, wiping eye,
Thank God, cows don't fly.

(NZ ex UK, 1950s)

--

Background Info: Possibly connected with bawdy adult song:

All the eagles they fly high in Mobile, (mow-beel)
All the eagles they fly high in Mobile,
All the eagles they fly and they shit in your eye,
It's a good job cows don't fly in Mobile.

--

Little birdie flying high,
Dropped a message from the sky.
As I wiped it from my eye,
I thanked the Lord that cows don't fly.

(Brisbane, 1940s)

Variations from Turner, 1969:115-116.

--

From Lowenstein, 1974:11:

As a bird was flying high
It dropped a message from the sky,
And as I wiped it from my eye,
I thanked the Lord that cows don't fly.

(Melbourne, 1967)

A little bird was flying by,
He dropped a message in a policeman's eye,

The policeman said as he wiped his eye,
I sure am glad that cows don't fly.

(Melbourne, 1967)

Little bird flying high,
Dropped a message from the sky,
Said the man, wiping his eye,
Bloody good job cows don't fly.

(Newcastle, 1950s)

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 8

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 149
Date: 1970
Title: Catholics
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Partisian
Rhyme:

Catholics, Catholics make me sick.
Call for the doctor, quick, quick, quick.
If the doctor does not come.
Kick the Catholics up the bum.

(Wellington, 1970)

--

Background Info: Similar taunts in Turner, 1978:82 including:

Catholic mugs
Stink like bugs.

(Melbourne, c. 1950)

Catholics, Catholics ring the bell,
While the Proddies go to hell.

(Sydney c. 1920)

--

Comment in Factor, 1988:133 on rhymes related to Catholicism and Protestants.

--

Keywords: partisan, religious taunt

Location: Wellington

Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 150

Date: 1960s-2006

Title: Chinese Japanese

Gender: Female

Classification: Bawdy

Rhyme:

Chinese, Japanese,
Dirty knees, what are these? (breasts)

(Auckland, 1960s; Taranaki, 1960s; Wellington, 1970; Christchurch, 1992; Wairoa, 2002; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Chinese, (Eyes)
Japanese (Eyes)
Dirty knees (Knees)
Maoris - He! - (stick tongue out)

(Wairoa, 2002)

--

Chinese, (Eyes)
Japanese (Eyes)
Dirty knees (Knees)
Mummy's (breasts)

(Wairoa, 2002)

--

Chinese, Japanese,
Dirty knees,
Boobies.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Chinese, Japanese,
Dirty knees,
Bikinis.

(Christchurch, 1960s; Blenheim, 1960s)

--

Chinese, Japanese,
Dirty knees,
Goodness gracious,
What are these? (breasts)

(Dunedin, 1990s)

--

Chinese, Japanese, you wear nappies.

(Kaiapoi, 1980s)

--

Father was Chinese (pull eyes down)
Mother was Japanese (pull eyes up)
Look what they did to me! (alternate up and down)

(NZ ex Fiji, 1980s; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Background Info: Turner, 1978:83 includes following variations:

Chinese, Japanese,
Me Hong Kong.

(Melbourne, 1964-73)

Chinese, Japanese,
Pick your knees, dirty knees,
Penny please.

(Melbourne, 1964-73)

Chinese, Japanese,
Pekinese, money please.

(Melbourne, 1967)

--

Keywords: Asian, scatological, racist, Chinese

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 2

Incidence: 15

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 151

Date: 1980

Title: Half caste

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Taunt

Rhyme:

Half caste

Dirty arse.

(Mt Maunganui, 1980)

--

Keywords: racist,

Location: Mt Maunganui

Group size: 1

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 152

Date: 1920s- 2006

Title: Crocodile, crocodile

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Game

Rhyme:

Hey, Mr Crocodile,

What's your favourite colour?

If not, why not?

Cross the golden river.

(Christchurch, 2004)

--

Crocodile, crocodile,

Can we cross your golden river?

If not, why not?
Choose your favourite colour.

(Christchurch, 2000; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Crocodile, crocodile,
May we cross your golden river?
Only if you're wearing (red).

(Timaru, 2000)

--

Farmer, farmer,
May we cross your golden river?
If not, why not,
What's the secret colour?

(Hamilton, 1990s; North Shore, 1990s; Rotorua, 2000 x 2)

--

King O'Seeny,
King O'Seeny,
Can I cross your water?

(Auckland, 1940s - used with 'gates' as a truce term.)

--

Please, Jack, may we cross your golden river?
Yes, you may cross my golden river
If you have red on you.

(NZ, 1920-1950 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:66))

--

Background Info: Call and response elimination game - all players wearing the colour named get to cross safely; the others have to try to pass over the line without getting tagged.

--

Sutton-Smith, 1959:66, describes the version of "Please Jack, may we cross your golden river?" On the naming of a colour, those children wearing that colour can cross safely as described above. (1920s-1950)

--

Description in Turner, 1978:52. along with the rhyme:

Crocodile, crocodile,
Can we cross your golden waters?
Not unless you've got red.

(Melbourne, 1964)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 10
Incidence: 10

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 153
Date: 1970
Title: Cowboy Joe
Gender: Female
Classification: Handstand
Rhyme:

Cowboy Joe from Mexico,
Pulled the trigger,
Shot a nigger,
Pop bang go.

(Upper Hutt, 1970s)

--

Keywords: racist
Location: Upper Hutt
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 154
Date: 1970s-2006
Title: Country girls
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Country girls are pretty,
City girls are sweet,

When they lift their legs up,
You can see their..
Mickey was a bullfrog, sitting on a rock,
Along came a bumble bee
And stung him on his..
Cocktails and gingerale, ten cents a glass,
If you don't like it stick it up your..
Ask me no questions
Tell me no lies,
I saw three Dutchmen pulling up their..
Flies are a nuisance, mosquitoes are worse,
This is the end of my dirty little verse.

(Christchurch, 1970s)

--

Country girls are spunky,
City girls the best,
They wear their dresses right up to their..
Mickey's a bullfrog sitting on a rock,
Along came a cowboy and shot off his ..
Cocktails and gingerales, five cents a glass,
If you don't like it shove it up your..
Ask me no questions, tell me no lies,
I saw two Maori boys pulling up their ..
Flies are a nuisance, bugs are worse,
This is the end of my dirty little verse.

(Kaitaia, 1990s)

--

I took [X] to the station, to see the train go by,
Off flew a piece of metal, and hit him in the..
Dicky was a bullfrog sitting on a log,
Along came a bumble bee and stung him on his..
Cocktails, ginger ales, fifty cents a glass,
If you don't like it shove it up your..
Ask me no questions, tell me no lies,
I saw a Maori boy pulling up his ..
Flies are a nuisance, mosquitoes are much worse,
This is the end of my dirty little verse.

(Auckland 1980s)

--

I saw a bull dog sitting on a rock,
Along came a scorpion (spider) and chopped off his..

Cocktails and ginger ales, fifty cents a glass,
If you don't like them, (sic) ask me no questions,
Tell me no lies, I saw a policeman pulling down his..
Flies are a nuisance, mosquitoes are worse,
This is the end of my silly little verse.

(Christchurch, 1990; Christchurch, 1988; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Johnny was a bullfrog,
Sitting on a rock.
Along came Fred and bit off his..
Cocktails and gingerale,
Fifty cents a glass, If you don't like them,
Shove them up your..
Ask me no questions,
Tell me no lies,
I saw a policeman pulling down his..
Flies are a nuisance, mosquitoes are worse,
This is the end of my silly little verse.

(Ashburton, 1992; Diamond Harbour, 2000)

--

Took my girlfriend down to the station,
To watch the engines shunting.
A piece of glass flew up and hit her in the ..
Country girls are pretty, you should see them dance,
When they lift their legs up you can see their..
Muffin was an Irishman, sitting on a log,
Along came a bumble bee and stung him on his ..
Cocktails and gingerales, fifty cents a glass,
If you don't like them shove them up your..
Ask me no questions, tell me no lies,
I saw a policeman doing up his..
Flies are a nuisance, mosquitoes are worse,
This is the end of my silly little verse.

(Ashburton, 1998)

--

A bull frog sat upon a rock,
Along came a bee and stung it on its ..
Cocktails, ginger ale, five cents a glass,
If you don't believe me, shove it up your ..
Ask me no questions, tell me no lies..

(Thames, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Comment made by one informant, "It's not really rude - just the way you say it". (Personal informant)

--

Comment on this type of predictive rhyme in Factor, 1988:163, describing such rhymes as "avoidance rhymes which depend on the listener's knowledge of the taboo word to replace the very similar one given by the apparently innocent performer".

--

See also variation:

Ask me no questions..
Suzy had a steamboat..
Higher up the mountain..
Mary had a canary..
Can can girls..

--

Keywords: predictive, NZ culture, bawdy, Maori
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 10

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 156
Date: 1990s-2006
Title: Copy cat
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Copy cat, dirty rat.

(NZ ex London, 2004)

--

Copy cat, copy cat,
Sitting on the door mat.

(Christchurch, 2000; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Copy cat, copy cat,
Sitting on the door mat,
Jumped on a lorry,
And never said sorry.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Copy cat, copy cat,
Get a bat, break your bat.

(Oamaru, 2004)

--

Copy cat, dirty rat,
Put your face in a wet cow pat.

(Nelson, 2000)

--

Copy cat, copy cat,
Sitting on the door mat,
Eating bread and cheese,
Without saying please.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Copy cat, smell like a rat.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Copy cat, dirty rat,
Sitting on a mouse trap.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Opie, 1967:182, notes that the term 'copy cat' refers to a cheat rather than one who copies.

Copy cat stole a rat, put it in his Sunday hat.
Copy cat, dirty rat, sitting on a policeman's hat.

--

Knapp, 1976:60 records this American form of the jeer:

Copycatter, dirty ratter,
Stick your face in monkey splatter!

Copycatter, dirty ratter,
Call your mother a baseball batter!

--

Location: Various NZ, UK,
Group size: 2
Incidence: 9

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 157
Date: 1950s-1990s
Title: Ching Chong Chinaman
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Ching Chong Chinaman, tried to milk a cow.
Ching Chong Chinaman didn't know how.
Ching Chong Chinaman pulled the wrong tit.
Ching Chong Chinaman got a bucket full of shit.
(Got covered in shit)

(Auckland, 1950s; Christchurch,1950s; Christchurch, 1960s; Tauranga, 1990s;
Waitakere, 1990s; Dunedin, 1990s x 2; Timaru, 1990s; Gore, 1998; Christchurch, 2000
x 4; Kerikeri, 2000)

--

Ching Chong Chinaman tried to milk a cow.
Ching Chong Chinaman didn't know how.
Ching Chong Chinaman, pulled the wrong teat,
Ching, Chong, Chinaman, ended up with meat.

(Lumsden, 2003)

--

Ching Chong Chinaman tried to milk a cow.
Ching Chong Chinaman didn't know how.
Ching Chong Chinaman pulled the wrong teat,
Ching Chong, Chinaman got a bucket full of -milk.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Background Info: The phrase 'Ching Chong' is nowadays regarded as an insulting ethnic slur directed at people of Chinese nationality or ancestry. The phrase gained notoriety when used by basketball star Shaquille O'Neil in jest to a fellow NBA team mate, Yao Ming. After a public out cry O'Neil apologised.

www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ching_Chong
(accessed 15 January, 2007)

--

Variations in Turner, 1978:112:

Ching Chong Chinaman, went to milk a cow.
Ching Chong Chinaman didn't know how.
Ching Chong Chinaman pulled the wrong tit.
Ching Chong Chinaman was covered in shit.

(Melbourne, 1967-1973)

--

Keywords: scatological, racist, Chinese

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 2

Incidence: 16

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 159

Date: 1990-2004

Title: Diarrhoea

Gender: Male

Classification: Bawdy

Rhyme:

When you wake up in the morning
And your pants are overflowing,
Diarrhoea..
Some people think it's funny,
But it's really good with honey,
Diarrhoea.
Some people think it's gross,

But it's really good on toast,
Diarrhoea.

(Taumarunui, 2004)

--

You're running up a hill,
And you feel it coming up for the spill,
Diarrhoea, diarrhoea.
You rush out of your van,
People say you have a tan,
Because of diarrhoea, diarrhoea.

(Nelson, 1995)

--

Diarrhoea, diarrhoea,
It sticks to your bum
Like a lump of chewing gum.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

It sticks to your bum like hot bubble gum,
Diarrhoea, diarrhoea.

(Wellington, 1990s)

--

Diarrhoea, rolling down your leg like a hard boiled egg,
Sitting in the gutter like a slimy piece of butter.

(Geraldine, 2002)

--

When you're running round the class with a finger up your arse.
Diarrhoea, diarrhoea,
When you're walking through the jungle,
With your finger up your rungle,
Diarrhoea, diarrhoea.

(Rotorua, 2000)

--

When you're sliding into home and you feel a little foam,
When you're walking down the hall and it splatters on the wall.
When it shoots out your bum, like bullet from a gun.
When the sun goes down and your jocks go brown.

When you're running through the jungle,
And your bum begins to rumble,
Diarrhoea, diarrhoea.
It's really, really funny,
Because it comes out very runny,
Diarrhoea, diarrhoea.
It comes out of your bum,
Like a bullet from a gun,
Diarrhoea, diarrhoea,

When you're walking through the jungle,
And feel something shooting from your bum,
What is it?
What is it?
Diarrhoea, diarrhoea.

(Ashburton, 1990)

--

When you're hopping in the bath,
With your finger up your arse,
Diarrhoea, diarrhoea.

(Twizel, 1998)

--

It runs down your leg like a runny boiled egg,
Diarrhoea.
Shoots out your bum, like a bullet from a gun.
Diarrhoea.
When the sun goes down, and your jocks go brown,
Diarrhoea.

(Northland, 2000)

--

When you're sliding into home,
And you feel some foam, diarrhoea, diarrhoea.
When you're walking down the hall,
And it splatters on the wall, diarrhoea, diarrhoea.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Some people think it's funny,
But it's really wet and runny,
Diarrhoea, diarrhoea.

(Auckland, 2004)

--

Keywords: scatological,
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 11

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 970
Date: 1970s,-2006
Title: Hickory, dickory
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Hickory Dickory Dock,
Three mice ran up the clock.
The clock struck one,
The other two got away with minor injuries.

(Twizel, 1970s; Christchurch, 1990s; Waiuku, 2000; Blackball, 2002; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Hickory Dickory Dock,
Three mice ran up the clock.
The clock struck one,
The other one got away.

(Oxford, 1970s; Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Hickory dickory do,
The mouse went off to the zoo,
The elephant smiled,
The monkeys too,
Hickory dickory do.

(Auckland, 2001)

--

Hickory dickory dock,
My dad has a hairy cock.

(Christchurch, 2002)

--

Hickory dickory dock,
The mouse ran up my frock,
It bit my tit,
Made me spit,
Hickory dickory dock.

(Blackball, 2002)

--

Background Info: Opie, 1992:206 records this rhyme was originally a counting-out rhyme popular in Edinburgh (1821).

Alternative versions begin:

Ziccoty, diccoty, dock..
Dickery, dickery, dock..
Dimmitee, dimmitee, dot..
Ena, dena, dinah, done..

--

Variations in Turner, 1978:142 including the lines:

The clock struck two, the mouse did a pooh,
The clock struck three, the mouse did a wee,
The clock struck four, the mouse did more,
The clock struck five, the mouse died.

(Melbourne, 1973)

--

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 3

Incidence: 10

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 971

Date: 2003

Title: Ha, ha, ha
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Ha, ha, ha, hee,hee,hee.
Come on and get silly with me.
Ha, ha, ha, hee, hee, hee,
Little blue jug, don't I love thee.
My wife and I live all alone,
In a little brown house we call our own.
She likes gin, I like rum,
Tell you what we have lots of fun.
Ha, ha, ha, hee, hee, hee,
Come on and get silly with me.
Little blue jug, don't I love thee.

(Auckland, 2003)

--

Background Info: Based on the song "Little Brown Jug", originally a drinking song.

--

Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 158
Date: 1990s-2006
Title: Down by the banks
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Down by the banks of the Hankie Pankie,
Where the bull frogs jump from bank to bank,
Singing oh ah oh ah.
My name is high low jigalow, jigalow, high low.

(Upper Hutt, 2004)

--

Down by the river of the hankie bankie bank,
Bull frogs jump from bank to bankie bank,
A, B, C.. (finger wrestling game)

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Down by the banks of the hanky panky,
The bullfrogs jump from bank to bank.
With a hip hop fraggle, waggle pop,
With a hip hop fraggle, waggle pop.

(Tauranga, 2000)

--

Down by the banks of the hanky panky,
The bullfrog jumped from bank to banky
With a eep ip curly flop,
With a eep ip curly flop,

(Northland, 1990s)

--

Down by the river with the hanky panky,
Gonna flip flop slip slop haggly baggy.
Gonna flip flop slip slop,
Down by the river with a flip flop.

(Whakatane, 2000)

--

Down by the banks of the hanky panky,
The bullfrogs jump from bank to bank.
With a hip hop turtle flop, (crackle pop)
With a hip hop turtle flop, (crackle pop)

(NZ ex Australia, 1990s; Greytown, 2002)

--

Down by the banks of the hanky panky,
The bullfrogs jump from bank to bank.
With a hip hip hop, a crackle and a pop!
One day when I was walking,
I saw my boyfriend talking to a little old lady with chocolate curls.
And this is what she told him:
I l. o. v. e. love you,
I k. i. s. s. kiss you.
I jumped in a lake and swallowed a snake,
And ended up with a belly ache.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Down by the banks of the hanky panky,
Where bullfrogs leap from bank to banky,
With a hip hip hie hoe,
Catch a Mr Prizzie and say hello.
Hip hop ca plop,
Hip hop full stop.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Down by the river,
Hanky panky,
Two fat frogs,
Hanky panky,
Who's in?
Sue's in.
Dow by the river, in the pond.

(Auckland, 1990s)

--

Down by the river of the Hanky Panky
Where the bullfrogs jump from bank to bank,
Singing A, E, I, O, U. (A, B, C)

(Auckland, 1993; Christchurch, 2000; Christchurch, 2001; Christchurch, 2003)

--

Down by the bushes of the Panky Wanky
Where the bullfrogs jump from bank to banky,
With a hip hop, turtle pop,
With a hip hop, turtle pop, ya.

(Whangaparaoa, 2000)

--

Down by the banks of the Hanky Panky
Where the bullfrogs jump from bank to banky,
Singing E, I, O, U.
My mother stinks and so do you.,
Ping, pang, pong.

(Wellington, 2003 x2)

--

Down by the banks of the Hanky Panky
Where the bullfrogs jump from bank to banky,
With an ee, ah, oo, pop,
And a shoop-shoop, shimmy-shimmy, bee bop.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Down by the banks of the Hanky Panky
Where the bullfrogs sway from side to side.
With an a, e, i, o, u.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Background Info: Played as a group hand-clapping game with children forming a circle and the 'clap' being passed around the circle as the rhyme is sung.
(Personal observation)

--

Bauer, 2002, Sect.70:15, recorded four versions of this rhyme from Auckland, Tauranga, Christchurch, Hamilton.
Variations to endings include:

With a hip hop and a paddle and a pop. ((Auckland)
With a hip hop don't stop, with a hip hop full stop, (Tauranga)
With a hip hop giggle pop, with a hip hop full stop. (Hamilton)
Singing AEIOU. (Christchurch) and the accompanying description - you have to have one person with the palm of their hands facing upwards and the other person's facing downwards, so both hands can clap and sway.

--

Possible connections with May Irwin's "Frog Song", by Charles E. Trevathan, 1896, which began with the words:

Away down a-yonder in Yankety Yank,
A bullfrog jumped from bank to bank.
'Cause there wasn't nothin' else to do.
He stubbed his toe an' in he fell,
An' de neighbours all say dat he went to well,
'Cause he hadn't nothing else to do.

From website www.mudcat.org (accessed 15 January, 2007)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 6
Incidence: 19

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 160
Date: 1990s-2006
Title: Easy peasy
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Easy peasy
Japaneasy.

(Christchurch, 1990s x 2; NZ ex UK, 2004; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Background Info: Chanted in response to a task that is seen as particularly easy. Bauer, 2003:113, also notes the use of:

Simple pimple.
Pimps.
I'm the mans.

Used to express how easy an activity is.

Bauer, 2003:109, also noted Easy peasy pimple squeezezy. (Alt. orange, chocolate, lemon)

--

Keywords: Asian
Location: Various NZ, UK
Group size: 2
Incidence: 4

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 164
Date: 1960s-1970
Title: Fudge, fudge
Gender: Female

Classification: Elastics, skipping
Rhyme:

Fudge, fudge, call the judge,
Mama's had a newborn baby,
Wrap it up in tissue paper,
Send her up the elevator.
1st floor - miss,
2nd floor - miss,
3rd floor,
Close the door and OUT you must go!

(Wellington, 1970)

--

Fudge, fudge, call the judge,
Mama's got a new born baby.
It's not a boy, it's not a girl,
It's just an ordinary baby.

(Invercargill, 1960s)

--

Background Info: Knapp, 1976:113 records:

Fudge, fudge, call the judge,
Mama has a newborn baby.
Wrap it up in tissue paper,
Throw it down the elevator.
First floor, stop;
Second floor, miss;
Third floor, turn around;
Fourth floor, touch the ground;
Fifth floor, close your eyes and count to ten,
If you miss you take an end.

--

Schwartz, 1992:1-2 records:

Fudge, fudge, tell the judge,
Mama's had a baby,
First a daughter, then a son,
And the world is well begun.
First a son, then a daughter,
You've begun as you oughter.

Fudge, fudge, tell the judge,

Mama's had a baby!
It's a boy, full of joy.
Papa's going crazy!
How many kisses did he give it?
1, 2, 3..

--

Location: Various NZ, USA
Group size: 6
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 165
Date: 1974
Title: Friendship, courtship divination
Gender: Female
Classification: Divination
Rhyme:

Friendship,
Courtship,
Hate,
Love,
Sex,
Marriage
(Fanny's cow has lovely sweet milk.)

(Wellington, 1974)

--

Background Info: In this ritual, the first and last names of lovers or boyfriends are written out and common letters crossed out. The remaining letters are counted and matched to the words of the rhyme to determine outcome of the relationship.
(Personal informant)

--

Location: Wellington
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 166
Date: 2004
Title: Fe Fi Fo Fum
Gender: Male

Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Fe,fi,fo,fum,
Stick a finger up your bum.

(Auckland, 2004)

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 167
Date: 1978-2004
Title: Get the rhythm
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Grandma, grandma, stuck in bed,
Called the doctor and the doctor said,
Let's get the rhythm of the head, ding, dong,
Now we've got the rhythm of the head, clap, clap.
Let's get the rhythm of the hands, clap, clap .
Now we've got the rhythm of the hands, clap,clap.
Let's get the rhythm of the feet, stamp, stamp,
H O T D O G , put it all together and what do you get?
Ding, dong, clap, clap, stamp, stamp, hot dog.
Put it all backwards and what do you get?
Dog, hot, stamp, stamp, clap, clap, ding, dong.

(Taumaranui, 1970s; Kaiapoi, 1990s)

--

Down, down baby, down the roller coaster,
Sleep, baby, sleep,
I don't want to let you go.
Give me, give me coco pops, give me now.
Mamma, mamma, I feel sick,
Called the doctor, the doctor said:
Let's get the rhythm of the head ,
Let's get the rhythm of the hands, clap, clap .
Let's get the rhythm of the feet, stamp, stamp,
H O T D O G ,

Put it all together and what do you get?
Ding, dong, clap, clap, stamp, stamp, hot dog.
Put it all backwards and what do you get?
Dog, hot, stamp, stamp, clap, clap, ding, dong.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Similar version in Turner, 1978:41. beginning:

Doctor Knickerbocker, knickerbocker number nine,
Loves to dance to the rhythm of time.
Now let's get the rhythm of the hands, (clap, clap)
Now let's get the rhythm of the feet. (stamp, stamp)

(Melbourne, 1973)

--

See also details for rhyme in this collection beginning "Down the roller coaster".

--

Onwuchekwa, 2003:104 records the verse from urban black America:

Grandma, Grandma, sick in bed,
Called the doctor and the doctor said,
Grandma, Grandma, you ain't sick,
All you need is a hickory stick.

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 168
Date: 2004
Title: Scott no friends
Gender: Male
Classification: Word play
Rhyme:

Scott-no-friends-Neville-will.

(Mt Maunganui, 2004)

--

Keywords: word play
Location: Mt Maunganui
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 169
Date: 1999
Title: Here's to us
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Toast
Rhyme:

Here's tae us!
Wha's lake us?
Darm few!
And they're deid!(dead)

(NZ ex Scotland, 1999)

--

Background Info: Scottish toast repeated at family gatherings.

--

Location: NZ (ex Scotland)
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 170
Date: 1950s-2006
Title: Hey Mr Postman
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Skipping, Clapping
Rhyme:

Hey Mr Postman,
Do your duty,
Here comes Miss American Beauty.
She can do the pom-pom, (wibble wobble)
She can do the twist,
But I bet you five bucks
She can't do this! (do the splits)
A, B, C, D, (legs wider apart with each letter until someone falls over.)

(Christchurch, 2000 x 8; Auckland, 2000; Gisborne, 2001; Christchurch, 2001:
Wellington, 2002; Christchurch, 2002; Kaiapoi, 2003; Tapanui, 2003; Auckland, 2003;
Blenheim, 2004; Christchurch, 2004; Ashburton, 2005; Hokitika, 2005; Arrowtown,
2006; Christchurch, 2006)

--

Hey Mr Postman doing your business,
Here comes Miss American fitness.
She can do gymnastics,
She can do the obstacle course.
But I bet ya five bucks she can't do this,
1,2,3 (Splits)

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Policeman, policeman do your duty,
Here comes the lady with the African bootie.
She can shake it, she can wobble,
She can do the splits,
But I bet you 10 bucks she can't do this.
Turn around, 2,3,4,
Touch the ground, 2,3,4
Get out of town, 2,3,4.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Hey, Mr Pirate,
Here she comes,
From American radio.
She can do the pom pom,
She can do the splits,
I bet ya five bucks she can't do this,
A, B, C..

(Gisborne, 2001)

--

Postman, postman,
Do your duty,
Here comes Mr African beauty,
He can do the pom, pom,
He can do the splits,
He can make you kiss,

K. I. S. S.

(Tauranga, 2000)

--

Policeman, policeman, do your duty,
Here comes the American beauty.
She can do the rumba,
She can do the splits,
She can wear her skirt up over her hips.

(Palmerston North, 1970s)

--

Background Info: Chance for jumpers to show off their skills.
Knapp, 1976:117:

She can hobble, she can wobble,
She can do the twist,
But I bet you she can't do this:
Jump on one foot, one foot,
Jump on two feet, two feet,
Jump on three feet, three feet,
Jump on four feet, four feet.

--

Reference in Butler, 1989:75.
Sung to the same tune as "Shirley Temple is a Star".

--

Alternative ending Abrahams,1969:161.

--

Turner, 1978: 24:

Policeman, policeman, do your duty,
Here comes (Debbie) the American beauty.
She can wiggle, she can waggle,
She can do the splits.
But I bet you a dollar that she can't do this.

(Canberra, 1959)

--

Gaunt, 2004:257 discusses sexual references in relation to this version of the rhyme accompanying the hand-clapping games of Afro-American girls:

Mailman, mailman, do your duty,
Here comes the lady with da African booty.
She can do da wah-wah, she can do da splits,
She can do anything to make you split, so split!

--

Opie, 1997:235 discusses this post-war American chant, along with variants such as:

Postman, postman do your duty,
Deliver this note to the sleeping beauty.
She wiggles, she waggles, she does the kicks,
She wears her dress right up to her knicks.

(Coventry, 1970s)

A similar verse was found inscribed on a Valentine's day card envelope: Postman, postman, do your duty, take this to my loving beauty.

--

Keywords: teenage culture
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 27

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 171
Date: 1990
Title: Hurry operator
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Hurry, operator,
Give me number nine,
If you disconnect me I'll kick you from
Behind the refrigerator,
There was a piece of glass,
When Mary sat on it she hurt her little..
Ask me no questions, tell me no more lies,
And if the shit should hit the fan,
Be sure to close your eyes.

(Tauranga, 1990)

--

Background Info: Compare with rhymes from this collection beginning:

Ask me no questions..
Suzy had a steamboat..
Higher up the mountain..
Mary had a canary..
Country girls are pretty..
Can can girls..

--

Factor, 1988:163 refers to these rhymes as 'avoidance' rhymes.

--

Keywords: Bawdy, predictive
Location: NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 172
Date: 1930s-2006
Title: Inky, pinky, ponky
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Counting-out
Rhyme:

Inky, pinky, ponky,
Daddy bought a donkey.
Donkey died, daddy cried,
Inky, pinky, ponky.

(Christchurch, 1960s; Wairoa, 1960s; NZ ex UK 1960s; Putaruru, 1970s;
Whanganui, 1970s; Auckland, 1980s; Palmerston, 1990s; Auckland, 1990s x 3; Thames,
1990s; Awanui, 1990s; Whakatane, 1990s; Napier, 1990s; Hawarden, 1900s; Lower Hutt,
1990s; Whangarei, 2000; Christchurch, 2000 x 6; Rotorua, 2000 x 2; Tauranga, 2000 x
3; Timaru, 2000 x 3; Nelson, 2001; Auckland, 2001 x 5; Wellington, 2002 x 4; Owaka,
2003; Kaiapoi, 2003; NZ ex UK, 2004; Christchurch, 2004; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Inky, pinky, ponky,
Daddy caught a donkey.
Donkey died, daddy cried,
Inky, pinky, ponky.

(Karaka, 1990s)

--

Inky, dinky, ponky,
Daddy bought a donkey.
Donkey died, daddy cried,
Inky, dinky, ponky.

(Timaru, 2005)

--

Inky, dinky, ponky,
Daddy bought a donkey.
Donkey died, daddy cried,
Inky, dinky, ponky.
My mother said to pick this one. (Cos the captain said so.)

(Upper Hutt, 1970s; Taradale, 1970s)

--

Inky, pinky, ponky,
Daddy caught a donkey.
Both died, no one cried,
Inky, pinky, ponky.

(Auckland, 2004)

--

Inky, pinky, ponky,
Daddy fucked a donkey.
Donkey died, daddy cried,
Inky, pinky, ponky.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Inky, pinky, panky,
Daddy bought a hanky
Hanky tore, Daddy swore,
Inky, pinky, panky.

(Thames, 1990s; Greymouth, 1990s; Hawarden, 1996)

--

Inky, dinky, ponky,
Daddy bought a donkey.
Donkey died, daddy cried,
Inky, dinky, ponky.
My mother said to count to ten, 1,2,3..

(Lumsden, 2003)

--

Inky, stinky, stonky,
Daddy bought a donkey.
Donkey died, daddy cried,
Inky, stinky, stonky.

(Auckland, 1960s)

--

Background Info: Alternative versions in Turner,1978:4:

Inky pinky panky,
Daddy bought a hanky.
Hanky ripped, Daddy stripped,
Inky pinky panky.

(Melbourne, 1973)

Donkey farted, Daddy darted..
Hanky tore, Mummy swore..
Hanky slipped, Mummy flipped...

(Melbourne, 1973)

--

Comment in Factor, 1988:1, regarding political commentary on the demise of Prime Minister Fraser in the 1980s, Australia.

Inky pinky ponky
Fraser bought a donkey,
Donkey died,
Fraser cried,
Inky pinky ponky.

--

Also used as a ball-bouncing game (2000)

--

Keywords: death, bawdy
Location: Various NZ, UK
Group size: 3
Incidence: 57

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 173
Date: 1993-2006
Title: I hate you, you hate me
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

I hate you, you hate me,
Let's get together and kill Barney,
One shot, two shot, three shot, four,
No more purple dinosaur.

(Auckland, 1990s)

--

I hate you, you hate me,
Let's get together and kill Barney,
With a punch in the throat
And a bullet in the head,
Let's all say that Barney's dead.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

I hate you, you hate me,
Let's tie Barney to a tree,
With a great big chop,
Barney's on the floor,
No more Mr Dinosaur.

(Porirua, 1990s)

--

I hate you, you hate me,
Please put something else on TV,
With a great big D, for Dragonball Z,
No more purple Barney!

(NZ, 1990s)

--

I hate you, you hate me,
Let's hang Barney from a tree,
With a great big gun,
Shoot him in the head.
Aren't we glad that Barney's dead.

(Christchurch, 1990s; Ashburton, 1990s)

--

I hate you, you hate me,
Let's hang Barney from a tree,
With a box of matches and a can of kerosene
Light 'em up and hear him scream.

(Owaka, 1990s)

--

I hate you, you hate me.
Let's hang Barney from a tree,
With a great big shotgun,
Blood is on the floor,
No more purple dinosaur.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

I hate you, You hate me,
Let's team up and kill Barney,
With a shovel and a spade and a great big saw.
No more purple dinosaur.

(Tauranga, 1990s)

--

I hate you, you hate me,
Barney gave me H.I.V.
With a great big fart,
And a little more,
Gosh I hate that dinosaur.

(Whangarei, 1990s)

--

I love you, you love me,
That's why we've got HIV.

(Porirua, 1990s)

--

I hate you, you hate me,
Let's go out and kill Barney,
With a M16 and a 4X4,
No more purple dinosaur.

(Whangarei, 1990s)

--

I hate you, you hate me,
Let's get together and kill Barney,
Shove him in the oven and shut the door,
No more purple dinosaur.

(Motueka, 1990s)

--

I hate you, you hate me,
Let's get together and hang Barney,
Get a great big rope, tie it to a tree,
Sorry, we just had to, Barney.

(Motueka, 1990s)

--

I hate you, you hate me,
Let's get together and hang Barney,
With a rope around his neck and tied to a tree,
Sorry we hate you Barney!

(Motueka, 1990s)

--

I hate you, you hate me,
I have got a 303,
It's a great big gun,
And it's pointing at his head,
Don't worry Barney, you'll soon be dead.

(Motueka, 1990s)

--

I love you, you love me,
Let's drop an anvil on Barney,
With a sixteen tonner and a twenty ton too,
Sorry, Barney, you look like spew.

(Motueka, 1990s)

--

I love you, you love me,
Let's get together and kill Barney,
With a great big punch, right to the head,
Sorry Barney, you are dead.

(Motueka, 1990s)

--

I hate you, you hate me,
Let's get together and kill Barney,
With a great big gun,
And a bullet in the bum.
No more Barney dinosaur!

(Whangarei, 1990s)

--

I hate you, you hate me,
Let's tie Barney to a tree,
With a box of matches and gasoline,
Light him up and hear him scream.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

I hate you, you hate me,
Let's get a gun and shoot Barney,
With a M16 we'll shoot him in the head,
Kids don't you know that Barney's dead?

(Porirua, 1990s)

--

I hate you, you hate me,
Let's get together and kill Barney,
With a great big shotgun,
Kick him up the bum,
No more Barney dinosaur.

(Nelson, 2001)

--

I hate you, you hate me,
Let's get together and kill Barney,
With a knife and a gun,
We'll shoot him in the head,
Sorry kids, but Barney's dead.

(Porirua, 1990s)

--

I hate you, you hate me,
Let's all start World War Three,
With the click of the gun,
And Barney's on the floor,
No more purple dinosaur.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

I hate you, you hate me,
Let's get together and kill Barney,
I've got a big bazooka,
We'll shoot him in the head,
That'll be the end,
And Barney's dead.

(Rotorua, 2002)

--

I love you, you love me,
Let's get together and kill Barney,
With a dagger in his head,
And body on the floor,
No more purple dinosaur.

(Auckland, 1994)

--

Background Info: Based on the children's television series, "Barney the Purple Dinosaur", first aired in 1992. Many rhymes were developed from this series. For more on anti-Barney humour, see www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barney_the_purple_dinosaur (accessed 15 January, 2007)

--

Keywords: violence, media culture,
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 26

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 174
Date: 2002
Title: I was born
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

I was born in a frying pan,
Can you guess how old I am?
1,2,3..

(Christchurch, 2002)

--

Background Info: Possibly related to "Popeye" rhymes or "Dan the dirty old man" rhymes.

--

Keywords: Popeye
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 175
Date: 2002
Title: In 1991 the Germans
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

In 1991 the Germans suck their thumb

In 1992 the Germans lost their shoe,
In 1993 the Germans did a wee,
In 1994 the Germans broke the door,
In 1995 the Germans took a dive,
In 1996 the Germans hurt their dicks,
In 1997 the Germans went to heaven,
In 1998 the Germans had a date.
In 1999 the Germans broke their spine.

(Christchurch, 2002)

--

Keywords: scatological, calendar. Racist
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 176
Date: 2002
Title: In 1994
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

In 1994 my grandma went to war,
She kissed a man,
She lost her hand,
In 1994.
Alternative: She had no gun, so used her bum.

(Christchurch, 2002)

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 179
Date: 1925-1940s
Title: Dusty bluebells
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Game
Rhyme:

In and out the dusty bluebells,
In and out the dusty bluebells,
In and out the dusty bluebells
Who will be my master?
Tippity tappity on my shoulder,
Tippity tappity on my shoulder,
Tippity tappity on my shoulder,
You shall be my master.

(Auckland, 1925, NZ ex UK, 1940s-50s)

--

Background Info: A circle game where players make arches with arms, through which the leader weaves. Further details in Opie, 1988:366.

--

Sutton-Smith, 1959:23-24, reports the game being played in Petone, early 1900, where the player that was winding about the line was blindfolded and led by another player. At the end of the rhyme she kissed the player she faced.

--

Location: Auckland
Group size: 10
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 181
Date: 1959
Title: I must not say I love you
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

I must not say I love you,
You're someone else's boy.
I must not long to hold you,
That's someone else's joy.
I must not let my eyes light up,
When someone says your name,
You're someone else's boyfriend
But I love you just the same.

(Auckland, 1959)

--

Keywords: love, romance
Location: Auckland
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 186
Date: 1970s-1990s
Title: Jesus Christ
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Jesus Christ, Superstar,
Coming round the corner on a Yamaha,
The cops are there,
He don't care,
Because he's got super red underwear!

(Wellington, 1972)

--

Jesus Christ, Superstar,
Zooming round the corner on a Yamaha,
Cops catch up,
But he don't care,
Because he's wearing supersonic underwear!

(Auckland, 1970s)

--

Jesus Christ, Superstar,
Speeding round the corner on a Yamaha,
Cops pull him up,
But he don't care,
For he is wearing supersonic underwear!

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Jesus Christ, Superstar,
Coming round the corner on a Yamaha,
Flies undone,
He don't care,
Because he's wearing supersonic underwear!

(Christchurch, 1980s)

--

Jesus Christ,
Superstar,
Rides round the corner on a Yamaha,
Bike blows up,
He don't care,
He's wearing supersonic underwear!

(Whangarei, 1970s)

--

Background Info: Alternative versions in Turner, 1978:145:

Jesus Christ, Superstar,
Burning round the corner in his Yamaha,
Cops are there, he don't care,
He's wearing his bullet-proof underwear.

(Melbourne, 1973)

--

Based on rock musical "Jesus Christ Superstar", popular in the 1970s.

--

Keywords: commercial product, modern culture
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 188
Date: 1960s-2006
Title: Liar, liar
Gender: Male
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Liar, liar pants on fire.

(Oamaru, 1960s; Christchurch, 1970s; NZ ex UK, 1970s; Ashburton, 1980s; Timaru, 1980s; Auckland, 1990s; Christchurch, 1990s x 2; Kaiapoi, 2000; Porirua, 2000; Waiuku, 2000; Auckland, 2001 x 3; Wairoa, 2002; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Liar, liar pants on fire,
Sat down on the electric wire.

(Auckland, 2004)

--

Liar, liar pants on fire,
Sitting on a telephone wire.

(Auckland, 1980s)

--

Liar, liar pants on fire,
Nose as long as a telephone wire.

Thames, 2000)

--

Liar, liar pants on fire,
Halfway up the telephone wire.

(Tapanui, 2003)

--

Liar, liar pants on fire,
Hang your pants on a telephone wire.

(Christchurch, 1990; Leeston, 1990s)

--

Liar, liar, your pants are on fire,
Red, red, you wet your bed.
Blue, blue, you big fat poo,
Yellow, yellow, you're a fat marshmallow.

(Christchurch, 1970s)

--

Liar, liar, pants on fire,
I don't care, I don't care,
I'll just get another pair.

(Timaru, 2006)

--

Background Info: Turner, 1978:96 for variations:

Liar, liar,
Your pants are on fire,
Your nose is longer
Than a telephone wire.

(Victoria, 1970-1973)

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 24

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 38
Date: 1910-2006
Title: Sticks and stones
Gender: Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Sticks and stones will break my bones,
But names will never hurt me.
When I'm dead and in my grave,
You'll be sorry for what you've called me.

(NZ ex UK, 1950; Christchurch, 1970s; Auckland, 1970s; Lower Hutt, 1980s; Timaru, 1990s; Christchurch, 1990s x 2; Auckland, 1990s; Gisborne, 2001)

--

Sticks and stones will break my bones,
But names will never hurt me.

(Howick, 1950s; Wellington, 1900 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:93))

--

Sticks and stones will break my bones,
But words will never harm me.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Background Info: Used in response to being called a name.
Opie, 1967:160:

Sticks and stones may break my bones,
But names will never hurt me.
When I'm dead and in my grave,
You'll be sorry for what you've called me.

"That's the worst of calling people names, they reply 'Sticks and stones' .. I mostly don't call people names."

--

Turner, 1978:90-91, records similar versions from 1940s to 1970s including:

Sticks and stones may break my bones
But names will never hurt me.
When I die, you will cry,
For what you have called me.

(Victoria, 1973)

--

Keywords: name calling, rebuttal
Location: Various NZ, Australia
Group size: 1
Incidence: 12

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 39
Date: 1940s-1960s
Title: Catholic dogs
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Catholic dogs jumped like frogs
In and out the water logs.

(NZ ex Australia, 1940s)

--

Catholic dogs stink like hogs,

In their mother's bathing togs.

(New Plymouth, 1960s; Christchurch, 1940s; Blenheim, 1950s; Oamaru, 1964;)

All on a Sunday morning,

(Christchurch, 1950s; Timaru, 1950s)

Policeman comes and kicks their bums,

Makes them say good morning.

(Wellington, 1950s)

--

Catholic dogs jump like frogs,

Don't eat meat on Fridays.

(Oamaru, 1940s)

--

Catholic dogs, eating frogs,

Every Friday morning.

Policeman comes,

Smacks their bums,

And makes them say, "Good morning."

(Marlborough, 1950s)

--

Oris dogs,

Sitting on logs,

Eating bellies

From frogs.

(Oris possibly refers to Hori (Maori) - Wellington, 1970s)

--

Catholic dogs,

Sitting on logs,

Eating bellies out of frogs.

(Blenheim, 1960s)

--

Background Info: Opie, 1967:345 makes note of the New Zealand versions:

Catholic dogs jump like frogs,

Don't eat meat on Fridays.

To which the response is:

Protestant dogs jump like frogs,
Do eat meat on Fridays.

--

Comment in Factor, 1988:133 on rhymes related to Catholicism and Protestants.

--

Turner, 1978:82 records many versions related to Catholics and Protestants dating from 1920s-1970s:

Catholic dogs, jump like frogs,
In and out the water.

(Melbourne, 1920-1973)

Catholic dogs, jump like frogs,
In a dish of holy water.

(Brisbane, c. 1940)

Catholic dogs, jump like frogs,
And won't eat meat on Fridays.

(W. Victoria, 1965)

Catholic dogs, jump like frogs,
In and out their bathing togs.

(Melbourne, 1973)

Also:

Catholic mugs, stink like bugs.

(Melbourne, c. 1950)

Protestant cats sit on mats,
Eating maggots out of rats.

(Melbourne, c. 1950)

--

Keywords: sectarian, partisan, racist

Location: Various NZ, Australia

Group size: 2

Incidence: 12

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 40

Date: 1940s-2001

Title: I love you

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

I love you, I love you I love you almighty,
I wish your 'jarmies were next to my nightie,
Don't be mistaken, don't be misled,
I mean on the clothes line, not in the bed.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

I love my boyfriend (husband), I love him mighty,
I love his PJ's next to my nightie,
Don't be mistaken, don't be misled
I mean on the clothes line, not in the bed.

(Auckland, 1975; Wellington, 2001)

--

I love you so dearly,
I love you so mighty.
I wish my pyjamas
Were next to your nightie.
Now don't be mistaken,
Don't be misled,
I mean on the clothes line,
Not in the bed.

(Ashburton, 1940s; Blenheim, 1950s)

--

Background Info: Turner, 1969:114.records this version:

Oi sweet mama, oi sweet mama,
I'd like to see your nightie next to my pyjama.
Now don't get excited, don't get red,
I mean on the clothes line, not in bed.

(Rolland, USA, 1938)

--

Keywords: bawdy
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 41
Date: 1948
Title: Adelaide
Gender: Male
Classification: Partisian
Rhyme:

Adelaide has the churches,
Sydney has the booze,
Melbourne has the pretty girls,
Go which place you choose.

(NZ ex Australia, 1948)

--

Keywords: place names, alcohol, Australia
Location: NZ (ex Australia)
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 42
Date: 1948
Title: A rabbit has a shiny nose
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

A rabbit has a shiny nose,
But this it cannot mend,
Because its little powder puff
Is at the other end.

(NZ ex Australia, 1948)

--

Keywords: word play

Location: NZ (ex Australia)
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 43
Date: 1948
Title: When you get married
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

When you get married and you have twins,
Don't come to me for safety pins.

(Christchurch, 1960s)

--

When you grow up and have twins,
Don't come asking me for safety pins.

(Ashburton, 1958)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 6

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 45
Date: 1970s-2006
Title: A sailor went to sea
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

A sailor went to sea, sea,
To see what he could see, see,
But all that he could see, see, see,
Was the bottom of the deep blue sea, sea, sea.

(Christchurch, 1970s; Rotorua, 1970s; Porirua, 1970s; Gisborne, 1980s; Auckland, 1990s; Whakatane, 2000 x 2; Rotorua, 2000; Gisborne, 2000; Northland, 2000; Christchurch, 2000; Fairlie, 2003; Christchurch, 2003; Dunedin, 2003; New Plymouth, 2004; Ashburton, 2006)

--

A sailor went to..
dis, knee, land, Disneyland.

(Auckland, 1980s; Auckland, 1988; Napier, 1990s; Porirua, 1990s; Upper Hutt, 1990s; Whakatane, 1990; Wellington, 2000; Christchurch, 2000)

--

A sailor went to..
chop, knee, all 3.

(NZ ex Australia, 1970s; Christchurch, 1990; New Plymouth, 2004)

--

A sailor went to..
fish, fish, fish, bird, bird, bird

(Auckland, 1990s)

--

A sailor went to...
knee, knee, knee.

(Ashburton, 2005)

--

A sailor went to..
sea, chop. knee, foot, Timbuctoo.

(Auckland, 1990s; Christchurch, 2000)

--

My father went to sea, sea, sea,
To see what he could see, see, see,
But all that he could see, see, see,
Was the never-ending sea, sea, sea.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Background Info: Opie, 1988:467-468 (musical script included).
Versions include:

A sailor went to chop, chop, chop,
A sailor went to knee, knee, knee,
A sailor went to toe..chest..waist..foot.

--

Recorded as a ball bouncing rhyme in 1940s.
In this rhyme the rhythm of the words is more important than the sense. (Personal informant)

--

Possibly originated with the Fred Astaire song of the 1930s, "We went to sea to see the world, but what did we see? We saw the sea."
Turner, 1969:42. Recorded 1957, Melbourne.

--

A discussion of this rhyme is included in an article in "Play and Folklore", Issue 13, 1987:14, related to melodic structures in children's playlore.

--

Keywords: media, modern culture,
Location: Various NZ, Singapore
Group size: 6
Incidence: 32

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 47
Date: 1960s-2006
Title: Happy birthday
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Happy birthday to you,
You're one hundred and two,
You look like a monkey,
And you smell (act) like one too.

(Waiuku, 2000; Ashburton, 2005; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Happy birthday to you
Happy birthday to you,,
You look like a monkey, (pig)
And you act (smell) like one too.

(Auckland, 1970s; Wellington, 1970s; Christchurch, 1970s; Rotorua, 2002; Kaitaia, 1990s; Papakura, 1990s; Hamilton, 2005; Christchurch, 2005)

--

Happy birthday to you,
Squashed tomatoes and stew,
You look like a monkey,
And you eat (smell)like one too!

(Auckland, 1960s x 2; Nelson, 2000; Outram, 2000; Auckland, 2001; Ashburton, 2005)

--

Happy birthday to you,
Stick your head down the loo,
Don't waste it,
Just taste it,
Happy birthday to you.

(Upper Hutt, 1990s; Waiuku, 2000; Northland, 2000)

--

Happy birthday to me,(you)
Happy birthday to me,
I'm 103, (102) I still go to kindy,
And I can't count to three. (two).

(Upper Hutt, 2000; Palmerston North, 2000; Greytown, 2002)

--

Happy birthday to you,
You were born in the zoo.
You were born with the monkeys,
And you look like one too.

(Auckland, 1967; Auckland, 1970s; Wellington, 1970s)

--

Happy birthday to you,
Tell me, tell me true,
1, 2, 3, 4.. (skipping)
Happy birthday to you.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Happy birthday to you,
I went to the zoo,
I saw a fat lady,
And I thought it was you.

(Auckland, 1999)

--

Background Info: Opie, 1967:301:

Happy birthday to you,
Squashed tomatoes and stew,
Eggs and bacon for breakfast,
Happy birthday to you.

--

Keywords: occasional custom, bawdy,
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 6
Incidence: 28

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 50
Date: 1950s-2006
Title: I wrote a letter
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Game
Rhyme:

I wrote a letter to my love
And on the way I dropped it,
Someone must have picked it up
And put it in their pocket.
It might be you, it might be you,
All look behind you.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

I wrote a letter to my love
And on the way I dropped it,
Someone must have picked it up
And put it in my pocket.
It wasn't me, it wasn't you,

It wasn't Father Christmas.
[X] look behind your back.

(Auckland, 1980s; Whangarei, 1990s)

--

A tisket, a tasket,
A red and yellow basket,
I wrote a letter to my love,
And on the way I dropped it.

(Timaru, 1960s; Christchurch, 1970s)

--

I wrote a letter to my love
And on the way I dropped it,
Someone must have picked it up
And put it in their pocket.
Not you, not you, not you, yes you!

(Christchurch, 1960s; Auckland, 1970s; Christchurch, 1970s; NZ. 2004)

--

I wrote a letter to my love
And on the way I dropped it,
Someone must have picked it up
And put it in their pocket.
It might have been you,
It might have been you,
It must be you.

(Wellington, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Children form a circle covering their faces with their hands and one player skips around the outside while the others sing the verse. The skipper secretly drops a token behind one of the other players and on the words, 'all look behind you,' the person who has the token must pick it up and race the skipper around the circle in the opposite direction and back to the place. The last one back is out of the game. (Personal observation)

--

Opie, 1984: 199-200:

I sent a letter to my love,

And on the way I dropped it.
I dropped it once,
I dropped it twice,
I dropped it three times over.
Shut your eyes,
Look at the skies,
Guess where the letter lies.

Game known as "Drop Handkerchief" and is a circle racing game which involves one player secretly dropping a handkerchief behind one of the ring players. When discovered, this player must pick it up and race the leader back to her place, running in the opposite direction. The dropper usually wins, but if she is beaten the other runner takes her place in dropping the handkerchief.

--

Described as a handkerchief-dropping game, mentioned in 1744 in "A Little Pretty Pocket Book" where a letter is dropped.

--

Also Sutton Smith, 1959:20 for further description.
Alternative version:

I had a little dog,
And it won't bite you,
And it won't bite you,
But it will bite you!

(Taieri, 1900s (Sutton-Smith, 1959: 20))

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 10
Incidence: 10

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 52
Date: 2005-2006
Title: High five
Gender: Female
Classification: Action
Rhyme:

High five,
To the side,
To the other,
Up in space,

In your face,
Down low,
Too slow, (hand is pulled away)
Have a ten,
You lost again.

(Hamilton, 2005)

--

Gimme five,
Up high,
Down low,
In the middle,
Too slow.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Background Info: Part of celebratory gesture of slapping palms, attributed to baseballers Glen Burke and Dusty Baker, 1977. Popularised in the sport of basketball.

www.highfive.me.uk (accessed 15 January, 2007)

--

Keywords: celebration
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 53
Date: 2005
Title: Aunty Anna
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

My Aunty Anna plays the pi-ano,
Twenty four hours a day .
Split (repeat until one of the pair falls over)

(Hamilton, 2005; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Background Info: On the word 'split' the clappers jump with legs apart, moving wider

with each subsequent verse until one of the pair falls over.

--

Location: Hamilton
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 54
Date: 1990s-2005
Title: Doh a deer
Gender: Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Doh, a deer, I'll have a beer,
Ray, a drop of golden beer,
Me, the man who drinks the beer,
Fah, a long way to get beer,
So, I think I'll have a beer,
La la la la beer,
Tea? No thanks I'll have a beer,
That will bring us back to beer, beer, beer - repeat.

(Hamilton, 2005)

--

Doh, the stuff that buys me beer,
Ray, the guy that sells me beer,
Me, the guy that drinks me beer,
Fah, a long way to get beer,
So, I'll have another beer,
La, I'll have another beer,
Tea? No thanks I'm drinking beer,
That'll bring us back to ..

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Parody of the tune from "The Sound of Music".

--

Keywords: NZ culture, alcohol
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 3

Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 973

Date: 1960s-2006

Title: Humpty Dumpty

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Parody

Rhyme:

Humpty Dumpty sat on a chair,
Eating ripe bananas,
Where do you think he put the skins,
Down his new pyjamas.

(Auckland, 2006; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Humpty Dumpty sat on the wall,
Humpty Dumpty had a great fall,
All the king's horses and all the king's men,
Had scrambled eggs for breakfast.

(Christchurch, 1990s x 2; Auckland, 1990s; Te Aroha, 1997; Kawerau, 2002; Dunedin, 2003; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Humpty Dumpty sat on the wall,
Humpty Dumpty had a great fall,
He didn't get bruised,
He didn't get bumped,
Humpty Dumpty bungy jumped!

(Papakura, 2002)

--

Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall,
Eating black bananas.
Where do you think he put the skins?
Down the king's pyjamas.

(Rotorua, 1970s; Christchurch, 1980s; Christchurch, 1990s x 2)

--

Humpty Dumpty sat on his bed,

With bandages wrapped around his head.
He moaned, "Of all the rotten tricks,
Who's the one that greased the bricks?"

(NZ, 2000)

--

Humpty Dumpty sat on a chair,
While the barber cut his hair,
He cut it long,
He cut it short,
He cut it with a knife and fork.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Humpty Dumpty went to the moon,
On a supersonic spoon,
He took some porridge and a tent,
But when he landed the spoon got bent.
Humpty Dumpty didn't care,
For all I know he's still up there.

(Ashburton, 1998)

--

Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall,
Humpty Dumpty had a great fall,
All the king's men,
Threw him out the window,
Threw him out the second storey window,
With a heave and a ho, and a mighty throw.
They threw him out the window.

(Rotorua, 2002)

--

Humpty Dumpty sat in a chair,
Crying in his underwear,
When he stood up, he did a fart,
And his brand new knickers flew apart!

(Kamo, 2000)

--

Humpty Dumpty sat on the wall,
Crash, bang, that's all!

(Whangarei,1960s)

--

Alternative endings:

Said, "Screw him! He's just an egg."
(Springfield, 1999)

Said, "Serves you right, you fat fucker!"
(NZ ex UK, 2000)

Had egg sandwiches.
(Christchurch, 1998)

Said, "Jeez, we're never going to be hungry again."
(Christchurch,1990s)

Trod on him.
(Ashburton, 1990s)

Said, "Stuff him, he's only an egg!"
(Auckland, 1970s)

"Had to have eggs for breakfast again." (Auckland, 2000)

--

Background Info: Originally this rhyme was a riddle to which the correct response was 'an egg'. First recorded in a publication in 1803. (Opie, 1985:215)

--

Keywords: bawdy,
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 5
Incidence: 27

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 55
Date: 1990s-2005
Title: Peanut on railway track
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

A peanut sat on a railway track,

His heart was all a flutter.
Along came Thomas the train,
Toot toot - peanut butter.

(Hamilton, 2005)

--

A peanut sat on a railway track,
A train came and splat!
Peanut butter after that.
Yum, yum.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

A peanut sat on the railway track,
His heart all a flutter.
Around the corner came the 4.15,
Crash, bang, peanut butter!

(Christchurch, 1990s x 3; Wellington, 1990s; Auckland, 2000 x 2)

--

A peanut sat on the railway track,
His heart all a flutter.
Along came the 505
Oops, peanut butter!

(Napier, 2000)

--

Two little peanuts sitting on a track,
Their hearts were all a-flutter,
Train came rolling round the bend,
Splat, peanut butter!

(Auckland, 2001)

--

Background Info: Variations in Turner, 1978:126 from 1940s onwards:

A peanut sitting on the railway line
Suddenly began to mutter,
The Sydney Express came flashing by
Toot! Toot! Peanut Butter.

(Victoria, 1940)

--

Also mentioned in Sutton-Smith, 1959:72, as being used as a counting-out rhyme in 1940-50.

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 10

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 56
Date: 2005
Title: Kissing
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Tease
Rhyme:

[X] and [Y] sitting up a tree,
Doing something they shouldn't be,
Starts with S, ends with X,
Oh my gosh, it must be SEX!

(Hamilton, 2005)

--

Keywords: bawdy, sex
Location: Hamilton
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 57
Date: 1960s-2006
Title: Cinderella
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping, skipping
Rhyme:

Cinderella dressed in yella,
Went to a ball and kissed a fella.
By mistake she kissed a snake,
And went home with a tummy ache.

(Auckland, 1970s; Napier, 1990s; Rotorua, 2000 x 3 ; New Plymouth, 2001; Auckland, 2000; Christchurch, 2000 x 2; Timaru, 2002; Auckland, 2002; Rotorua, 2002 x 2; Hamilton, 2002 x 2; Rangiora, 2003; Christchurch, 2004; Auckland, 2004; Blenheim, 2004; Timaru, 2005)

--

My name is Cinderella dressed in yella,
Went upstairs to kiss a fella,
By mistake she kissed a snake,
And this is how it happened.
Girls do the curtsy, boys do the bow,
The girls go woops and the boys go wow!

(Christchurch, 2006)

--

My name is Cinderella dressed in yella,
Went to a ball and kissed a fella.
By mistake she kissed a snake,
And went to bed with a bellyache.

(Nelson, 1990s; Timaru, 2000; Timaru, 2006)

--

Cinderella dressed in yella,
Went upstairs to kiss her fella,
By mistake she kissed a snake,
And came back with a belly ache.

(Christchurch, 1990s x 3; Auckland, 1990s; Timaru, 1990s; Wellington, 2000 x 2; Greytown, 2000; Dunedin, 2002; Auckland, 2002; Kaiapoi, 2003; Hamilton, 2003; Owaka, 2003; Upper Hutt, 2004; Auckland, 2004; Hamilton, 2004; Lower Hutt, 2005)

--

Cinderella dressed in yella,
Went upstairs to kiss her fella,
By mistake she kissed a snake,
And then she got the tummy ache.

(Auckland, 1990s; Christchurch, 2000 x 2)

--

Cinderella dressed in yella,
Kissed a snake, by mistake,
Now she's got a tummy ache.

(Rotorua, 2000)

--

Cinderella dressed in yella,
Went downstairs to kiss a fella,
By mistake she kissed a snake,
And ended up with a tummy ache.

(Ashburton, 1990s; Hokitika, 2005)

--

Cinderella dressed in yella,
Sitting in a cellar,
Waiting for her fella,
How many lashes did she get?
1,2,3,4..

(Christchurch, 1995)

--

Cinderella dressed in yella,
Went upstairs to kiss a fella,
By mistake she kissed a snake
How many doctors (kisses - Hawkes Bay, 2002) did it take?
1,2,3..

(Methven, 1970s; NZ ex UK, 1990s; Taupo, 2000; Christchurch, 2000 x 2; Wellington, 2002)

--

Cinderella dressed in yella,
Went to the palace and kissed a fella,
By mistake she kissed a snake,
And ended up with a tummy ache.

(Mangakino, 2001)

--

My name is Cinderella,
Often pallor,
Went to the ball to kiss a fella,
By mistake she kissed a snake,
And ended up with a tummy ache.

(Hamilton, 2003)

--

Cinderella dressed in black,
Went to McDonald's to buy a Big Mac.
By mistake she got a shake.
How many quarters (dollars) will it take?
1,2,3,4...

Cinderella dressed in bones,
Went upstairs to blow her nose,
How many tissues did it take?
1,2,3..

(Dannevirke, 1990s)

--

Cinderella dressed in yella,
Went downstairs (to the ball) to meet her fella,
On the way her panties (pantyhose) busted,
How many people were disgusted? 1,2,3

(Christchurch, 1970s; Auckland, 1990s; Christchurch, 2000 x 2; Wellington, 2001)

--

Cinderella dressed in green,
Went upstairs to have some ice-cream,
Made a mistake and ate a snake,
How many doctors did it take?
1,2,3..

(NZ ex USA, 2000)

--

Cinderella dressed in yella,
Went downstairs to see her fella,
On the way she dropped her knickers,
How many times did she do it?

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Cinderella dressed in yella,
Went upstairs to kiss her fella.
How many kisses did she get?

(How many fellas did she kiss? - Christchurch, 2000)
1,2,3..

(Palmerston North, 1970s; Christchurch, 1990s; Glentunnel, 1990s; Waimate, 1990s)

--

Cinderella dressed in yella,
Went upstairs to meet her fella.
On the way she tripped on her gown,
How many steps did she fall down?
1,2,3..

(Christchurch, 2002)

--

Cinderella thinks she's cute,
All she wears is a bathing suit,
If she counts to 21,
She may have another turn.
1,2,3..

(Palmerston North, 1970s)

--

Cinderella dressed in yella,
Ran up stairs to fetch a fella.
How many children did she have?
1,2,3,4..

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Cinderella dressed in yella,
Went upstairs to meet her fella.
How many times did she fall?
1,2,3..

(Christchurch, 1980s)

--

Keywords: pregnancy, bawdy
Location: Various NZ, USA
Group size: 2
Incidence: 74

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 58
Date: 1950s-2006
Title: Bluebells, cockleshells
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Blue bells, cockle shells,
Eevy, ivy, over.
H E L and P
H E L and P
Spells H E L and P.

(Christchurch, 2006)

--

Bluebells, cockle shells,
Eeny iney over,
Bluebells, cockle shells,
Eeny iney over.
1,2,3,4,5..

(Auckland,1960s; Christchurch, 1990s; Whakatane, 2002 x 2)

--

Bluebells, cockleshells, eevy ivy over.
Now, now [child's name]
Don't tell a lie,
I saw you kissing a boy last night,
How many kisses did you get? 1,2,3,4

(Auckland, 1990s; Kerikeri, 2000; Hamilton, 2004 x3)

--

Blue bells cockle shells, eevie, ivy, over.
Now, now [X], don't tell me lies.
I saw you kissing [Y],
How many kisses did you have?
1, 2, 3..

(NZ, 1996)

--

Bluebells, cockleshells, eevy, ivy over,

I saw you kissing in the loo,
I'm going to tell your mother,
How many kisses did you have?
1,2,3..

(Rotorua, 2002; Lower Hutt, 2005)

--

Blue bells, cockle shells,
Evie, ivy over.
I'm going to tell my mama,
That you've been kissing my brother.
How many kisses did he get?
1,2,3..

(Rotorua, 2002)

--

Bluebells, cockle shells,
Eevy ivy over,
Do you like coffee?
Do you like tea?
Do you like sitting on your boyfriend's knee?
Yes, no, yes, no..

(Whangarei, 1960s; Christchurch, 1996)

--

Blue bells, cockle shells,
Evy, ivy, over,
Jam, jam, apple tart,
Tell me the name of your sweet heart.
A, B, C..

(Auckland, 1990s)

--

Blue bells, cockle shells,
Ennie, meenie, over,
Mamma's in the kitchen baking scones,
Dadda's in the toilet dropping bombs.
How many bombs did he drop?
1,2,3..

(Awanui, 1990s)

--

Sea shells, cockle shells,
Incy bincy over,
How many boys did you kiss last night?
1, 2, 3..

(Christchurch, 2004)

--

Sea shells, cockle shells,
Eevy, ivy, over,
I saw you kissing in the parlour,
With A, B, C..

(Porirua, 2003)

--

Sea shells, cockle shells,
Eevy, ivy over.
Mother's in the kitchen,
Doing a bit of knitting,
How many stitches did she do?
10, 20, 30..

(Auckland, 1970s)

--

Blue bells, cockle shells,
Eavy, ivy over.
The boys are in the clover,
Mother's in the kitchen,
Doing all the stitchin',
How many can she do?
1, 2, 3..

(Christchurch, 2002)

--

Bluebells, cockle shells, eevie, ivy, over.
I'm going to tell my mother,
That you've been kissing my brother,
How many kisses did he get?
1,2,3,4..

(Auckland, 2002)

--

Background Info: Rope is swung back and forwards until 'over' when rope is turned over. Often used as a starter to a skipping game.

--

Recorded as early as 1916, Abrahams, 1969:18-19:

Blue bells, cockle shells,
Erie, ivy over,
The kettle is boiling over.

--

Ritchie, 1964:24 variation:

Blue bells, dummie, dummie shells,
Evy, ivy over. (Related to WWI)

--

Opie, 1997:180-183 records many versions of this rhyme along with discussion.

Bluebells, cockle shells,
Evy, ivy, over,
Mother does the washing,
Father does the work,
How many hours does the baby sleep?

--

Keywords: divination, sex roles
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 8
Incidence: 23

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 59
Date: 2000-2006
Title: 2,4,6,8
Gender: Female
Classification: Partisan
Rhyme:

2,4,6,8
Who do we appreciate?
Not the King,

Not the Queen,
Goooo us!

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

2,4,6,8
Who do we appreciate?
North, south, east and west,
S.P.C. is best.

(Hamilton, 2005)

--

5, 6, 7, 8,
Who do we appreciate?
All Saints?
Not quite,
We support the purple and white.

(Auckland, 2005)

--

2,4,6,8,
Who do we appreciate?
Not the King,
Not the Queen,
But the Elgin hockey team,
Elgin, Elgin, go Elgin.

(Gisborne, 2000)

--

2,4,6,8, who don't we appreciate?
Teachers are the sitting ducks,
All the teachers really suck.
2,4,6,8, who don't we appreciate?

(Howick, 2006)

--

Background Info: A selection of partisan school sports' chants can be found in Opie,
1967:349-353.

--

Keywords: school chant, royalty, school, authority
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 3
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 62
Date: 1940s-1960s
Title: Here I sit
Gender: Male
Classification: bawdy
Rhyme:

Here I sit broken hearted,
Paid a penny and only farted.

(Christchurch, 1940s; Rotorua, 1960s)

--

Background Info: Onwuchekwa, 2003:139 recorded this version from urban black America:

Here I sit in smelly vapour,
Someone stole the toilet paper,
The doorbell rings, I must not linger,
Guess I'll have to use my finger.

--

Keywords: scatological, fart lore
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 64
Date: 1930
Title: The night was dark and stormy
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

The night was dark and stormy,
The air was full of sleet.
The old man stood out in the rain
And his shoes were full of feet.

(Christchurch, 1930s)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 67
Date: 1930
Title: Up the airy mountain
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Up the airy mountain, down the musty glen,
We daren't go a hunting, for fear of little men.
Wee folk, tiny folk, banding all together,
Red jackets, green caps, and white owl's feather.

(NZ, 1930s)

--

Background Info: Similar to a version quoted by Opie, 1988:132 beginning:
"Up the heathery mountains, down the rushy glen", being part of a song entitled
"Charlie is my darling".

--

Traditional Irish ballad known as Shane Crossagh begins:

It's up the heathery mountains and down the rocky glen
Squire Staples has gone hunting Shane Crossagh and his men,
With forty mounted yeoman that galloped in a stream
They swear they'll 'gin the gallows work when they come back again.

www.madcelts.com/htm/lyrics.htm (accessed 15 January, 2007)

--

Keywords: Irish
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 68

Date: 1930s-2000

Title: Dan the dirty man

Gender: Male

Classification: Tease

Rhyme:

Dan, Dan the dirty old man,
Washed his face in a frying pan,
Combed his hair with the leg of a chair,
And cleaned his teeth with his big toe nail,
Dan, Dan the dirty old man.

(Auckland, 1930s)

--

Dan Dan the dunny man.
Washed his face in a frying pan,
Combed his hair with a leg of a chair,
And told his mother he didn't care.

(Christchurch, 1950s)

--

Dan, Dan the Chinaman,
Washed his face in the frying pan.
After that he skinned his cat,
And made it into a hairy hat.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Sam, Sam the dirty man,
Washed his face in the frying pan.
After that he skinned his cat,
And made it into a hairy hat.

(Rotorua, 2000)

--

Dan, Dan the dirty old man,
Washed his face in a frying pan.
Combed his hair with the leg of a chair,
Dan, Dan the dirty old man.

(NZ, 1900s (Sutton-Smith, 1959:99))

--

Background Info: Opie, 1967:159. Traditional Nicknames.

--

Turner,1978: 84.mentions alternative versions including "Sam, Sam, the dirty old man," "Slam Bang, the dirty man," Tam, Tam, the gundy (candy) man," and "Dan, Dan, the ice-cream man." Dated from 1930s-1970s. Originally a minstrel song beginning:

Old Dan Tucker was a fine old man,
Washed his face in a frying pan.
Combed his hair with a wagon wheel,
Died with a toothache in his heel.

(Turner, 1969:70-71)

--

Onwuchekwa, 2003:105 records the version from urban black America:

Old Man Tucker was a mighty man,
He washed his face in a frying pan.
Combed his hair with a wagon wheel,
And died with a stick of toothpaste in his heel.

--

Opie, 2000:144 recorded the following (from Scotland):

Dicky Dan was a funny wee man,
He washed his head in a tarry pan,
He combed his hair with the leg of a chair,
Dicky Dan was a funny wee man.

--

From USA:

Your mother, my mother,
Lives across the way.
Every night they have a fight
And this is what they say:
Your old man is a dirty old man,
'Cos he washes his face in a frying pan,
He combs his hair with the leg of a chair.
Your old man is a dirty old man.

(Personal informant)

--

Botkin, 1944:783 records:

Sam, Sam, the dirty man,
Washed his face in a frying pan.
Combed his hair with the back of a chair,
And danced with the toothache in the air.

My son John is a nice old man,
Washed his face in a frying pan,
Combed his hair with a wagon wheel,
And died with the toothache in his heel.

--

Keywords: taunt, racist, stereotype
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 69
Date: 1940-2006
Title: Mary had a little lamb
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Mary had a little lamb,
She left it in the closet,
Every time she let it out,
It left a small deposit.

(Awanui, 2000; Ashburton, 1990s; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Mary had a little lamb,
Her father shot it dead,
And now she takes it to school,
Between two slices of bread.

(Methven, 1970s; Waiuku, 1970s; Auckland, 1990s; Christchurch, 1990 x 3; Twizel, 1997; Rotorua, 2000)

--

Mary had a little lamb,
She fed it castor oil,
And everywhere that Mary went,
It fertilised the soil.

(Papakura, 2000)

--

Mary had a little cow,
She fed it safety pins,
And every time she milked that cow,
The milk came out in tins.

(Wellington, 2000)

--

Mary had a little lamb,
A funny chap called Fred,
She carried it to school with her,
Between two bits of bread.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Mary had a little lamb,
And stuck it to a pylon,
Ten thousand volts went in its head,
And now its wool is nylon.

(Christchurch, 1990s x 4; Auckland, 1990s)

--

Mary had a little lamb,
It wasn't house trained so,
Everywhere that Mary went,
The lamb was sure to go.

(Christchurch, 1990)

--

Mary had a little lamb,
Its feet were covered in blisters,
Now its burning in the paddock,
With all its brothers and sisters.

(Christchurch, 2003 - related to foot and mouth disease scare in Britain 2001)

--

Mary had a little lamb,
She tied him to the heater,
Every time he turned around,
He burned his little seater.

(Nelson, 1990s - also recorded in Australia, c. 1910 ("Play and Folklore", Issue 4, 1983:4)

--

Mary had a little lamb,
A little pork, a little ham.
Some ice-cream and some soda fizz,
Oh, how sick our Mary iz!

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Mary had a little dress,
It was light and airy.
I never saw the dress that much,
But, boy, did it show Mary.

(Ashburton, 1990s)

--

Mary had a little lamb,
It loved to play and frolic.
She threw it in the air one day,
And caught it by the bollocks.

(NZ ex UK, 1950s)

--

Mary had a little sheep,
And with the sheep she went to sleep.
(She took it to bed to warm her feet.)
The sheep turned out to be a ram,
And now Mary has a little lamb.

(Gisborne, 2002; Palmerston, 2000)

--

Mary had a little lamb,
It acted very silly,
Each time it jumped the fence,
It caught its little willy.

(Hamilton, 2000; Wellington, 1980s; Thames, 2000; Awanui, 2000; Auckland, 1990s)

--

Mary had a little lamb,
She fed it rum and colic,
Now poor Mary has a lamb,
That is an alcoholic.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Mary had a little lamb,
It had a touch of colic,
She fed it brandy (rum) twice a day,
And now it's alcoholic.

(Wellington, 2000; Palmerston, 2000; Porirua, 2000; Nelson, 1990s)

--

Mary had a little lamb,
Its fleece was black as soot,
And everywhere that Mary went,
His sooty foot he put.

(Christchurch, 1970s; Auckland, 1970s;)

--

Mary had a little lamb,
And some chunks of meat,
She put them in a sandwich.
She thought it was a treat.
She chewed them up so very well,
And said, "Vegetarians can go to hell."

(Auckland, 1990s)

--

Mary had a little lamb,

She put it in a bucket,
Every time it jumps out,
Mary would yell..
"Get back in there you naughty lamb."

(Hastings, 2002)

--

Mary had a little lamb,
Its fleece was white as snow,
And everywhere that Mary went,
She threw it out the window.
The window, the window,
The second story window.
And everywhere that Mary went,
She threw it out the window.

(Auckland, 2002; Lower Hutt, 2006)

--

Mary had a little bear,
To which she was very kind,
Everywhere that Mary went,
You could see her bare behind.

(Christchurch, 1970s)

--

Mary had a little lamb,
Its bum as black as charcoal.
Every time it jumped a fence,
A spark flew out its arsehole.

(Christchurch, 1990s; Tauranga, 2000; Timaru, 2000; Gore, 1970s)

--

Mary had a little lamb,
The doctor was surprised.
But when Old MacDonald had a farm,
The doctor nearly died!

(Auckland, 2002; Blackball, 2000; Nelson, 1970s; Christchurch, 1990; Te Aroha, 1990s; Christchurch, 1990s; Nelson, 1990s; Haldon, 1970s; Gisborne, 2001)

--

Mary had a little lamb
Who sat beside the heater.
Every time he turned around,
He burned his little peter.

(NZ ex USA 1940)

--

Mary had a little lamb,
She also had a bear.
Although I've seen her little lamb,
I've never seen her bare.

(NZ ex Australia, 1960; NZ ex South Africa, 1990s)

--

Mary had a little lamb,
A little pork, a little ham,
And boy, was she sick!

(Rotorua, 1990s)

--

Mary had a little lamb,
She also had a duck,
She put them on the mantelpiece,
To see if they would..
Fall off.

(Hamilton, 2000; Auckland, 2000; Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Mary had a little lamb,
She also had a duck,
She put them in her schoolbag, (mantelpiece)
To see if they would fuck.

(Thames, 1990s; Gore, 1970s; Christchurch, 1990s x 3; Oxford, 1980s)

--

Mary had a little lamb,
She kept it in a drawer,
And every time she let it out,
It peed upon the floor.

(Whangarei, 2000)

--

Mary had a little lamb,
It piddled on the floor.
Mary had to wipe it up,
And throw it out the door.

(Christchurch, 1940s)

--

Background Info: Turner, 1978:120 -121 includes numerous variations on this popular parody from 1962-1973 including:

Mary had a little lamb,
Its fleece was white as cotton,
And every time it jumped the fence
It hurt its little bottom.

(Melbourne, 1962-1973)

Mary had a little lamb,
She kept it in a bucket,
And every time she went to town,
The bulldog used to fuck it.

(Melbourne, 1973)

--

Variation, Schwartz, 1992:20:

Mary had a little lamb,
A little pork, a little ham,
A little egg, a little toast,
Some pickles and a great big roast,
A lobster and some prunes,
A glass of milk, some macaroons.
It made the waiters grin,
To see her order so,
And when they carried Mary out,
Her face was white as snow.

--

Keywords: bawdy, scatological, topical

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 1

Incidence: 72

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 70

Date: 1960

Title: Chesdale Cheese

Gender: Male

Classification: Parody

Rhyme:

We are the boys from down on the farm,
We really know our fleas.
There's no better value in Chesdale
It always fails to please.
Chesdale slices thickly,
Always crumbles, has no taste
And boy it's a bloody waste,
Chesdale Cheese.
The Poms all buy it - don't try it.

(Papakura, 1960)

--

Keywords: advertising, commercial product, NZ culture

Location: Papakura

Group size: 1

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 71

Date: 1990s- 2006

Title: Postman Pat

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Parody

Rhyme:

Postman Pat, Postman Pat
Ran over his cat.
Blood and guts went flying,
Postman Pat was crying,
That should teach him not to drink and drive.

(Barrytown, 2004; Ashburton, 1997; Christchurch, 2000)

(Now he has red wheels to match his van - Auckland, 1993; Auckland, 1998; Auckland, 2002; Auckland, 2005; Sheffield, 2006; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Postman Pat, Postman Pat
Ran over his cat.
Fur and guts were flying,
Postman Pat was crying, (Auckland, 1990s)
Postman Pat was a very unhappy man.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

ALTERNATIVE ENDINGS:

Pat says he's a very lucky guy. (Christchurch, 1996)

Postman Pat you are a very silly man. (Timaru, 2002)

Postman Pat thought he was a very mean man (Auckland, 2003)

--

Background Info: "Postman Pat" is a BBC animated children's television series.
Originally screened in 1981.

--

Keywords: media culture, television, violence
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 5
Incidence: 13

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 73
Date: 1990s-2006
Title: Paper, scissors, rock
Gender: Female
Classification: Action, clapping
Rhyme:

Rock breaks scissors,
Scissors cuts paper,
Paper wraps rock
Paper, scissors, rock-
DYNAMITE! (indicating the end of the game)

(Gisborne, 2000; Christchurch, 2000; Dunedin, 2000; Gisborne, 2001)

--

Tic tac toe

Gimme a yes,
Gimme a no.
Gimme a tic tac toe.
Tic tic toe,
Tic, tac, toe.
(Game ends with scissors, rock, paper type ritual.)

(Whangaparaoa, 2000; Auckland, 2000 x 2; Whakatane, 2002)

--

Tic, tac, toe,
We're going up,
We're going down,
We're going tic, tac, toe.

(Auckland, 2002; Gisborne, 2000)

(Accompanied by a paper, scissors, rock type action. Winner puts a finger on the back of the neck of the loser, who has to guess which finger it is. If right, the game ends, if wrong, there is one more chance. If wrong a second time the winner chants "Peanut butter, peanut butter, slap", and slaps the loser's arm.)

--

Tic, tac, toe,
Going up, going down,
Going tic, tac, toe.
(Followed by paper, scissors, rock, to decide the winner)

(Auckland, 1990s; Gisborne, 2001; Auckland, 2002 x 2; Auckland, 2004)

--

My name is high, low, jigalow,
Jigalow, high, low,
A, B, C, D,
Paper, scissors, rock.

(Christchurch, 2006)

--

Background Info: A selection routine with origins in Japan in the late 1800s, known as Janken, Used by both children and adults, sometimes used in sports to determine which team begins.

Rock = clenched fist

Paper = flattened hand

Scissors = a v-shape using middle- and fore- finger.

On the count of three, players select one of these options.

Rock blunts scissors, so rock wins.

Scissors cut paper, so paper wins.
Paper wraps rock, so paper wins.

--

Keywords: decision making, counting-out
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 6
Incidence: 16

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 74
Date: 1990s-2006
Title: Picachu
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

A, B, C, we're going up,
We're going down, we're going piccachu,
(Action involves pinching cheeks and chin of partner)
A, B, C, we're going up,
We're going down, we're going
Piccachu, piccachu, piccachu.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Piccachu
Picachu,
I've got a pic, I've got a chu,
I've got a picachu.
You've got a pica laka choo!
Picachu, picachu,
Baba so, got a baba, got a baba so!

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Picachu + paper, scissors, rock, as an elimination game.

(Auckland, 1990)

--

Picachu, going up, going down.
Going picachu, + paper, scissors, rock.

(Porirua, 2003 x2; Lower Hutt, 2006)

--

Background Info: Picachu (Pickachu) is a character from a cartoon-video game, "Pokemon", popular in late 1990s.

--

Keywords: Pokemon, media culture

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 6

Incidence: 6

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 75

Date: 1970s-2006

Title: Roses are red

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Parody, autograph

Rhyme:

Roses are red,
Cabbages are green,
You've got a figure,
Like a washing machine.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
God made me cuter,
What happened to you?

(Christchurch, 2006)

--

Roses are red, violets are blue,
I was born pretty,
What happened to you?

(Christchurch, 2005)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
And you smell,
Like old dog poo.

(Motueka, 2003)

--

Roses are red,
My feet are blue.
There are lice in my pants,
And rats ate my stew.

(Christchurch, 2004)

--

Roses are red,
Violet's are blue,
Mary's are green,
I've seen them too.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
Bull dogs are ugly,
And so are you.

(Christchurch, 2002)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
Honey is sweet,
But not as sweet as you.

(Whangarei, 1990s)

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
Smelly socks remind me of you.

(Porirua, 2000)

--

Roses are red,

Violets are blue,
You are sweet,
But I love him.

(Wellington, 2000)

--

Emeralds are green,
Rubies are red,
The sugar bowl's empty,
And so is your head.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
Send me \$10
And I will love you.

(NZ, 2000)

--

The roses are wilted,
The violets are dead,
The sugar bowl's empty,
And so is your head.

(Christchurch, 1990s; Tauranga, 2000; Hamilton, 2000; Howick, 2006)

--

Roses are blue,
Violets are red,
If you believe this
You need your head read.

(Auckland, 1975)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are blue.
You look like a monkey.
And smell like one too.

(Auckland, 1994; Auckland, 2000; Taradale, 2002)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are blue.
You look like a cow,
Moo, moo, moo.

(Christchurch, 1980s)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are blue.
People like you,
Belong in a zoo.

(Nelson, 1980s)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are blue.
I was born human, (normal)
What happened to you?

Kaitaia, 1990s; Christchurch, 1990; Christchurch, 2000)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are blue.
This classroom stinks.
And so do you.

(Tauranga, 2000)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are blue.
The smell of the toilet,
Reminds me of you.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Roses are blue,
Violets are red.

This poem's back to front,
Just like your head.

(Hamilton, 1990s)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
The hair on my butt,
Reminds me of you.

(Christchurch, 1990)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are blue.
Sugar is sweet,
And so are you.
(Christchurch, 1990; Dannevirke, 1980s)
But the roses are dying,
The violets are dead.
The sugar bowl's empty,
And so is your head.

(Auckland, 1990s)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are blue.
Lie in the bed
And I'll fuck you.

(Auckland, 1990s)

--

When roses are red,
They're ready to be plucked,
When girls are sixteen,
They're ready to be fucked.

(NZ, 2000)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are blue.

When I see you,
You make me spew.

(Auckland, 1990s)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are blue.
When girls are sixteen,
Get them in bed.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are blue.
The lolly jar's empty,
And so is your head.

(Christchurch, 1990)

--

Violets are blue,
Roses are red,
Your nose is like.
The BNZ.

(Porirua, 2000)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
You love [X,]
And he loves you.

(Auckland, 2006)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
Salt is not sweet,
And neither are you.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are black,
I need you as a friend,
Like an axe in the back.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
The sunshine sparkles,
And so do you.

(Porirua, 2000)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are blue.
The shorter the dress,
The better the view.

(Christchurch, 1980; Glentunnel, 2000)

--

Roses are smelly,
Violets pong.
Your face is lovely,
Like King Kong.

(Whangarei, 1990s)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are blue.
When brains were given out,
Where were you?

(Auckland, 1970s)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are blue.
Dogs have fleas,

And so do you.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
My nose is all runny,
And now it's like glue.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are blue.
Sorry honey,
But I'm cheating on you.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Violets are blue,
Roses are pink,
I want a peg,
Because you stink.

(Christchurch, 2004)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
You hate me,
And I hate you.

(Whangarei, 1990s)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
Don't do a poo,
In front of Scooby Doo.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are blue.
Please flush the toilet,
When you are through.

(NZ, 2000)

--

Noses are red,
My feet are blue,
There's ice in my pants,
And rats in the stew.

(Kaiapoi, 2003)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
Your mother is beautiful,
What happened to you?

(Fairlie, 2003)

--

Roses are red
Violets are black.
Thanks for washing your hands.
Before you made my Big Mac.

(Ashburton, 2002)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are green.
I like your legs,
But what's in between?

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are blue.
When it rains,
I'll think of you,

Drip, drip, drip.

(Auckland, 2002)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are blue.
Some poems rhyme,
This one doesn't.

(Hamilton, 2000)

--

Roses are red,
The grass is green.
My face is funny,
Yours is a scream.

(Christchurch, 1970s)

--

Violets are blue,
Roses are red,
The sugar bowl's empty,
And so is your head.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

The roses have faded,
The violets are dead.
The sugar bowl's empty,
And so is your head.

(Christchurch, 1990)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
Your dog stinks,
Just like you.

(Christchurch, 1990)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
You are sweet
And I love you.

(Auckland, 1994)

--

Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
You look like an elephant,
And belong in a zoo.

(Auckland, 1994)

--

Background Info: The original lines "Roses red, and violets blue" is from Edmund Spenser's "Faerie Queen": "And all the sweetest flowers, that in the forests grew..." (1590) One of the most popular autograph album rhymes noted by Dorothy Howard in 1950s. (Darian-Smith, 2005:102)

--

Variations in Opie, 1992:375 include:

The rose is red, the violet blue,
The gillyflower sweet, and so are you. These are the words you bade me say
For a new pair of gloves on Easter day.
("Much Ado about Nothing")

The rose is red, the violet's blue,
The honey's sweet and so are you.
Thou art my love and I am thine,
I drew thee to my Valentine:
The lot is cast and then I drew,
And fortune said it shou'd be you.
(G G's Garland, 1784)

--

Keywords: scatological, insults, taunt, commercial product, media culture,
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 64

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 76

Date: 1948-2005
Title: Yum yum
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Yum, yum pig's bum,
Stick it full of chewing gum!

(Christchurch, 2005)

--

Yum, yum,
Pig's bum.
Makes good,
Chuddy gum.

(Oamaru, 1960s; Wellington, 1990s)

--

Yum, yum, pig's bum,
Bull shit and kauri gum,
Makes good chewing gum.

(Egmont, 1948)

--

Yum, yum,
Chewing gum.
Stick it up the teacher's bum.

(Christchurch, 1980s; Christchurch, 1990)

--

Yum, yum,
Pig's bum,
Makes good bubble gum.

(Dunedin, 1990s)

--

Yum, yum,
Bubble gum.
Put it up the teacher's bum.
When it's brown,

Pull it down,
Yum, yum bubble gum.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Yum, yum,
Chewing gum.
Stick it up your mother's bum.

(Blenheim, 1960s)

--

Yum, yum,
Chuddy gum.
Tastes like pig's bum.

(Christchurch, 1960s)

--

Yum, yum,
Chewing gum.
Stick it up the teacher's bum.
If it sticks, let it stay,
Pick it off another day.

(Christchurch, 1990s; Ashburton, 1990s)

--

Yumm, yum, bubble gum,
Stick it up your teacher's bum,
If it's sticky, pull his dicky,
Out will come a chocolate chippy.

(Sheffield, 2006)

--

Background Info: Recorded in Lowenstein, 1974:47:

Yum, yum pig's bum,
Makes good chewing gum.

Also

Yum, yum, bubble gum,

Stick your finger up your bum,
If it's nice, suck it twice,
Yum, yum, bubble gum.

(Melbourne, 1973)

--

Keywords: NZ culture, scatological,
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 13

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 77
Date: 1920s-1990
Title: Girl Guides
Gender: Female
Classification: Parody, skipping
Rhyme:

We are the Girl Guides dressed in blue,
These are the things that we can do.
Salute to the captain, bow to the Queen,
Pulling up your skirt so your underwear is seen!

(NZ, 1980s)

--

We are the Girl Guides dressed in blue,
These are the things that we must do.
Salute to the captain,
Bow to the Queen,
And show our knickers to the football team.

(Whangarei, 1970s; Christchurch, 1990s)

--

I'm a Girl Guide, dressed in blue,
These are the things that I must do.
Salute to the King,
Bow to the Queen,
And turn my back to the Irish Queen.

(NZ ex South Africa, 1960s)

--

I'm a movie star dressed in blue,
These are the things I must do.
Curtsey to the mayor,
Hop to the Queen,
Show my undies to the rugby team.

(Blenheim, 1990s)

--

I'm a little Girl Guide (Dutch girl),
Dressed in blue,
Here are the things I like to do.
Salute to the Captain, bow to the Queen,
Turn my back on the naughty King, (King George?)
I can do the tap dance,
I can do the split,
I can do the polka, just like this.

(Palmerston North, 1960s)

--

I'm a Girl Guide, dressed in blue,
These are the things that I must do.
Salute to the Captain,
Bow to the Queen,
Turn right around and count sixteen.
1,2,3..

(Hawera, 1940s; Auckland, 2006)

--

I'm a Girl Guide, dressed in blue,
These are the things that I must do.
Salute to the Captain,
Bow to the Queen,
(Never) turn your back on the Union Jack.

(Kerikeri, 1950s)

--

I am a Girl Guide dressed in blue,
These are the actions I can do.
Stand at ease, bend my knees,
Salute to the King, bow to the Queen,
Never turn my back on the Union Jack,

Under the archway, 1, 2, 3, pepper.

(1920s-1950s (Sutton-Smith, 1959:81))

--

Background Info: Opie, 1997:218-222, discusses variations of this rhyme. Variants include turning of the back on the gipsy queen, the washing machine, the German submarine and Hitler.

Also inclusion of other colours in rhyme variants:

I am a Girl Guide dressed in red,
These are the times I go to bed,
1,2,3..

I am a Girl Guide dressed in brown.
These are the days I go to town,
Monday, Tuesday..

I am a Girl Guide dressed in black,
I went to the factory and got the sack.
I went to the station and missed the train.
I went to school and got the cane.
How many whacks did you get?
1, 2, 3..
(Kent, 1934)

--

Comment in Factor, 1988:188, regarding the swings between fantasy and reality in children's play rhymes.

--

Variations in Turner,1978:18. include:

I am a girl guide, dressed in blue,
These are the actions I must do.
Stand at ease, bend your knees,
Salute to the King, bow to the Queen,
Turn your back on the Union Jack.
How many years will you stay in gaol?

(Adelaide, 1957)

--

Turner,1969:28 variation:

I am a Boy Scout dressed in brown,

See how many times I can touch the ground.
(Sydney, 1958)

--

Keywords: bawdy, patriotic, royalty
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 6
Incidence: 10

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 78
Title: I scream
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

I scream, you scream,
We all scream for ice cream.

(Christchurch, 1970s x 2; NZ ex USA, 1970s; Wellington, 2000; Auckland, 2001; Nelson,
2002; Ashburton, 2006)

--

I cuss, you cuss,
We all cuss,
For asparagus.

(Wellington, 2000)

--

Background Info: Play on the word 'ice cream' - I scream.

--

I scream, you scream,
We all scream for ice cream.
Recorded by Turner, 1978:118 in 1930s and also as:

You scream, I scream,
We all scream for ice-cream.
You cry, I cry,
We all cry for apple pie.
(Victoria, 1963)

--

Opie, 1967:165. recorded a similar in 1947.

--

Withers, 1948:3 records the rhyme:

I says, you says,
We all want ices.

--

Keywords: food
Location: Various NZ, USA
Group size: 2
Incidence: 8

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 79
Date: 1950s- 2006
Title: Pinch and punch
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Calendar
Rhyme:

A pinch and a punch,
For the first of the month, (Tauranga, 2000)
No returns from you!
(And only pigs return it.)

(Nelson, 1960s; Nelson, 1990s; Waiuku, 2000; Greymouth, 2005; Auckland, 2006)

--

A pinch and a punch for the first of the month.
A slap and a kick for being so quick. (Hamilton, 2005; Papakura, 1990s)
And no returns
A kick and a slap for getting me back.

(Christchurch, 1990s; Greymouth, 2000; Ashburton, 2006)

--

A kick and a flick for being a dick.

(Auckland, 2006)

--

A pinch and a punch for the first of the month.

A slap and a kick for being so quick.
A pinch in reply for being so sly.

(Whangaparaora, 2000)

--

A pinch and a punch for the first of the month.
A slap and a kick for being so quick.
A biff and a blow, for being so slow.

(NZ ex UK, 1950s; Whangarei, 1998)

--

A pinch and a blow for being so slow.
Don't be so fast 'cos I'm the last.

(NZ, 1980s)

--

A pinch and a punch for the first of the month.
And only pigs can return it.

(Timaru, 2001)

--

Background Info: A pinch and a kick for being so quick.
And no returns.
A slap in the eye for being so sly. (Opie, 1967:300)

--

Mentioned in Sutton-Smith, 1959:99, as being used in the period 1920s-1950s.

--

Bauer, 2003:112 discusses retorts to the pinch and punch rhyme as a "way of keeping the upper hand in a confrontation."

A pull of the hair for the rest of the year.
A flick and a kick for being so quick.
A punch and a blow for being so slow.
A slap and a whack for answering back.
A hit and a kick for being a dick.
A kick and a slap, you can't do it back.

Also the saying of "white rabbits" before the pinch and punch, negated the effect.

Also "RCD to kill the rabbits."

--

Keywords: calendar
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 14

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 81
Date: 1950s-1960
Title: Adam and Eve
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Guile
Rhyme:

Adam and Eve and Pinch Me (hug me, kiss me)
Went down to the river to bathe (swim)
Adam and Eve were drowned,
Who do you think was saved?
Pinch Me!

(NZ ex UK, 1950s; Rotorua, 1960s; Auckland, 1960s; Christchurch, 1960s; Tologa Bay, 1960s)

--

Background Info: The innocent reply of "Pinch me" results in a pinch on the arm. Classified as a 'Trick inflicting pain' by Opie, 1967:59-60, dates back to 1850. Other similar tricks include:

Punch and Judy ran a race,
Round and round the market place,
Judy stopped to tie her lace,
Who won?

The cock, the hen and the pullet,
Went into the barn to lay,
The cock and the hen came out again,
And do you think did lay?

(Resulting in a pull of the hair)

--

Opie, 2000:149, records version from pre-1900s:

James and John and Little Nip on,

Went down to the sea and bathed.
James and John they tumbled in,
Now guess you who was saved.

--

Keywords: guile, word play
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 189
Date: 1976
Title: Little Sally Walker
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Little Sally Walker,
She walks across the street.
She didn't know what to do,
So she jumped in front of me.
She said, "Go on girl, do your thing."
She said, "Go on girl, do your thing."
She said "Go on girl do your thing,
Do your thing - STOP!"

(Taumaranui, 1976)

--

Location: Taumaranui
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 191
Date: 1988
Title: Mrs Brown
Gender: Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Mrs Brown went to town,
With her knickers hanging down.

(Mt Maunganui, 1988)

--

Location: Mt Maunganui
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 201
Date: 1970-1990
Title: Paekakariki
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Paekakariki, the boys are cheeky,
Wainuiomata, the girls are smarter.

(Wellington, 1970s-1990)

--

Keywords: partisan
Location: Wellington
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 202
Date: 1950s-2006
Title: Ring a ring a rosies
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Game
Rhyme:

Ring a ring a rosies
A pocket full of posies.
A-tishoo, a-tishoo.
We all fall down.

(Auckland, 1960s; Christchurch, 1970s; Nelson, 1970s; Taupo, 1990s; Christchurch, 1990s; Nelson, 1990s; Ashburton, 2000; Ashburton, 2006)

Fishies in the water, fishies in the sea,
We all jump up with a 1,2,3.

(Auckland, 1950s; Auckland, 2000; Christchurch, 2000 x 2; Ashburton, 2006)

--

ALTERNATIVE ENDINGS:

Down at the bottom of the deep, blue sea.
Catching fishes for Daddy's tea.
We all jump up 1, 2, 3.

(Rangiora, 2002)

--

Mummy in the teapot,
Daddy in the cup,
Baby in the saucer,
We all jump up.

(New Plymouth, 1980s)

--

The cow's in the meadow,
Eating buttercups,
A-tishoo, a-tishoo,
We all get up.

(Christchurch, 1960s; NZ ex Australia, 1990s; Methven, 2000)

--

Under the water,
Under the sea,
We all jump up,
With a 1, 2, 3.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Background Info: Variation from Opie, 1992:435:

Ring-a-ring-o'geranium,
A pocket full of uranium,
Hiro, shima,
All fall down. (1949)

--

Sutton-Smith, 1959:12, describes ring a rosie as a unison circle game being played by children in the water at the seaside:

Ring a ring a rosie,
Pop down a posie,
A tissue, a tissue, (hands on head)
We all fall down. (all crouch down)

or:

Ring a ring a roses
Pop goes the weasel.

--

Scottish version from Gullen, 1950:126:

Ring a ring o' roses,
A pocketful of posies,
One for you and one for me,
And one for little Moses,
Hasha, hasha, all fall down.

--

Opie, 1988:221, refers to the game as being "tainted by a legend that the song is a relic of the Great Plague of 1665..the story has obtained such circulation in recent years it can itself be said to be epidemic."

The reasons given for disbelief in this theory are as follows:

1. No record to the rhyme in Pepys's records or diaries.
2. Not recorded by Alice Gomme in 1898, nor any work prior to WWII.
3. Very few early versions of this rhyme actually have sneezing as part of the rhyme. The final lines often involving a stooping or bowing down action, or the words 'hush, hush.'
4. In America Newell recorded the rhyme as simply a game to see who squatted down last.

Round the ring of roses,
Pots full of posies.
The one who stoops last,
Shall tell whom she loves best. (Opie, 1988:224)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 6
Incidence: 19

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 205
Date: 1960s-2000
Title: A ring is round
Gender: Female

Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

A ring is round, it has no end,
That's how long I'll be your friend.

(Mt Maunganui, 1960s; Auckland, 1990s; Christchurch, 2000 x 2)

--

Keywords: friendship
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 4

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 206
Date: 1960s-1990s
Title: Red, white and blue
Gender: Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Red, white and blue,
The boys love you.
They took you to the pictures (a picnic)
And undressed you.

(Wellington, 1960s; Auckland, 1970s; Wellington, 1970s; Ashburton, 1970s; Leeston, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Also used as a counting-out rhyme.

--

Keywords: bawdy
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 3
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 207
Date: 1970s-2006
Title: See you later
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

See you later alligator,
Don't forget your toilet paper.

(Auckland, 1970s x 2; Wellington, 1970s; Lower Hutt, 1990s; Rangiora, 2000;
Tauranga, 2000; Nelson, 2000; Christchurch, 2000 x 2; Auckland, 2001 x 2; Tauranga,
2004)

--

In a while crocodile, (Auckland, 1970s x 2)
Don't forget your big, fat smile.

(Kerikeri, 2002)

--

See you later, alligator,
In a while, crocodile,
Not if I can get ya gater,
You'll have to run a mile
To get my smile off my dial.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Not tonight Vegemite,
Ripper roo, kangaroo.

(Tauranga, 2002)

--

See ya soon, you big baboon.
In a dish, jelly fish.

(Blenheim, 2000)

--

See you later alligator,
Meet you in the elevator.
Don't forget your light sabre,
'Cos you might meet Darth Vader.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

See ya later, cold potata,
Sitting in the 'fridgerator.

(Auckland, 1970s)

--

Background Info: Bauer, 2003:112 notes the alternative of "smell you later" to "see you later". Also "chew the loo" for "toodle-oo" (goodbye).

--

Turner, 1978:90 records the following:

See you later, mashed potato,
Toodle-oo, kangaroo,
Bye-bye butterfly,
See you soon, you big baboon,
See you tomorrow, horror,
In a week, freak.

(Victoria, 1950s-1970s)

See you later, alligator,
In a while, crocodile.
See you later, hot potato,
If you wish, jelly-fish.
Not too soon you big baboon,
Just a while crocodile,
Round the table, Mabel.

(Victoria, 1950s-1970s)

--

"Play and Folklore", Issue 15, 1988:11 records this version from 1950s:

See you later, chip potater,
Burn your tail on the radiator,
And freeze your nose in the Kelvinator.

--

Keywords: media culture, commercial product
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 20

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 211
Date: 1976
Title: Soul sister number 9.
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Soul sister number 9,
Sock it to me one more time.
Say mm ingawa
We've got the power,
We've got the power.

(Taumaranui, 1976)

--

Keywords: Samoan, modern culture
Location: Taumaranui
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 212
Date: 1990s-2004
Title: Sea shells
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Sea shells cockle shells, eevy ivy over.
How many boys did you kiss last night?
1, 2, 3..

(Christchurch, 2004)

--

Sea shells cockle shells, eevy ivy over.
Mother's in the kitchen, doing a bit of knitting,
How many stitches can she do?
10, 20 ,30, 40..

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Similar to the rhyme beginning "Blue bells, cockle shells..".

--

Keywords: divination
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 213
Date: 1950s-2000
Title: Ta ra ra boom de ay
Gender: Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Ta ra ra boom de ay,
Have you had yours today?
I had mine yesterday,
With the boy across the way.
He laid me on the couch
And all I felt was ouch!
My mummy got such a surprise
When she saw my tummy start to rise.

(Wellington, 1970s)

--

Ta ra ra boom de ay,
My mum had twins today.
They sucked her tits away,
Ta ra ra boom de ay.

(NZ ex UK, 1950s)

--

Te ra ra boom de ay,
I lost my pants today.
The boy next door,
He got me on the floor,
My mother was surprised,
To see my tummy rise.
And hear the baby cry,
Ta ra ra boom de ay.

(Christchurch, 1970s)

--

Ta ra ra boom de ay.
Aileen's pants fell down today.
The naughty boy next door,
Pushed her on the floor.
Her mother was surprised,
To see her tummy rise.
Then gave a shout of joy,
It was a baby boy!

(Auckland, 1998)

--

Ta ra ra boom de ay,
I'll take your pants away,
And while you're standing there,
I'll take your underwear.

(Hastings, 1960s; Whangaparaoa, 2000)

--

Background Info: Parody. For other versions see Turner, 1978:129:

Ta ra ra boom de ay,
Mae West had twins today.
They suck her tits away,
Ta ra ra boom de ay.

(Melbourne, 1945)

--

Lowenstein, 1974:40 recorded:

Ta ra ra boom de ay,
Have you had yours today?
I had mine yesterday
With the boy across the way.
He laid me on the couch,
And all I said was, "Ouch!"
My mummy was surprised,
To see my tummy rise.

(Melbourne, 1967)

Ta ra ra boom de ay,
My wife had quads today.
If I had my way
She'd have them everyday.

(Melbourne, 1967)

--

Onwuchekwa, 2003:143 records this variation from urban black America:

Tra-la-la boom-de-ay,
Have you had yours today?
I had mine yesterday
From the boy across the way.
He threw me on the couch
And stuck it up my crotch
Tra-la-la boom-de-ay
Tra-la-la boom-de-ay.
My mother was surprised
To see my belly rise.
My father was disgusted
To see my cherry busted.
It took me nine months
To get rid of the lumps
Tra-la-la boom-de-ay.
Tra-la-la boom-de-ay.

--

Keywords: sex, pregnancy
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 6

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 214
Date: 2004
Title: Too cool
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Too cool, for school.

(Mt Maunganui, 2004)

--

Location: Mt Maunganui
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 215
Date: 2004
Title: This old man
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

This old man he played one,
He played knick knack on my bum.
This old man he played two,
He played knick knack on my poo.
This old man he played he played three,
He played knick knack on my wee.

(Upper Hutt, 2004)

--

Keywords: scatological, parody
Location: Upper Hutt
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 216
Date: 1980s-2006
Title: Twinkle, twinkle little star
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Twinkle, twinkle little star,
My Dad has a beat up (crappy) car,
Start it up and pull the choke,
And off it goes in a puff of smoke.

(Ashburton, 1970s; NZ 1990s)

--

Twinkle, twinkle little star.
My dad drives a rotten (motor) car.
Push the button, pull the choke,
Off we go in a puff of smoke.

(Christchurch, 1980s; Christchurch, 1980s; Auckland, 1990s x 2; Palmerston, 1990s;
Dunedin, 1990s; Northland, 2000; Greymouth, 2000; Tauranga, 2000; Blenheim, 2000;
Gisborne. 2002; Kumeu, 2003; Christchurch, 2004 x 2)

--

Twinkle, twinkle little star,
[X's] got a paru (dirty) car
Like a diamond in the sky,
[X] lives in a pig sty.
Twinkle, twinkle little star,
[X] has got a paru car.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Twinkle, twinkle little star,
What you say is what you are.
Can't repeat it, ha, ha, ha.

(Wellington, 2001)

--

Twinkle, twinkle little star,
Like an onion in a jar.

(Auckland, 1998)

--

Twinkle, twinkle little car,
Since you're old, you won't go far.
Push the button, push the choke,
You'll blow up in a cloud of smoke.
Twinkle, twinkle little car,
Since you're old you won't go far.

(Te Aroha, 1998)

--

Twinkle, twinkle little star,
[X's] riding in her red bomb car.

(Christchurch, 1990)

--

Twinkle, twinkle little star,
You go so fast,
You go so far.

Fuel injected, turbo engine,
Not to mention your suspension.
Twinkle, twinkle little star,
You go so fast, you go so far.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Twinkle, twinkle little star,
Daddy bought a motor car.
Push the button, pull the chain,
There goes daddy down the drain.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Twinkle, twinkle little star,
Daddy bought a hot rod car. (rock and roll car)
Pull the throttle, push the choke,
Off we go in a puff of smoke.

(Christchurch, 2000; Christchurch, 2006)

--

Twinkle, twinkle little star,
Grandma's got a motor car.
Turn on the key,
Pull out the choke,
Off we go in a puff of smoke.

(Wellington, 1998)

--

Background Info: Variation in Turner, 1978:100:

Twinkle twinkle little star,
What you say is what you are.
Twelve and twelve make twenty-four,
So shut your gob and say no more.

(Melbourne, 1973 - said in response to an insult.)

--

Further variations in Turner, 1978:152:

Twinkle twinkle little star,
Like a monkey in a jar.
Never sit on a bed of ants,
Unless you're wearing copper pants.

(Melbourne, 1973)

--

Knapp, 1976:166 records:

Twinkle, twinkle little star,
How I wonder what you are.
If I may, if I might,
Oh shucks! It's a satellite!

--

Keywords: Maori, NZ culture, taunt, commercial product
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 26

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 217
Date: 1960
Title: There was a Captain Luggar
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

There was a Captain Luggar,
He was a dirty bugger.
He wasn't fit for shovelling shit,
From one ship to another.

(Auckland, 1960)

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Auckland
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 218
Date: 1970s-2006

Title: Trick or treat
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Calendar
Rhyme:

Trick or treat,
Smell my feet,
Give me something good to eat. (Auckland, 1970s; Hamilton, 1990s)
If you don't I don't care,
I'll pull down your underwear.

(Methven, 1970s; Christchurch, 1990s; Nelson, 1990s; Auckland, 2000 x 3;
Christchurch, 2000 x 3; Hokitika, 2005)

--

REPLY
I don't care,
I don't care,
I can buy another pair.

(Christchurch, 1990)

--

Trick or treat, smell my feet,
Give me something good to eat.
If you don't I don't care,
I'll stick it up your underwear.

(Kawerau, 2002)

--

Trick or treat, smell my feet,
Give me something good to eat.
If you don't I don't care,
Let me smell your underwear.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Trick or treat, smell my feet,
Give me something good to eat.
If you don't I don't care,
You've got smelly underwear.

(Blenheim, 1990s)

--

Trick or treat, smell my feet,
Give me something good to eat.
If you don't I don't care,
I'll throw away your underwear.

(Blenheim, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Often chanted in relation to Halloween trick or treating. See "Play and Folklore", Issue 39, 2000:10-12 for details of Halloween rituals in Australia and England.

--

Opie, 1967:268-275, for British customs and games associated with Halloween.

--

Keywords: bawdy, retort, occasional rhyme
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 15

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 892
Date: 2005
Title: Mary the milkmaid was milking the cow
Gender: Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Mary the milkmaid was milking the cow.
The trouble with Mary she didn't know how.
Along came the farmer, and gave her the sack.
So she turned the cow over and poured the milk back.

(Motueka, 2005)

--

Keywords: NZ culture
Location: Motueka
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1527
Date: 1930s
Title: There was a little fairy
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

There was a little fairy,
And his name was Nuff.
And when his parents called him,
They called him Fair Enough.

(Christchurch, 1930s)

--

Keywords: word play
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 219
Date: 1986-1990s
Title: Twinkle, twinkle
Gender: Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Twinkle, twinkle little bat,
How I wonder what you're at.
Up above the world so high,
Like a tea tray in the sky.

(Auckland, 1986; Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Sung by the Mad Hatter in "Alice in Wonderland", Lewis Carroll.

--

The original song was composed by Jane Taylor, (1783-1824) entitled "The Star"
(1806).
(Opie, 1992:398)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 221
Date: 2004
Title: Whatever Trevor
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Word play
Rhyme:

Whatever, Trevor,
Not even, Steven,
Please, Louise.

(Mt Maunganui, 2004)

--

Location: Mt Maunganui
Group size: 5
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 223
Date: 1965
Title: Jean, Jean had a machine.
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Jean, Jean had a machine,
Jo, Jo made it go.
Art, Art did a fart
And blew the bloody thing apart.

(Christchurch, 1965)

--

Keywords: scatological, fart lore
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 224
Date: 1942
Title: The boys are marching
Gender: Male
Classification: Topical
Rhyme:

Tramp, tramp, tramp, the boys are marching,
Who's that knocking at the door?
If it's Churchill let him in.
If it's Musso kick his shin,
And there won't be any eye-ties any more!

(NZ ex UK, 1942)

--

Keywords: WWII, topical rhyme, war, political
Location: NZ (ex UK)
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 225
Date: 1941
Title: Sock the wops
Gender: Male
Classification: WW2
Rhyme:

Sock the wops and knock their blocks,
Sock the wop until he crocks.
Slash the wop because he's mean.
Wash the wop, he isn't clean.

(NZ ex UK, 1941)

--

Keywords: Italian, racist, WWII
Location: NZ (ex UK)
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 227
Date: 1947-1970s
Title: Red Rover

Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Game
Rhyme:

Red Rover, Red Rover,
Let [X] come over.

(NZ ex USA, 1947)

--

Red Rover,
Send [X] over.

(Auckland, 1970s)

--

Red Rover,
We call [X] over.

(Christchurch, 1970s)

--

Background Info: A popular tagging type game related to "Prisoner's Base" and "Bar the Door" (Otago, 1870). Possibly the most popular game of its type in 1900s New Zealand (Sutton-Smith, 1959:58-59).

"Two lines were drawn across the playground any suitable distance apart. One boy stood on guard midway between the lines and called a boy from behind one of the lines to run across. The boy on guard endeavoured to catch the runner and pat him three times on the back. If he succeeded the runner stood beside his captor and in turn called on a boy to run. Should a boy succeed in crossing he called out "Bar the Door" and all the boys ran, as many as were caught taking their place between the lines." (Anderson's Bay, Dunedin, 1870)

--

Details in Opie, 1984:239-41. Often considered too rough a game for school playgrounds, causing injuries and banned by those in authority.

--

Location: Various NZ, USA
Group size: 10
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 228

Date: 1977-1990s
Title: First comes love
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

First comes love,
Then comes marriage,
Then comes [X] with a baby carriage.

(Wellington, 1977; Christchurch, 1990s; Awanui, 1990s)

--

Keywords: rite of passage,
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 231
Date: 1985
Title: Strawberry shortcake
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Strawberry shortcake, blueberry pie,
Who's gonna be my lucky guy?
A, B, C..

(Invercargill, 1985)

--

So go pitch, go patch, go peppers
A, B, C..

(NZ ex Canada, 1985)

--

Keywords: divination
Location: NZ, Canada
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 232
Date: 1985
Title: I wish I had a nickel
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

I wish I had a nickel,
I wish I had a dime,
I wish I had a boyfriend to kiss me all the time.
My mom gave me a nickel,
My dad gave me a dime,
My sister gave me a boyfriend,
To kiss me all the time.
My mum took back my nickel,
My dad took back my dime,
But no one took my boyfriend
Who looked like Frankenstein.

(NZ ex USA, 1985)

--

Background Info: Compare with rhyme beginning "My boyfriend gave me an apple" in this collection.

--

Location: NZ (ex USA)
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 233
Date: 1960s-2006
Title: It's raining, it's pouring
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

It's raining, it's pouring,
The old man is snoring,
He bumped his head
And went to bed,
And couldn't get up in the morning.

(Auckland, 1960s x 2; Methven, 1980s; Christchurch, 1990s; Nelson, 2000; Ashburton, 2006)

--

It's raining, it's pouring,
The All Blacks are scoring.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Rain, rain, go away,
Come again another day.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

It's raining, it's pouring,
The old man is snoring,
He bumped his head and went to bed,
And couldn't get up in the morning.
The doctor came and pulled his chain,
And out came a choo choo train.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Variations in Turner, 1978:118 include:

It's raining, it's pouring,
The old man's snoring.
He bumped his head,
And wet his bed,
And couldn't get up in the morning.

(Melbourne, 1963)

--

Opie, 1967:219 records versions relating to rain from early 1900s:

It's raining, it's raining,
It's raining on the rocks,
And all the little fisher girls
Are lifting up their frocks.

(North Shields children)

Rainy, rainy, rattle stones,
Dinna rain on me,

Rain on John O'Groats house
Far across the sea.

(Golspie children)

--

Compare with "Rain, rain, go away" in this collection.

--

Keywords: rugby, partisan
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 3
Incidence: 9

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 234
Date: 1990
Title: I'm the ghost
Gender: Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

I'm the ghost of a place named Venus,
Come near me and I'll bite your penis.
I am the ghost of Hone Heke,
Come near me and I'll bite your teke (female genitalia)

(Hamilton, 1990)

--

Keywords: penis, bawdy, Maori
Location: Hamilton
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 192
Date: 2004
Title: My father
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

My father works in a dustbin factory,
Ping, pong, ping, pong,

My mother works in a bakery,
Yum, yum, fat tum,
My sister is a show-off,
Do you like me? Do you like me?

On the road again,
Bang bang you're dead,
Fifty bullets in your head,
Five are red,
Five are blue,
The rest are loaded with chicken poo.

(Christchurch, 2004)

--

Keywords: scatological, teenage culture
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 194
Date: 2004
Title: Miss Sue
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Miss Sue, Miss Sue, from Alabama,
Her real name's Susanna.
Sitting in her rocker,
Eating a cracker.
Watching the clock go,
Tick, tock, banana rock,
A, B, C, D, E, F, G,
Wash the spiders off me.
Mushka, mushka, I want my mamma,
Mushka, mushka freeze.

(Upper Hutt, 2004)

--

Background Info: See also Miss Moore and Miss Mew in this collection.

--

Keywords: USA

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 197
Date: 1988-1990s
Title: Never kiss
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Never kiss at the garden gate,
(Boy-girl, garden gate)
For love is blind but the neighbours ain't.

(Mt Maunganui, 1988; Christchurch, 1990s x 2)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 199
Date: 1940s-1990s
Title: Oh dear, what can the matter be
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Oh dear, what can the matter be?
Poor Uncle Harry's locked in the lavatory.
He's been there from Monday to Saturday.
Why don't you come out of there?

(Auckland, 1969)

--

Oh dear, what can the matter be?
Three old ladies locked in the lavatory.
They've been there from Monday to Saturday.
Nobody knew they were there.

(Inglewood, 1940s; Auckland, 1960s; NZ ex UK, 1950s; Dunedin, 1960s; Palmerston North, 1960s)

--

Oh dear, what can the matter be?
Three sheilas got locked in the lavatory.
They stayed there from Monday to Saturday.
Nobody knew they were there.

(Nelson, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Bolton, 1888:93 reports the version:

One, two, three, What can the matter be?
Three old maids, tied up to an apple tree.

--

Turner, 1978:122 reports this rhyme from Melbourne, 1957-1967:

Oh dear, what can the matter be?
Three old ladies locked in the lavatory.
They've been there from Monday to Saturday.
Nobody knew they were there.

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 7

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 235
Date: 1995
Title: In the woolshed
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

In the woolshed,
It is fun,
Working time has just begun.
Sheep shoot out of a catching pen,
Boy oh boy, it's my lamb Ben.
Goody, goody smoko time, yummy food,
Chocolate shake and a big milk shake.
Cook's a real cool dude.

(Christchurch, 1995)

--

Keywords: NZ culture
Location: Christchurch,
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 974
Date: 1995
Title: Homer
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Homer,
Lisa,
Maggie,
Bart!

(Christchurch, 1995)

--

Background Info: Shouted at a softball game when a student was coming in for a 'homer.' Related to "The Simpsons" television programme.

--

Keywords: media, television.
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 8
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 241
Date: 2004
Title: Hey Kings
Gender: Male
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Hey Kings, don't look so sad.
Take a bad game and make it better.
Remember you're only in the C grade.
History's been made, it's all for the better, better, better.

Nah, nah, nah..

(Auckland, 2004)

--

Background Info: Sung to the tune of "Hey Jude", by the Beatles.

--

Keywords: rugby, partisan

Location: Auckland

Group size: 10

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 242

Date: 1996

Title: Fitz,Merts

Gender: Male

Classification: Parody

Rhyme:

Fitz, Merts, Cullen, Bull.

If you support the Aussies, you're a fool!

(Christchurch, 1996)

--

Keywords: rugby, partisan

Location: Christchurch

Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 244

Date: 1980

Title: Catch a little pakeha

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

Catch a little pakeha,

Put him in a pot.

Mix him up with puha

And what have you got?

Puha and pakeha stew,

And very good too.

(Palmerston North, 1980s)

--

Keywords: NZ culture, Maori

Location: Palmerston Nth

Group size: 3

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 245

Date: 1960

Title: Christchurch

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Counting-out

Rhyme:

Christchurch City Council,

C C C,

Christchurch City Council,

You're not he!

(Christchurch, 1960s)

--

Background Info: Similarly collected by Dorothy Howard in Brisbane, 1950s:

Brisbane City Council, B. C. C.

Brisbane City Council game not He.

(Darian-Smith, 2005:134)

=====

Keywords: NZ culture

Location: Christchurch

Group size: 5

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 246

Date: 1998

Title: Down by Springfield Road

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

Wee Willie lost his marble,
Where?
Down by Springfield Road.
It rolled into the grating.
Where?
Down by Springfield Road.
Wee Willie got a big stick.
But he couldn't find his marble.
Wee Willie got some dynamite.
And blew up Springfield Road.
It was in his jolly pocket.
Where?

(Christchurch, 1998)

--

Background Info: Sung to tune of "In and out the Windows".

--

Keywords: never ending song, NZ culture,
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 12
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 247
Date: 1998
Title: Coke
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Coca-Cola went to town
Diet Pepsi knocked him down
Dr Pepper picked him up
Now we all drink Seven-Up.
Seven-Up got the flu
Now we drink from Mountain Dew
Mountain Dew fell off the mountain
Now we drink from the Fountain.
Fountain broke so now we're back,
Ending..back to what, what, what
Coca-Cola.

(Christchurch, 1998)

--

Background Info: Similar to an American rhyme of the 1980s:

I pledge allegiance to the flag,
Michael Jackson is a fag,
Pepsi-Cola burned him up,
Now he's drinking 7Up.
7Up made him shit,
Now he's saying, "Coke is it!"

--

Also from Knapp, 1976:163:

Pepsi-Cola hits the spot,
Ties your belly in a knot,
Tastes like vinegar, looks like ink,
Pepsi-Cola is a stinky drink.

Pepsi-Cola went to town,
Coca-Cola shot him down,
Dr Pepper fixed him up,
While drinking a bottle of Seven-Up.

--

Turner, 1978:127:

Pepsi-Cola hits the spot,
Ties your belly in a knot.
Tastes like vinegar,
Looks like ink,
Pepsi-Cola is a rotten drink.

(Canberra, 1962)

--

Keywords: commercial product, NZ culture

Location: Christchurch

Group size: 4

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 248

Date: 1998

Title: I'm an Australian

Gender: Male

Classification: Taunt

Rhyme:

I'm an Australian,
Born and bred,
Long in the legs
And thick in the head.

(Nelson, 1998)

--

Keywords: Australia, NZ culture
Location: Nelson
Group size: 5
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 249
Date: 1995
Title: I'm a Canterbury supporter
Gender: Male
Classification: Partisian
Rhyme:

I'm a Canterbury supporter,
And an Otago destroyer.
I'll tackle and score
And destroy you some more.

(Christchurch, 1995)

--

Keywords: rugby, partisan
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 250
Date: 1950s-2004
Title: Pokarekare ana
Gender: Male
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Pokarekare ana (Keri,keri ana)
I had a squashed banana,

I threw it at the teacher,
She said, "Ohh ah I lost my bra.
(I left it in my boyfriend's car - Auckland, 2000)
I don't know where my knickers are.
They may be white, they may be blue,
I think I flushed them down the loo.
(Timaru, 2000; Blenheim, 2000)
They may be blue,
They may be white,
They may be filled with dynamite.

(Christchurch, 2001)

--

Pokarekare ana,
I found a squashed banana,
I threw it at the teacher,
She said, "Come here."
I said, "No fear."
(You'll box my ear. - Nelson, 1990s)

(Auckland, 1950s; Christchurch, 1970s; Wairoa, 1970s; Lawrence, 1970s; Christchurch,
1980s; Blenheim, 1990s; Arrowtown, 2006)

--

Pokarekare ana,
I had a squashed banana
I threw it at the teacher and hit her in the eye.
She said "Come here."
I said "No fear."
I'll be back next year
With a bottle of beer."

(Whangarei, 1970s; Fairlie, 1972)
"I'll see you there."
(Hawarden, 1990s)
To stick up your ear. (Christchurch, 1980s; Auckland, 2002)
(To wash your hair. - Auckland, 2002)
(I said, "No fear, have a bottle of beer,
Do you want a thick ear?" Auckland, 1980s)

--

Po kare kare ana,
I was smoking marijuana,
I gave it to the teacher,
She said "Come here",
I said "No fear, I'll be back next year,

With a bottle of beer,
To rub in your hair."

(Ashburton, 1996)

--

All the kids in the street,
Sing this song.
Sea, sea sea, sea, Anna,
I had a squashed banana,
I threw it at the teacher,
And this is what she told me,
"Ohh ah I lost my bag,
I don't know where my knickers are.
They must be black,
They must be white,
They must have skiddies
On the front or back!

(Manurewa, 2001)

--

Pokarekare ana,
I had a squashed banana,
I threw it at the teacher,
She said, "Come here."
I said, "No fear,
I'll be back in a year,
With a bottle of beer,
To wash my hair."

(Christchurch, 1970s)

--

Pokarekare ana,
I had a squashed banana,
I threw it at the teacher,
She said, "Come here."
I said, "No fear,
Cos you're going to clip me round the ear,
With a bottle of beer."

(Greymouth, 2000)

--

Pokarekare ana,

I had a squashed banana,
I threw it at the teacher,
It hit her in the eye,
She said, "Come here."
I said, "No fear",
So she clipped me round the ear,
With a bottle of beer.

(Kumeu, 2003)

--

Pokarekare ana,
I had a squashed banana,
I threw it at the teacher,
And it made her cry.
Boo hoo boo hoo,
Boo hoo boo hoo,
Was what she said,
Into a hankeroo.

(Hamilton, 1950s)

--

Pokarekare ana,
I found a squashed banana,
I threw it at the teacher,
She said, "Come here."
I said, "No fear".
I'll get a sore ear,
I'll have it for a year,
I won't come near.

(Wellington, 1950s)

--

Background Info: Recorded in Turner, 1969:66 as "Pokorri-korri-ana", and "Carrie, Carrie, Ana" in 1967. "Play and Folklore", Issue 12, 1987:11 records the words "Kardi kardi ana".

--

Originally a love song from north of Auckland at the start of WWI and then modified into an action song on the East Cape, telling of Paraire Tomoana's courtship with Kuini Raerena. For further historical details refer www.folksong.org.nz/pokarekare/ (accessed 15 January, 2007)

--

Keywords: bawdy, Maori culture, authority
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 26

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 252
Date: 1990s -2006
Title: Manei, manei
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Manei manei,123
Turei, turei, skip with me.
Wenerei, wenerei, turn around.
Taitei,taitei ,touch the ground.
Paraire, paraire touch the sky.
Ra horoi, rope swings high
Ra tapu, you're too slow.
End of the week, so out you go.

(Christchurch, 1990s; Auckland, 2000; Timaru, 2000; Wellington, 2002; Christchurch, 2006)

--

Keywords: Maori culture, NZ culture
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 253
Date: 1999
Title: Hokitika
Gender: Female
Classification: Handstand
Rhyme:

On the way to Hokitika,
Pop bang,go.

(Otago, 1999)

--

Location: Otago
Group size: 10
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 254
Date: 1995
Title: O-ma-lia
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

O-ma-lia, ma-lia,mali-ah,ma-li-ahnn
Mali 123, oh-ma-lia, ma-li-ahnn,
Ma-lia, ma-lia, mali,
1, 2, 3.

(Wellington, 1995)

--

Keywords: Pacific culture
Location: Wellington
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 894
Date: 1990s-2005
Title: My friend Billy
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

My friend Billy has a 10 ft willy,
And he showed it to the girl next door.
She thought it was a snake,
And whacked it with a rake.
Now it's only 5 ft 4! (6ft 4)

(Auckland, 1990s; Wellington, 2001; Motueka, 2005)

--

I had a friend called Billy,
He had a ten foot willy,
I shot it with a sniper,
'Cos I thought it was a viper,

And now it's only five foot four.

(Auckland, 1990s)

--

Old man Billy,
Had a ten foot willy,
He showed it to the lady next door.
She thought it was a snake,
And hit it with a rake,
And now it's only five foot four.

(Northland, 2000)

--

Sergeant Billy
Had a ten foot willy,
He showed it to the lady next door.
She thought it was a snake,
And hit it with a rake,
And now it's only six foot four.

(NZ ex South Africa, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Lowenstein, 1974:33 records:

Nicker, nicker, nicker had a forty-four foot dicker,
He showed it to the lady next door,
She thought it was a snake
And she hit it with a rake
And now it's only four foot four.

(Newcastle, 1950s)

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Various NZ, South Africa
Group size: 2
Incidence: 6

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 255

Date: 1960s-2006

Title: On top of Mt Egmont

Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

On top of Mt Egmont, (Everest)
All covered in sand,
I shot my poor teacher,
With a grey rubber band.
I shot her with pleasure,
I shot her with pride
I couldn't have missed her
She was forty foot wide.
I went to her funeral
I went to her grave
Some people threw flowers,
I threw a grenade, (Hawarden, 1990s)
Her coffin went up, her coffin went down,
Her coffin went splat all over the ground.
I looked in her coffin, she still wasn't dead,
So I got my bazooka and blew off her head.

(Auckland, 1990s x 2; Wellington, 1990s x 2; Thames, 1990s; Ashburton, 2006)

--

I shot my poor teacher,
With a grey rubber band,
I went to her funeral
I went to her grave
Some people threw flowers,
I threw a grenade,
Her coffin went up,
Her coffin went down,
Her coffin went splat all over the ground.
I looked in her coffin, she still wasn't dead,
So I got my bazooka and blew off her head.
Her head went flying,
Up into the sky,
The All Blacks kicked it,
And scored a great try.

(Northland, 2000)

--

On top of Old Smokey
All covered in grass,
We saw our old mate there,
With his big, bare arse.

(Rotorua, 1970s)

--

On top of Australia,
All covered in blood,
I had to shoot Barney,
With a 44 stud.
I looked in the paper,
And he still wasn't dead.
So I pulled out my bazooka,
And blew off his head.
I went to his funeral,
I went to his grave,
People threw flowers,
I threw a grenade.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

On top of Old Smokey
Where nobody goes.
Lay Marilyn Monroe,
Without any clothes.
Along came Hop-a-long Cassidy,
Clippidy clop.
Down went his trousers
And in went his cock.

(Auckland, 1960s)

--

On top of spaghetti,
All covered in cheese,
I lost my poor meatball,
When somebody sneezed.
It rolled off the table,
And onto the floor,
And then my poor meatball,
Rolled right out the door.
(Christchurch, 1970s x 2; Diamond Harbour, 1990s)
It rolled in the gutter,
Then under a bush.
And early next summer,
It was nothing but mush!

(Auckland, 1970s x 2; Tauranga, 1977; Wellington, 1990s)

--

On top of Mount Everest,
All covered in blood,
I shot my poor teacher,
With a 44 slug, (big rubber band)
I shot her with pleasure,
I shot her with pride
I couldn't have missed her
She was 40ft wide.
I went to her funeral
I went to her grave
Some people threw flowers,
I threw a grenade,
Her coffin went up,
Her coffin went down,
Her coffin went splat all over the ground.
I looked in her coffin, she still wasn't dead,
So I got my bazooka and blew off her head.

(Rangiora, 1990s; Porirua, 1990s; Runanga, 2003)

--

On top of old Smokey,
All covered in grass,
I shot my poor teacher,
Right up the arse.
I shot her with pleasure,
I shot her with pride
I couldn't have missed her
She was 40ft wide.
I went to her funeral
I went to her grave
Some people threw flowers,
I threw a grenade,
Her coffin went up,
Her coffin went down,
Her coffin went splatter,
All over the ground,
I heard on the news,
That she wasn't dead,
So I got my dad's axe,
And chopped off her head.

(Dunedin, 2003)

--

On top of a mountain,

All covered in snow,
I shot my poor teacher,
With a double string bow,
She rolled off the mountain,
And under a bush,
A thousand years later,
She was nothing but mush.
I went to her funeral
I went to her grave
Some people threw flowers,
I threw a grenade,
I went to her coffin,
To see if she's dead,
I pulled out a bazooka,
And blew off her head.

(Wellington, 1990)

--

On top of Old Smokey,
All covered in sand,
I shot my poor teacher,
With a grey rubber band.
I shot her with pleasure,
I shot her with pride
I couldn't have missed her
She was 40ft wide.
I went to her funeral
I went to her grave
Some people threw flowers,
I threw a grenade,
(Whangarei, 1970s; Ashburton, 1990s)
Her coffin went up,
Her coffin went down,
Her coffin went splatter,
All over the ground,
I looked in her coffin,
She still wasn't dead,
So I got my bazooka
And blew off her head.

(Christchurch, 1990; Kaitaia, 1990; Motueka, 2000)

--

On top of a mountain,
All covered in blood,
I jumped on my teacher,
With a 40 foot stud

I went to her funeral
I dug up her grave
Some people threw flowers,
I threw a grenade,
There was a commotion,
She wasn't quite dead,
I got a bazooka,
And blew off her head.

(Dunedin, 1990)

--

On top of Old Smokey, all covered in snow,
I shot my own teacher, with a arrow and bow,
I shot him with pleasure, I shot him with pride,
I couldn't have missed him, he was 40 foot wide,
We went to his funeral, we went to his grave,
Some people threw flowers, I threw a grenade,
He woke up as a zombie, to teach us a game,
So on top of Old Smokey, we shot him again.

(Sheffield, 2006)

--

Background Info: Comment in Factor, 1988:158-159, related to rhymes that "ridicule those who hold power. Teachers and the institution they control (school) are the butt of many verbal assaults." These rhymes allow children to express anger and frustration, while at the same time laugh at those who hold power over them.

On top of a mountain
All covered in blood,
I shot my poor teacher
With a four-forty slug.
I done it with pleasure,
I done it with pride,
I went to the funeral
But just for the ride.
I went to the funeral,
I went to the grave,
I didn't throw flowers,
I threw a grenade.

--

Variation of American folksong, beginning, "On top of Old Smokey, all covered in snow, I lost my true lover, for loving her so.." see Turner, 1978:76.

--

Discussion also in Knapp & Knapp, 1976:174-176.

--

Keywords: authority, violence, NZ culture, rugby, bawdy

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 5

Incidence: 30

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 257

Date: 1996

Title: Pepsi cola

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Partisian

Rhyme:

Pepsi cola, Coca Cola, Lion Brown,
We're gonna hypnotise,
Paralyse and knock them down.
With a F I G H T,
We're gonna S C O R E,
We're gonna fight, we're gonna score.
We're gonna win 'em all.
G0000 Owega!

(Auckland, 1996)

--

Keywords: partisan, commercial product, NZ culture

Location: Auckland

Group size: 4

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 258

Date: 1990s-2005

Title: Roll your dope

Gender: Male

Classification: Parody

Rhyme:

Roll, roll, roll your dope
Scrunch it at the end,
Spank it up and have a smoke,
And pass it to your friend.

(NZ, 2000)

--

Roll, roll, roll your dope,
Twist it at the end.
Have a puff, you'll be stuffed,
And give it to a friend.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Roll, roll, roll your dope
Scrunch it at the end,
Puff, puff, that's enough,
Now pass it to your friend.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Roll, roll, roll a joint,
Twist it at the end.
Spark it up, have a take.
And pass it to a friend.

(Methven, 2000)

--

Roll, roll, roll your dope,
Twist it at the end.
Have a puff,
You've had enough,
Now pass it to your friend.

(Lower Hutt, 2005; Tapanui, 2003; Christchurch, 2000 x 2; Whakatane, 2000; Rotorua, 2000)

--

Roll, roll, roll your dope
Twist it at the end.
Spark it up, and take a puff
And pass it to a friend.

(Motueka, 2005)

--

Background Info: Smoke dope,
Eat soap,
Fly home in a bubble.
("Play and Folklore", Issue 40, 2001:11)

--

Keywords: modern culture, drugs
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 10
Incidence: 11

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 259
Date: 1999-2006
Title: Star la mia malia
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Star (Sa)la mia malia
Malia malia malia malia
Cha cha cha, (tap, tap, tap)
1, 2, 3..

(Auckland, 1999; Auckland, 2000; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Background Info: Recorded by Bauer, 2002, Sect.68:16, as a skipping game:

Sa ma lia a malia ma lia a malia
Choo choo train,
Ma lia malia, 1,2,3,
Sa ma lia ma lia
Ma lia ma lia
Choo choo train.

(Wellington, c. 2002)

--

Turner, 1978; 106 records the versions:

Stand on a crack..
Break an elephant's back.
And you'll meet a black

Swallow a rat.

--

Observed at Hampstead School, Ashburton, as a circle clapping game involving 6+ girls with hands upturned and 'passing' a sequence around the circle as per sound clip.

--

Keywords: Pacific culture, Samoan
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 260
Date: 1999
Title: Samoa
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Samoa via Marios,
Marios, marios, marios
Cha cha cha
Lao lao cha cha cha
1 2 3..

(Auckland, 1999)

--

Keywords: Pacific culture, Samoa
Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 261
Date: 1970
Title: Step on white
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Step on white, (white lines on concrete)
Marry Marmite,

Good night.

(Christchurch, 1970)

--

Keywords: commercial product, half belief
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 262
Date: 1998
Title: St. Pats
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

St Pats, smell like rats.
Grey Main is a pain.

(Greymouth, 1998)

--

Keywords: partisan,
Location: Greymouth
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 263
Date: 1998
Title: Mary had a little lamb.
Gender: Male
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Mary had a little lamb,
She called it little bro'
One day she took it skiing
And lost it in the snow.

(Te Awamutu, 1998)

--

Keywords: NZ culture
Location: Te Awamutu
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 264
Date: 1998
Title: Mary had a little bro'
Gender: Male
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Mary had a little bro'
She took him to the fair,
She saw a lamb that she loved so,
And swapped him then and there.

(Te Awamutu, 1998)

--

Keywords: NZ culture, Maori
Location: Te Awamutu
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 265
Date: 1970
Title: Rangi Ruru
Gender: Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Rangi Ruru rotten rats,
Go to school in panama hats.
Do they stink?
Yes they do
Like the monkeys in the zoo.

(Christchurch, 1970s)

--

Keywords: partisan, school
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 1

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 975

Date: 1995

Title: Happy, happy,

Gender: Male

Classification: Retort

Rhyme:

Happy, happy, joy, joy.

(Christchurch, 1995)

--

Background Info: A mumbled retort often used when reprimanded by a person in authority, such as a teacher. (Personal informant)

--

Location: Christchurch

Group size: 1

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 270

Date: 1999

Title: Rubbish bin

Gender: Male

Classification: Bawdy

Rhyme:

[X]'s in, [X]'s in [X]'s in the rubbish bin,
With 100 girls
Sexing him,
All the way to Wellington.

(Auckland, 1999)

--

Location: Auckland

Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 271
Date: 2000
Title: There's a scrawny cow.
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun Parody
Rhyme:

There's a scrawny cow.
He felt a little woozy,
No one suspected,
He was packing a oozy.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Background Info: Sung to the tune "Cows with Guns".

--

Keywords: NZ culture
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 272
Date: 2000
Title: There was a man
Gender: Male
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

There was a man and his name was Tower
He went down town to join the Black Power,
There once was a man and his name was Bob,
He went down town to join the Mongrel Mob.
Along came Tower with his 303,
And he blew those boys right out of Beverley.

(Whakatane, 2000)

--

Background Info: Sung as a parody of the television programme popular in 1960s, "The Beverley Hillbillies".

--

Keywords: NZ culture, violence, gangs
Location: Whakatane
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 274
Date: 2000
Title: We three kids
Gender: Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

We three kids from Mt Albert Square,
Trying to sell some neat underwear,
So fantastic, no elastic,
Buy yourself a pair.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Keywords: NZ culture, commercial product
Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 275
Date: 2001-2006
Title: Ko mere
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

O'Malley, (Mella)
Kissed a felly (fella)
Lazy boy,
Ping, pong.
(Repeat and end with FREEZE!)

(Auckland, 2002 x 2; Christchurch, 2006)

--

Ko mere, kite pere,
Ko mere, kite pere,
Ko mere, kite pere,

Lazy boy, ping pong.
Lazy boy, ping pong.
Lazy boy, ping pong.
Double double this this
Double double that that,
Double this, double that,
Double double this that.

(NZ, 2001)

--

Or mella,
Caterpillar,
Lazy boy,
Ping pong x 2
Turn around,
Touch the ground,
FREEZE.

(Waitakere City, 2001)

--

Keywords: Maori, Pacific culture
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 276
Date: 1950
Title: There was a young man from Australia
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

There was a young man from Australia,
Who painted his bum like a dahlia,
The colour was right, the shape was right,
But the smell was a terrible failure.

(Auckland, 1950)

--

Keywords: Australia, scatological, limerick
Location: Auckland
Group size: 0

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 277

Date: 2000

Title: Jan, Feb

Gender: Female

Classification: Skipping

Rhyme:

Jan..Nov, December goes quickly by,
Which month is your birthday?
Is it coming soon?
Is it March or is it December?
Or is it in the middle of June?

(Whangarei, 2000)

--

Keywords: occasional rhyme

Location: Whangarei

Group size: 10

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 278

Date: 2000

Title: We are Maoris

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

We are Maoris, that's what we are.
Can't afford a house,
Can't afford a car.
Fish and chips for tea,
That's not enough for me.
We rely on the pakeha.

(NZ, 2000)

--

Keywords: Maori culture, racist, stereotype

Location: NZ

Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 279

Date: 1940s-2000

Title: Ooey gooey

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

Ooey gooey was a worm,
A mighty worm was he.
He wandered on the railway track,
A train he did not see.
Ooey gooey squashed in twoey.

(NZ ex India, 1940s)

--

Ooey gooey was a worm,
A train he did not see.
He crawled upon a railway track,
Ooey gooey.

(Blenheim, 1970s; Christchurch, 2000)

--

Background Info: Told to John Elderton (Christchurch resident) by Indian nurse as warning to keep away from railway tracks. (Personal informant)

--

Turner, 1978:126 records version:

Ooey gooey was a worm,
A little worm was he.
He sat upon the railway track,
The train he did not see.
The train come roaring round the bend,
The driver blew his squeal,
He came out with his pocket knife,
And scraped him off the wheel.

(Victoria, 1948-1973)

--

Location: Various NZ, India

Group size: 1
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 280
Date: 1990s-2006
Title: Eat brown bread
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Eat brown bread, eat brown bread,
Ever see a sausage fall down dead?
Along came a saveloy and hit him on the head.
Eat brown bread, eat brown bread.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Eye tiddlely eyetie eat brown bread,
I saw a sausage fall down dead,
Up jumped a saveloy
And bashed him on the head.
Eye tiddlely eyetie, eat brown bread.

(Auckland, 1990; Lower Hutt, 1990s; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Background Info: Opie, 2000:58, records:

Hi-tiddley-i-ti brown bread!
I saw a sausage fall down dead.
Up came a butcher with a great big knife,
Up jumped the sausage and ran for his life -
Hi-tiddley-i-ti brown bread!

--

"Hi-tiddley-i-ti" was a popular exclamation around 1890, which developed into the catch phrase, "Hi-tiddley-i-ti brown bread". In the USA the equivalent was "Shave and a hair cut, bay rum!" Also "Hi-tiddley-i-ti, brown bread, Look at your father's - bald head! " (Opie, 2000:146)

--

Also recalled in 1950s NZ, "A shave and a haircut, ten bob", "A shave and a haircut, one bit".

(Personal informant)

--

A similar skipping rhyme warning of rattlesnakes from Butler, 1989:180-181:

Mississippi rattlesnake
Eats brown bread,
Mississippi rattlesnake
Lies down dead.
If you catch a caterpillar,
Feed him apple juice,
If you catch a rattlesnake
Let him loose,
Go pitch, go patch, go pepper.

(Yukon, Canada, 1983)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 4

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 281
Date: 1950s-2006
Title: 1,2,3
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

1, 2, 3,
Mother caught a flea,
Put it in the teapot,
To make a cup of tea.

(Christchurch, 1980s x 2; Wellington, 1950s - ball bouncing; Ashburton, 2006)

The flea jumped out,
Mother gave a shout,
In came father
With his shirt hanging out.

(NZ ex UK, 1950s; Auckland, 1970s x 2; Auckland, 1990s)

--

1, 2, 3,
Mother caught a flea,

Put it in the teapot,
To make a cup of tea.
The flea jumped out,
Mother gave a shout,
In came father
With his knickers hanging out.

(Auckland, 1990s)

--

1, 2, 3,
Mother caught a flea,
Roasted it and toasted it,
And had it for her tea.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

1, 2, 3,
Mother caught a flea,
Put it in the teapot,
To make a cup of tea.
When she put the milk in,
It floated to the top,
When she put the sugar in,
The flea went pop.

(Owaka, 1960s)

--

1,2,3
Johnny caught a flea,
Flea died,
Johnny cried,
1,2,3.

(NZ ex Australia, 2002)

--

Background Info: Variation from Turner, 1978:125:

1, 2, 3,
Mother caught a flea,
Put it in the teapot,
To make a cup of tea.
The flea jumped out,

Mother gave a shout,
In came the burglar,
With his shirt hanging out.
She picked up the telephone,
And hit him in the belly bone.

(Sydney Bulletin c. 1957)

--

Variation in Opie, 2000:22:

Oh dear me!
Mother caught a flea,
Put it in a teapot
And made a cup of tea.
When she put the milk in
The flea came to the top.
When she put the sugar in
The flea went POP!

Also "roasted it and toasted it" and "the flea died and Mother cried." (141)

--

Recorded as a counting-out rhyme by Dorothy Howard in Australia, 1950s:

1, 2, 3,
Mother caught a flea,
Put it in the teapot,
And made a cup of tea.
When she put the sugar in, it went down flop,
And when she put the milk in, it came to the top.

(Darian-Smith, 2005:137)

--

Keywords: family
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 11

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 282
Date: 1940
Title: Sweet dreams,
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

Sweet dreams, fair repose,
Slam the door on the doctor's nose.

(Auckland, 1940)

--

Location: Auckland
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 283
Date: 2002
Title: I like your style
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

I like your style
I like your class
But most of all
I like your arse.

(NZ, 2002)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 285
Date: 2002
Title: Long and lanky
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Long and lanky,
Skinny and cranky,
Big banana feet.

(NZ, 2002)

--

Background Info: Similar taunt in Sutton-Smith, 1972:126:

Skin a ma links,
And lanky legs,
And big banana feet,
Jammy face.

(NZ, 1920s)

--

Keywords: tease
Location: NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 286
Date: 2002
Title: X's got the measles
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Tease
Rhyme:

[X's] got the measles,
The mumps and chicken pox,
[X's] got the measles,
And water on the brain.

(NZ, 2002)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 287
Date: 1970s-2002
Title: Up your nose, with a rubber hose
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Tease
Rhyme:

Up your nose with a rubber hose,

Twice as far with a chocolate bar.

(Ashburton, 1970s)

--

Up your nose with a rubber hose.
Up your dicky, with a chocolate bicckie.

(NZ, 2002)

--

Keywords: retort
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 290
Date: 2002
Title: Your pants..
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Tease
Rhyme:

Your pants are having a party,
Tell them to invite your socks up.

(NZ, 2002)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 291
Date: 2002
Title: Your socks..
Gender: Male
Classification: Tease
Rhyme:

Your socks are having a party,
Tell them to invite your pants up.

(NZ, 2002)

--

Keywords: tease,
Location: NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 298
Date: 1999
Title: I met you
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

I met you as a stranger,
I found you as a friend.
As long as we stay together,
I'll be there till the end.

(NZ, 1999)

--

Keywords: friendship, teenage
Location: NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 299
Date: 1999
Title: Life is full of memories
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Life is full of memories,
The old and the new,
But the ones that last forever,
Are the ones I shared with you.

(NZ, 1999)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 301
Date: 1990s-2006
Title: Ronald McDonald
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Ronald McDonald biscuit,
Ah chitty, chitty wadda wadda biscuit.
I've got a boyfriend, biscuit,
He's so sexy, biscuit.
Ice cream soda with a cherry on the top,
Ice cream soda with a cherry in the middle.
Sweet, sweet baby I wanna hold you tight,
Semi,semi, semi pow,
Semi semi semi,
Cocoa pop, semi, semi pow!

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Ronald McDonald a biscuit.
A biscuit.
Oh she wah, wah,
A biscuit.
I've got a boyfriend, a boyfriend,
He's really spunky, spunky.
Ice cream soda with a cherry on the top,
Ice cream soda with a cherry on the bottom.
Down, down baby, down the rollercoaster,
Sweet, sweet baby, don't stop hugging.
Gimme, gimme, cocoa pops,
Gimme, gimme pow.
Granny, Granny, sick in bed,
Called the doctor, and the doctor said,
Let's get the rhythm of the head..

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Ronald McDonald, chocolate chippie x 2
Ah shoo shoo, walla walla biscuit x 2

My sister's boyfriend, he's so sexy, x 2
Ah shoo shoo, walla walla biscuit x 2

(Coromandel, 1990s)

--

Ronald McDonald, biscuit x2
Ahh shoo shoo, I wanna biscuit,
I got a boyfriend, a biscuit,
He's so cute, a biscuit,
Ice cream soda with a cherry on the top,
Ice cream soda with a cherry on the bottom.
Down baby down, down by the river.
Johnny, Johnny, coconut,
Johnny, Johnny pow.
Johnny, Johnny, coconut,
Johnny, Johnny stick up.

(Wellington, 2000)

--

Ronald McDonald, chocolate biscuit, x 2
Ahh shoo walla walla biscuit x 2
I had a boyfriend, boyfriend,
He looked so funky, funky,
Ice cream soda with a cherry on the top,
Ice cream soda with a cherry on the bottom.
Down down baby down, the roller coaster,
Sweet sweet baby I'll never let you go.

(Hamilton, 2000)

--

Ronald McDonald biscuit,
Walla shoo shoo,
Cherry on the top,
Cherry on the bottom,
Cherry go round and full stop.

(Wellington, 1990s)

--

Ronald McDonald, a la la bisca,
I've got a boyfriend, a la la bisca,
Down down roller coaster,
Sweet sweet baby hold me tight,

Granny, Granny, sick in bed,
Called the doctor, and the doctor said,
Let's get the rhythm of the head..

(Waimate, 2000)

--

Ronald McDonald, a biska, a biska,
Ohh she she walla walla biska,
I've got a boyfriend, a biska,
He's so sweet, a biska,
Like a cherry treat, a biska,
Down, down baby, down the roller coaster,
Sweet sweet baby, I don't wanna let you go.
Shimmy, shimmy cocoa pops
Shimmy shimmy pow!
Shimmy shimmy cocoa pops
Shimmy shimmy stick 'em up!

(Christchurch, 1990s; Gisborne, 1990s: Christchurch, 2006)

--

Ronald McDonald, a biscuit,
Ahh choo walla walla biscuit,
She's got a boyfriend, spunky,
He's got a face like a monkey.
Ice cream soda with a cherry on the top,
Ice cream soda with a cherry on the bottom.
Down, down, baby, down by the roller coaster,
Sweet, sweet baby, I'll never let you go.
Shimmy shimmy cocoa pop, shimmy shimmy pow.
Shimmy shimmy cocoa pop, shimmy shimmy pow.

(Gisborne, 2000)

--

Ronald McDonald a booshka x 2
Ohh ohh baby, I've got a boyfriend,
He's so cute, a booshka,
Like a cherry treat, a booshka,
Down, down, baby, down by the roller coaster,
Sweet, sweet baby, I'll never let you go.
Sugar, sugar, sugar pops,
Sugar, sugar, pow!

(Blenheim, 1990s)

--

Ronald McDonald, a biska x2
Ahh sho wadda wadda biska,
I've got a boyfriend, a biska,
He's so spunky, spunky,
Spunky as a coconut tree.

(Kaiapoi, 2003)

--

Ronald McDonald,
Biscuit.
Ronald McDonald,
Biscuit.
Ah shoo shoo
Wa wa the biscuit.
I've got a boyfriend
The biscuit.
She's got a cute little biscuit.
Ice cream sundae
Cherry on top.
Ice cream sundae
Cherry on the bottom.
Down, down, baby,
Down the waterfall.

(Wellington, 2006)

--

Background Info: Variation from Rowan, 2005:

Donnie macca,
Ronnie macca, biscuit.
I shoe shiwawa biscuit.
Ice cream soda with a cherry on top,
Ice cream soda with a cherry on top.
Mama, mama, I feel sick,
Call for the doctor, quick, quick, quick.

(East London, c. 2005)

When asked how these originated, the comment was "Someone just brings them in in the morning and everybody learns them."

--

Bauer, 2002, Sect.70;15-16 recorded versions from Hamilton, Hawkes Bay, Wellington x

2, and Christchurch x 2:

Ronald McDonald, I gotta biscuit a biscuit,
I sue sue wala wala biscuit
I gotta boyfriend a boyfriend
He's so funky funky,
I gotta ice cream with the cherry on top,
I gotta cherry on the bottom.
Down down baby,
Down down the toilet hole,
Jumped on me boyfriend,
Naughty, naughty,
Jumped out the window, crazy, crazy,
Never do the dishes, lazy, lazy,
Eeny meeny disapene,
Uwala wala wala uwalawala,
I hate school.

(Hawkes Bay, c. 2002)

--

Keywords: commercial product, modern culture

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 2

Incidence: 14

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 305

Date: 1998

Title: Every time the bell rings

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

Every time a bell rings
An angel gets its wings.

(NZ ex USA, 1998)

--

Background Info: From movie "It's a Wonderful Life", 1946. Clarence the angel:
"Every time you hear a bell ring, it means that some angel's just got his wings."

--

Keywords: school, movie

Location: NZ (ex USA)

Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 306
Date: 1990-1998
Title: You ugly
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

You ugly, you ugly,
Yo mamma say you ugly.
U-G-L-Y
You ain't no alibi, you ugly.

(NZ, 1990s; NZ ex USA, 1998)

--

Keywords: Afro-American,
Location: Various NZ, USA
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 307
Date: 1950
Title: X's mad and I'm glad
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

[X's] mad and I'm glad,
And I know how to please her.
A bottle of ink to make her stink.
And ten little niggers to squeeze her.

(NZ ex USA, 1950)

--

Keywords: racist
Location: NZ (ex USA)
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 308
Date: 1998
Title: Four eyes
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Four eyes, four eyes,
Now you got more eyes.

(NZ ex USA, 1998)

--

Background Info: A tease or taunt directed at children who wear glasses.
Opie, 1967:172, has variation of:

Four eyes, double chin,
Enough to make the monkey grin.

--

Sutton-Smith, 1950:120:

Four eyes, four eyes,
Glass eyes, bye byes!

--

Keywords: tease.
Location: NZ (ex USA)
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 976
Date: 2000
Title: Haystack
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Haystack, haystack, fiddle-dee-dee,
There goes a bumblebee, 1, 2, 3,
Out you go, him,
And in you come, me,
Haystack, haystack, fiddle-dee-dee.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Background Info: Hand on head on 'bumblebee'. Turn around on '1, 2, 3'. Skipper then runs out and a new skipper joins in.

--

Location: Auckland
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 288
Date: 2002
Title: Any more cheek
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Tease
Rhyme:

Any more cheek from you,
Small change,
And I'll spend you.

(NZ, 2002)

--

Keywords: threat, retort
Location: NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 309
Date: 1950s-2005
Title: I see London
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Tease
Rhyme:

I see London,
I see France,
I see [X's] underpants.

(NZ ex Hawaii,1950s; Dunedin, 2005)

--

I see London,
I see France,
I see [X's] underpants.

(NZ, 1998)

--

Background Info: Opie, 1967:47 noted this version from USA.(1950s):

I see London, I see France,
I see someone's underpants.

--

Similarly from Australia, Turner, 1978, p144 recorded:

I see London, I see France,
I see someone's underpants.

(Melbourne, 1960s)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 310
Date: 1970
Title: It's Howdy Doody time
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

It's Howdy Doody time,
It isn't worth a dime.
So turn to Channel 9
And watch Frankenstein.
And if that's no good.
I'll tell you what to do.
Turn to Channel 2
And watch Mr Magoo.

(NZ ex USA, 1970)

--

Keywords: television, Frankenstein, media culture
Location: NZ (ex USA)
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 311
Date: 1970
Title: When a hearse goes by
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun tease
Rhyme:

Never laugh when a hearse goes by,
You might be the next to die?
They wrap you up in a big white sheet,
And bury you down six feet deep.
All goes well for about a week,
But then your coffin begins to leak.
Big green worms with purple eyes,
Crawl up your spine and out your eyes,
Your liver turns a sickly green
And pours out like thick whipped cream.

(Whangarei, 1970s)

--

Did you ever think when a hearse goes by,
That you might be the next to die?
They wrap you up in a big white sheet,
And bury you down six feet deep.
Well, that goes well for about six weeks,
Then your coffin begins to leak.
The worms crawl in,
The worms crawl out,
The worms play pea knuckle up your snout.
And one little worm that isn't so shy,
Crawls in your ear and out your eye.
And then your eyes turn mossy green,
And puss comes out like whipping cream.
They mop it up and put it on bread.
That's what you eat when you are dead.

(NZ ex USA, 1970s)

--

Background Info: Alternative version, Opie, 1967:33:

Whenever you see the hearse go by
And think to yourself that you're gonna die,
Be merry my friends, be merry.
They put you in a big white shirt,
And cover you over with tons of dirt,
Be merry..
They put you in a long-shaped box,
And cover you over with tons of rocks,
Be merry..
The worms crawl out, the worms crawl in,
The ones that crawl in are lean and thin,
The ones that crawl out are fat and stout,
Be merry..
Your eyes fall in, your hair falls out,
And your brains come tumbling down your snout.
Be merry..

(Croydon, UK, c.1950s)

Whenever you see the hearse go by,
And think to yourself that you're gonna die,
Be merry, my friends, be merry.
They put you in big white shirt
And cover you over with tons of dirt,
Be merry, my friends, be merry.
They put you in a long-shaped box,
And cover you over with tons of rocks,
Be merry, my friends, be merry.
The worms crawl out and the worms crawl in,
The ones that crawl in are lean and thin,
The ones that crawl out are fat and stout,
Be merry, my friends, be merry.
Your eyes fall in and your hair falls out,
And your brains come tumbling down your snout,
Be merry, my friends, be merry. (1950s)

--

"Play and Folklore", Issue 15, 1988:11, records a description of a similar rhyme used as part of a mock Irish wake in a University of Melbourne initiation ceremony in the late 1940s. The accompanying rhyme was known as "The Mickey Song".

Did you ever think as the hearse rolled by,
It won't be long before you and I
Are going along that same black track,
And won't be thinking of coming back.
Now poor Miss Brown passed by last week,

The worms are eating her damask cheek,
And where she lifted her dimpled chin
The worms crawl out and the worms crawl in.
Now Mickey has gone the same sad way,
The worms are turning him fast to clay.
Though rotten he be, with putrid smell,
We surely hope he's not in...(Hell - a firm taboo at the time)

ADDITIONAL VERSES are:

We're sore to lose you Mickey dear,
You sure could flick the trisk,
And now you have gone below,
Well things don't seem so brisk.
We hope to meet you Mickey dear,
Upon the other side,
And if you have a flask my lad,
We won't be sad you died.
Now Mickey has come to life again
To live once more in this world of pain,
A touch of the spirit he loved so well,
Has brought him back from the gates of..(Hell)

--

Keywords: scatological, death
Location: Various NZ, USA
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 312
Date: 1998
Title: Comet, will make your skin turn green,
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Comet will make your skin turn green,
Comet tastes like gasoline,
Comet will make you vomit,
So Comet and vomit, today buy.

(NZ ex USA, 1998)

--

Background Info: Comet , a green powdered cleaner.

--

Keywords: Commercial product, scatological,
Location: NZ (ex USA)
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 313
Date: 1970
Title: Nebuchadnezzar
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Guile, trick
Rhyme:

Nebuchadnezzar, the King of the Jews,
Spell that in four letters
And I'll give you my shoes. (T.H.A.T)

(NZ ex USA, 1970)

--

Keywords: guile
Location: NZ (ex USA)
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 314
Date: 1998
Title: A B conversation
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Tease
Rhyme:

This is an A and B conversation,
C your way out.

(NZ ex USA, 1998)

--

Background Info: Used as a retort when a two-way conversation is interrupted by a third party.

--

Keywords: retort

Location: NZ (ex USA)
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 316
Date: 1998
Title: I was crazy once
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Retort
Rhyme:

Crazy! I was crazy once,
They locked me in a rubber room.
It was cold in that room.
I died in there.
They put me in a box.
There were worms in that box.
Worms! I hate worms!
They drive me crazy!
Crazy! I was crazy once!

(NZ ex USA, 1998)

--

Keywords: crazy, circular tale, tall tale,
Location: NZ (ex USA)
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 318
Date: 1998
Title: Doggie, doggie
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Doggie, doggie, where's your bone?
Somebody stole it from your home.
Guess who, maybe you.
Maybe a monkey from the zoo.

(NZ, 1998)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 319
Date: 1998
Title: I am going crazy
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

I am slowly going crazy,
Crazy going slowly am I.
1-2-3-4 (repeat)
I am slowly going crazy.

(NZ ex USA, 1998)

--

Location: NZ (ex USA)
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 320
Date: 1998
Title: Texaco
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Texaco, Texaco, over the hills of Mexico.
Where they do the splits, splits, splits.
And they give high kicks, kicks, kicks.
And they turn a round, round, round.
And they get out of town, town, town.

(NZ ex USA, 1998)

--

Background Info: From Western United States (1929). Texaco is an American gas company.

Texaco, Texaco,
Over the hills of Mexico

Do the twist, twist, twist
And the kicks, kicks, kicks
Turn around, round, round
Touch the ground, ground, ground
Do the kangaroo
And that's all for you.

(Butler,1989:201)

--

Keywords: advertising
Location: NZ (exUSA)
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 321
Date: 1998
Title: Happy birthday
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Happy birthday to you,
And many more on Channel 4.
And Scooby Doo on Channel 2.
And Frankenstein on Channel 9.
And a big fat lady on Channel 80,
And all the rest on CBS.

(NZ ex USA, 1998)

--

Keywords: TV, commercial, media
Location: NZ (ex USA)
Group size: 20
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 977
Date: 1980s
Title: Heal Mars
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Heal Mars,
Make it a better place,
For E. T. and me and the entire alien race.
There are aliens dying.
If you care enough for the living,
Make it a better place,
For E. T. and me.

(Auckland, 1980s)

--

Background Info: Based on Michael Jackson's song, "Heal the World".

--

Keywords: media culture,
Location: Auckland
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 978
Date: 2000
Title: Horse Race
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Four posts to the right, (left)
Swish, swish, swish, swish. (Head movements as if moving past a lamppost while driving)
Babies on the track, Eeethergh! (sound of squealing brakes.)
TV cameras. Eeethergh! (Motion kissing with noises)
Tacks on the track. Oh, ah, oh, ah. (Imitate bumps)
Jumps, shuoo, shuoo. (Motion hands as though jumping over something.)
We won, we won! (Jubilant hand movements)

(Wellington, 2000)

--

Background Info: Two or more players sit in a circle. All slap alternate hands on thighs as fast as possible. Any one may chant any one of the calls at any time. The aim is to 'catch' others out.

--

Keywords: NZ culture

Location: Wellington
Group size: 3
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 381
Date: 2002
Title: X, X, apple pie
Gender: Male
Classification: Chase Taunt
Rhyme:

[X, X], apple pie,
We don't know why,
We call you apple pie.

(Auckland, 2002)

--

Location: Auckland
Group size: 5
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 383
Date: 1990-2000
Title: Apple, apple
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Apple, apple,
Cup of tea,
Yes, no, yes, no,
Skip with me.

(Christchurch, 1990; Christchurch, 2000)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 384

Date: 2003
Title: A tweet, a tweet
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

A tweet, a tweet, a twee-lee-leet,
A tweet, a tweet, a twee-lee-leet,
You're gonna rock and roll city, all night long.
Big fat mama's gonna sing this song.
All the girls from Sesame Street
Wanna go to school,
So a tweet, a tweet, a twee-lee-leet,
A tweet, a tweet, a twee-lee-leet,
Polly Pocket twee-lee-lee,
All the girls from Sesame Street
Wanna go to school.

(Wellington, 2003)

--

Background Info: Based on song "Rockin' Robin" by the Hollies.

--

Keywords: television, media culture
Location: Wellington
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 386
Date: 1940s-2003
Title: A,B,C,D..
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

A,B,C.. (name of marriage partner)
Which gemstone will you have? (diamond, ruby, emerald, sapphire..)
Where will you live? (barn, pigsty, church, forest, mansion, cottage, castle, house
truck..)

(Rotorua, 1990s)

--

Who will you marry? (A, B, C..)

Where will you marry? (A, B, C..)
How many babies will you have? (1,2,3..)

(Auckland, 1980s; Christchurch, 1990s; Whakatane, 2000; Timaru, 2000)

--

Who are you going to marry? (A, B, C..)
Where are you going to get married? (garden, church, toilet, beach..)
What are you going to eat? (poo, cake, lollies, sand..)
What are you going to wear? (bikini, plastic bag, wedding dress, nothing..)

(Fairlie, 2003)

--

Who are you going to marry?
(soldier brave, sailor true, dashing airman, oxford blue, curate pale, farmer hearty, vicar hale..)
What are you going to church in?
(coal cart, carriage, wheelbarrow, muck cart..)
What are you going to wear?
(silk, satin, muslin, rag..)

(NZ ex UK, 1940s)

--

What will you wear? (bra, knickers, wedding dress, nothing..)
Where will you get married? (toilet, bathroom, pigsty, church..)
Where will you live? (Mars, Venus, Jupiter, Earth..)
How many children? (1,2,3..)
What shoes will you wear? (high heels, sandals, nothing)
Will you get divorced? (split up) (yes, no, maybe so..)
Where are you going on your honeymoon? (NZ, Australia. USA..)
What will you have? (twins, triplets, quads..)

(Nelson, 1990s; Blenheim, 1990s; Springston, 1996; Kerikeri, 2000)

--

What sort of ring will you have? (sapphire, diamond, ruby..)
What will you wear for your wedding? (undies, rags, wedding dress..)
Where will you get married? (church, sewer, dump..)
What will you go away in? (plane, wheelbarrow, limousine..)
Where will you live? (England, Australia, Christchurch..)
How many babies will you have? (1,2,3..)
Where will you have them? (hospital, home, barn..)

(Coromandel, 2000)

--

Who is your sweetheart? (A, B, C..)
Will you marry him? (yes, no, yes, no..)
How many children will you have? (1, 2, 3..)
Where will you get married? (church, toilet, car..)

A, B, C
Where do you (sic) gonna get married? (church, barn, toilet..)
What are you going to wear? (bikini, nothing, underwear, dress..)
What colour is it gonna be? (black, white, red..)
How many kisses do you have? (1,2,3..)
How many babies will you have? (1,2,3..)
How many nappies are you gonna have? (1, 2..)
Are you gonna live happily ever after? (yes, no..)

(Whakatane, 2002)

--

Background Info: Extensive list of divination possibilities cited in Turner,1978:18 including;

What colour will your house be?
What number will your house be?
How many children will you have?
How many beds will you make?
How many bottles will you use?
How many grandchildren will you have?
How old will you be when you die?

(Victoria, 1900-1973)

--

Keywords: marriage, divination
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 14

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 387
Date: 1994
Title: A,B,C,D..
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

A,B,C..Z
Andrew, Andrew, marry me,
Andrew, Andrew come to tea,
Yes, no, yes, no..
How many babies will you have?

(Gisborne, 1994)

--

Background Info: Tripping on a letter reveals the initials of a prospective boyfriend.

--

Keywords: divination
Location: Gisborne
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 388
Date: 1993
Title: A, B, C
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

A,B,C,D,E,F,G,
Wash those boys in front of me.
Moonshine, moonshine, moonshine free.

(Auckland, 1993)

--

Background Info: Sometimes used as the final phrase in a longer rhyme. (see "Miss Moore,My Sue" in this collection)

--

Keywords: taunt, gender issue
Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 390

Date: 1980s-1995
Title: A,B,C
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

A,B,C going up, going down,
Going criss cross, lollipop, turn around,
Paper, scissors, rock,
Draw a snake upon your back.
Paint it white, paint it black.
What finger did I poke you with?

(Auckland, 1980s; Christchurch, 1995)

--

Background Info: See Sutton Smith, 1959:67-68, for description of the 'draw the snake' ritual, known also as "Tip the Finger".

Draw a snake down your back,
This is the way it went.
North, south, east, west,
Who tipped your finger?

(Wellington, 1935)

--

Also described in Opie, 1984:157-158, as a game-starting ritual related to hide and seek, with the players drawing a snake on the leader's back and chanting the rhyme:

I draw a snake upon your back,
Who will put in the eye?

The leader then has to guess who 'put in the eye'.

--

Further details under "Draw a Snake" in this collection.

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 391

Date: 1960s
Title: Adam and Eve
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden,
Admiring the beauties of nature.
The devil jumped out of a brussel sprout,
And hit them in the eye with a potato.

(Christchurch, 1960s)

--

Keywords: religious belief,
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 392
Date: 1960s
Title: I remember
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun Autograph
Rhyme:

I remember very well,
The first girl that I kissed.
We closed our eyes and puckered up.
And then worst luck we missed.

(Christchurch, 1960s)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 394
Date: 2003
Title: A,B,C
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

A, B, C,
Kiss my arse,
And you'll be free.

(Christchurch, 2003)

--

Keywords: Bawdy
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 3
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 395
Date: 2003
Title: Amen
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Tease
Rhyme:

Ahem, ahem, me mother has gone to church.
She said I'm not to play with you,
Because you're in the dirt.
It's not because you're dirty,
It's not because you're clean.
It's cos you've got whooping cough,
And eat margarine.

(Dunedin, 2003)

--

Keywords: commercial product, religion, rejection
Location: Dunedin
Group size: 10
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 322
Date: 1990s-2006
Title: Miss Mary Mac
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Miss Mary Mac, Mac, Mac,

All dressed in black, black, black.
With silver buttons, buttons, buttons,
All down her back, back, back.
She asked her mother, mother, mother,
For 50 cents, cents, cents,
To see the elephants, elephants, elephants,
Jump the fence, fence, fence.
They reach the sky, sky, sky,
They never come back, back, back,
Until the 4th of July, ly, ly.

(Christchurch, 1990s x 4; Greymouth, 1990s; Palmerston, 2000; Gore, 2002; Auckland, 2004 x 2; Ashburton, 2006)

--

They came back by plane, plane, plane,
It was called Wayne, Wayne, Wayne,
From Dairy Dane, Dane, Dane,
She went upstairs, stairs, stairs,
To say her prayers, prayers, prayers,
She bumped her head, head, head,
Then she was dead, dead, dead.

(NZ ex Australia, 2000)

--

Background Info: Refer Turner, 1978:36.
Recorded by Halliwell, 1842, as a marching song:

Darby and Joan were dress'd in black,
Sword and buckle behind their back;
Foot for foot, and knee for knee,
Turn about Darby's company.

--

Discussion also in Knapp & Knapp, 1976:136- 137. Rhyme originally a riddle to which the answer was a coffin, being black and decorated with button-like objects.

--

Variation in Schwartz, 1992:102;

Miss Mary Murple, Murple, Murple,
Dressed in purple, purple, purple,
With silver buttons, buttons, buttons,
Down her girdle, girdle, girdle..

--

Discussion in Turner, 1969:43 - 44:

Mary Mack, dressed in black,
Silver buttons down her back.
She likes coffee, I like tea,
She likes sitting on a Chinaman's knee.
Went to a river, couldn't get across,
Paid ten pounds for an old blind horse,
Jumped on his back, gave him a crack,
Goodbye, Mary Mack, she never came back.

--

Bolton, 1888:117 reports the version as a counting-out rhyme:

Miss Mary Mack, dressed in black,
Silver buttons on her back,
I love coffee, I love tea,
I love the boys and the boys love me.

--

Knapp, 1976:136 records different endings:

She could not read, read, read,
She could not write, write, write.
But she could smoke, smoke, smoke,
Her father's pipe, pipe, pipe.
She asked her mommy, mommy, mommy,
For fifteen cents, cents cents,
To see the boys, boys, boys,
Pull down their pants, pants, pants.

She went upstairs to make her bed,
She made a mistake and bumped her head;
She went downstairs to wash the dishes,
She made a mistake and washed her wishes;
She went outside to hang her clothes,
She made a mistake and hung her nose.

--

Onwuchekwa, 2003:128 records from urban black America the final verse:

Miss Mary stumbled, stumbled, stumbled,
And bumped her head, head, head,
On a piece of cornbread, bread, bread,
Then dropped dead!

--

"Play and Folklore", Issue 13, 1987:10-11, includes discussion on melodic structures in children's play lore and includes Mary Mac in the analysis.

--

Location: Various NZ, USA
Group size: 2
Incidence: 11

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 325
Date: 1998
Title: School
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

School, school,
Don't be late.
Sign your name on the golden gate.
(Spell name) 1st grade, 2nd grade..12th grade, College
(Start all over again until skipper trips)

(NZ ex USA, 1998)

--

Keywords: divination
Location: NZ (ex USA)
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 327
Date: 1996
Title: Shay macaro
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Shay macaro, shay macaroni,
Mario, mario, ley-o,
Tap-tap-tap, ley-o,ley-o,
Tap,tap, tap, 1,2,3,4.

(NZ ex USA, 1996)

--

Keywords: American culture
Location: NZ (ex USA)
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 329
Date: 1995-2006
Title: Miss Molly
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Miss Molly (Suzy, Lucy) had a steamboat,
The steamboat had a bell,
Miss Molly (Suzy) went to heaven,
The steamboat went to
Hello operator, give me number nine,
And if you disconnect me,
I'll kick you up the..
Behind the refrigerator
There was a piece of glass
Miss Suzy fell upon it and broke her little.
Ask me no questions,
Tell me no lies
Miss Suzy went to heaven
The day before she died.

(NZ ex South Africa, 1975)

--

Miss Suzy had a steamboat,
The steamboat had a bell,
Miss Suzy went to heaven,
The steamboat went to
Hello operator, give me number nine,
And if you disconnect me,
I'll kick you up the..
Behind the refrigerator
There was a piece of glass
Miss Suzy fell upon it and broke her little...
Ask me no questions,
Tell me no lies. (Ashburton, 2006)
The boys are in the bathroom,

Zippering up their
Flies are in the meadow,
Bees are in the park,
Miss Suzy and her boyfriend,
Are kissing in the D-A-R-K,
Dark is like a movie,
Movie's like a show,
A show is like a TV screen,
And that is all I know.
I know, I know my Ma,
I know, I know my Pa,
I know, I know my sister's got
An 8 foot (980 acre bra) fancy bra.

(Rotorua, 2000; Dunedin, 2000)

--

Miss Suzy (Lucy) had a steamboat,
The steamboat had a bell,
Miss Suzy went to heaven,
The steamboat went to
Hello operator, give me number nine,
And if you disconnect me,
I'll kick you up the..
Behind the refrigerator
There was a piece of glass
Miss Suzy fell upon it and broke her little.
Ask me no questions,
Tell me no lies
I saw a policeman, doing up his flies.

(Dunedin, 2000; Sheffield, 2006)

--

Suzy had a steamboat,
A steamboat had Suzy,
When Suzy went to heaven,
The steamboat went too.
Hello operator give me number nine,
If you don't I'll kick you up the
Behind the refrigerator there was a piece of glass,
Suzy fell upon it and cut her little,
Ask me no more questions,
Tell me no more lies,
The boys are in the bathroom,
Pulling down their flies,
Are in the city
Bees are in the park,

Boys and girls are having fun,
Kissing in the dark, dark, dark.

(Nelson, 2000)

--

Miss Molly had a steamboat,
The steamboat had a bell,
Miss Molly went to heaven,
The steamboat went to
Hello operator, give me number nine,
And if you disconnect me,
I'll chop off your
Behind the refrigerator
There was a piece of glass
Miss Suzy sat upon it and broke her big fat
Ask me no questions,
Tell me no lies
The boys are in the wash house,
Zipping up their,
Flies are in the city,
Bees are in the park,
Miss Molly and her boyfriend,
Are kissing in the D-A-R-K,
My Ma is Godzilla,
My Pa is King Kong,
My sister is the idiot,
Who made up this dumb song.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Background Info: Also has alternative beginning of "Hello Operator", part of this collection.

--

A complex version of this rhyme is recorded on www.mudcat.org (accessed 15 January, 2007) with the lines:

Ask me no more questions,
I'll tell you no more lies,
The boys are in the girls' room
Pulling down their..
Flies are in the breadbox, bees are in the park,
Miss Susie and her boyfriend were kissing in the
D.A.R.K, D.A.R.K, D.A.R.K,
Dark is for the movies, movies for the show,

The show is for the TV and that is all I know,
I know, I know my ma,
I know, I know my pa,
I know, I know my sister,
With a forty acre bra!
A. B. C it's as easy as 1, 2, 3,
Yer ma's got funky feet,
Oosh arsh I want a piece of squash,
Squash too sweet, I wanna piece of meat,
Meat too tough, I wanna ride the bus,
Bus too full, I wanna buy a bull,
Bull too black, I want my money back.
Money too green, I wanna limosine,
Limosine too long, I wanna write a song.
Song too old, I wanna pot of gold,
Gold too yella, I wanna kiss a fella,
Fella too fat, and that's the end of that!

--

Keywords: media influence, commercial products, bawdy,
Location: Various NZ, USA, S. Africa
Group size: 2
Incidence: 8

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 330
Date: 1940
Title: Teacher, don't hit me
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Teacher, teacher, don't hit me.
Hit that nigger behind that tree.
He stole the money, and I stole the honey.
Teacher, teacher, ain't that funny.

(NZ ex USA, 1940)

--

Background Info: From Botkin, 1944:795:

Teacher, teacher, don't whip me,
Whip that nigger behind that tree,
He stole peaches, I stole none,
Put him in the calaboose, just for fun.

(USA, 1930-1940)

--

Keywords: authority, racist
Location: NZ (ex USA)
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 332
Date: 1996
Title: My mother, your mother
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

My mother, your mother living in a street,
19,18 Dunyan Street.
Boys are made of mud,
Girls are made of lollipops,
Lollipop, lollipop, lolly, lolly lollipop,
Salute!

(NZ ex Singapore, 1996)

--

Background Info: Opie, 1992:315 records this version:

My mother and your mother
Went over the way;
Said my mother to your mother,
It's a chop-a-nose day.

Infant amusement rhyme in which child's nose is 'chopped off' and held between
finger and thumb. (1830)

--

Location: NZ (ex Singapore)
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 333
Date: 1996
Title: Nippy snippy

Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Nippy, snippy, snappy, snip.
Be careful when you take a dip,
Or crab will catch you in his grip.
Nippy, snippy, snappy snip.

(NZ ex Singapore, 1996)

--

Location: NZ (ex Singapore)
Group size: 8
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 334
Date: 1996
Title: Bubblegum
Gender: Female
Classification: Counting-out
Rhyme:

Bubblegum, bubblegum in a dish,
How many pieces do you wish?
1,2..(Choose a number 1-10)
You are not it.

(NZ ex Singapore, 1996)

--

Background Info: Subversive rhyme, as gum is not permitted in Singapore. (Personal informant)

--

Keywords: food
Location: NZ (ex Singapore)
Group size: 8

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 335
Date: 1996
Title: 7 Up
Gender: Female

Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

A B C,
Seven-Up and down,
Seven upside down.
Seven-1, 2, 3,
Seven - 4, 5, 6,
Seven, eeny, meeny miney, mo.
Paper, scissors, stone.

(NZ ex Singapore, 1996)

--

Background Info: Related to the soft drink label of Seven-Up and ending with the paper, scissors, rock ritual.

--

Keywords: commercial product
Location: NZ (ex Singapore)
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 336
Date: 1990-1996
Title: Eeny meeny
Gender: Female
Classification: Counting-out
Rhyme:

Eeny, eeny Hippoteeni,
Go on the ship, (Ah bah boo)
If you hit the rocks, (How do you do?)
You're not it. (And out goes you)

(NZ ex Singapore, 1990s; NZ, 1996)

--

Keywords: nonsense
Location: Singapore, NZ
Group size: 8
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 338

Date: 1950s-1970s

Title: Dip, dip

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Counting-out

Rhyme:

Dip, dip my blue ship,
Sailing the water,
Like a cup and saucer,
You shall be the one please, sir,
Thank you very much indeed, sir.
Dip, dip, dip.

(NZ ex UK, 1965)

--

Dip, dip my little ship,
Sailing the water,
Like a cup and saucer,
Dip, dip, dip,
You are not it.

(NZ ex UK, 1950s; Auckland, 1970s)

--

Dip, dip, sky blue.
Who's it?
Not you.

(Christchurch, 1970s)

--

Background Info: Turner, 1978:8:

Dip, dip, dip,
My little ship,
Sailed on the water,
And you're not it.

(Victoria, 1971)

--

Location: NZ, UK, Singapore

Group size: 8

Incidence: 4

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 890
Date: 2005
Title: I met this chick
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

I met this chick in the heart of Australia,
She had a big butt and big tits too,
I jumped up her ass,
Like a kangaroo.

(Wellington, 2005)

--

Keywords: bawdy, sex, Australia
Location: Wellington
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 339
Date: 1996
Title: Caterpillar
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Oh piller, caterpillar,
Lazy boys,
Active girls
Ping pong,
Sing a song,
Go to school,
Play a fool,
Oh piller, caterpillar.

(NZ ex Singapore, 1996)

--

Location: NZ (ex Singapore)
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 340

Date: 1964-2006

Title: Popeye

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Clapping - Fun

Rhyme:

I'm Popeye the sailor man, full stop,
I live in a garbage can, full stop.
I put on the gas and blew up my pants,
I'm Popeye the sailor man, full stop, full stop.
Comma, comma, bang, bang, tick, tick, blerh.
(Scissors, paper, rock game)

(Auckland, 1990s)

--

Popeye the sailor man.
He lives in a garbage can.
He eats all the flies
And spits out the eyes.
He's Popeye the sailor man.

(Christchurch, 1990 x 2; Auckland, 1990s x 3; Wellington, 2000; Christchurch, 2000 x 2; Rotorua, 2002)

--

Popeye the sailor man.
He lives in a garbage can.
He eats all the worms,
And spits out the germs,
He's Popeye the sailor man.

(Touring, 1970s; Dannevirke, 1990; Auckland, 1990 x 5; Wellington, 1990s;
Christchurch, 1990; Christchurch, 1990s x 4; Tauranga, 1990s; Ashburton, 1996;
Wellington, 2000 x 2; Napier, 2000; Palmerston, 2000; Gisborne, 2001; Motueka, 2005)

--

I'm Popeye the sailor man, toot, toot,
Lives in a caravan, toot, toot,
I open the door,
And pee on the floor,
I'm Popeye the sailor man, toot, toot.

(Christchurch, 1990s x 5; Hamilton, 1990s; Auckland, 1990s; Motueka, 2005)

--

Popeye the sailor man, toot, toot,
Lives in a caravan,
Turned on the gas,
Blew off his arse,
Popeye the sailor man, toot, toot.

(Wellington, 1990s; South Auckland, 1990s; Ashburton, 1996; Auckland, 2000 x 2;
Kerikeri, 2000; Tauranga, 2000; Blenheim, 2002; Lower Hutt, 2002; Motueka, 2005)

--

I'm Popeye the sailor man, toot, toot,
I live in a caravan,
Turned on the heater,
Burned off my weaner,
I'm Popeye the sailor man, toot, toot.

(Christchurch, 1990)

--

I'm Popeye the sailor man,
I live in a garbage can,
I like to go swimmin'
With bare, naked, wimmin'
I'm Popeye the sailor man.

(Christchurch, 1990)

--

I'm Popeye the sailor man.
I live in a caravan,
There's a hole in the middle,
Where I do a piddle,
I'm Popeye the sailor man.

(Blenheim, 1970s; NZ ex UK, 1970s; Thames, 1970s; Temuka, 1971; Northland, 1990s;
Hamilton, 2000; Waitakere City, 2000)

--

I'm Popeye the sailor man.
I live in a jar of jam,
When the jam gets sticky,
It sticks to my dicky,
I'm Popeye the sailor man.

(Upper Hutt, 1980s; Oxford, 1980s; Northland, 1990s; Kaitaia, 1990s; Christchurch, 2000)

--

Variations:

(I live in a caravan. I open the door, and fall flat on the floor. Napier, 1990s; Carew, 1990s; Christchurch, 2000 x 2)

(I live in a caravan, when I went to the pictures, I pulled down my britches. Kumeu, 2003)

(I live in a caravan, I open the door and pee on the floor. Christchurch, 2000; Auckland, 2000; Blenheim, 2000; Auckland, 2006)

(I live in a frying pan. I jumped on the grass (gas) and burned off my ass. Oamaru, 2000; Auckland, 2006)

(I live in a garbage can, I drink all the wees, and throw out the fleas. NZ, 1990s)

(I live in a frying pan, I turn up the heat, I blow up my feet. Auckland, 1999)

(I live in a garbage can, I eat all the lizards, and spit out the gizzards. Timaru, 2000)

(Lives in a caravan. A lady went past, and wiped her arse. Northland, 2000)

(Lives in a caravan, He sleeps with his granny, and fiddles with her fanny. Tauranga, 2000; South Auckland, 2000; Te Awamutu, 2000)

(I live in a caravan, I opened the door, and did a patero - Maori - Lower Hutt, 2002)

(I live in a caravan, I go to the movies, and chop off girls' boobies. Christchurch, 1990s)

(Lives in a caravan, girls went past, looked at my arse. Dannevirke, 1970s)

(I live in a caravan, I pee on the ground, and go round and round. Wellington, 1990s)

(Lived in a caravan. He looked in the mirror, and saw a gorilla. Waitakere City, 2000)

(Lived in a caravan. Weed on the floor, and slipped out the door. Waitakere City, 2000)

(I live in a caravan. When I go swimmin', I kiss all the wimmin'. China International School, 2000)

(I live in a rubbish can. I ate all the bugs and spit out the slugs. NZ, 1980s)

--

Background Info: Parody related to the popular cartoon character created by Elzie Crisler Segar, first appearing in 1929.

The original song began with the verse:

I'm Popeye the sailor man,
I'm strong to the finich,
Cause I eat me spinach,
I'm Popeye the sailor man.

Opie, 1967:112 heard in USA (1938). UK (1943).

--

Turner, 1978:117, offers many variants from 1964 in Australia including:

I'm Popeye the sailor man,
I live in a dunny can,
When the lady comes past,
I tickle her arse..

(Victoria, 1964)

--

Keywords: Bawdy, scatological, Maori

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 2

Incidence: 89

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 342

Date: 1978-2006

Title: Boys are rotten

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Tease

Rhyme:

Girls are weak,
Throw them in the creek.
Boys are strong,
Like King Kong.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

This is what they told me,
Boys are rotten,
Made out of cotton,
Girls are sexy,
Made out of Pepsi, (Blackball, 2002)
Ishy wishy lollipop,
Ishy wishy wooo,
The boys love YOU!

(Timaru, 2000; Taradale, 2002)

--

Boys are rotten,
Made out of cotton,
Girls are sexy,
Made out of Pepsi,
Boys go to Jupiter,
To get more stupider,
Girls go to Mars,
To get more bras.

(Blenheim, 2000)

--

The boys go to Jupiter,
To get more stupider,
The girls go to Mars,
To be superstars.

(Tapanui, 2003)

--

Boys are sexy,
Made out of Pepsi,
You may be flat chested,
But I'm sure not.

(Christchurch, 2003)

--

Boys are spastic,
Made out of plastic,
Girls are sexy,
Made out of Pepsi.

(Christchurch, 1990s; Auckland, 2000)

--

Boys are ugly,
Made out of rugby.
Girls are sexy,
Made out of Pepsi.

(Kawerau, 2002)

--

Boys play rugby to get more ugly.
Girls take showers, to give them powers.

(Whangarei, 2000)

--

Boys are weak, chuck 'em in the creek,
Girls are strong, like King Kong.

(Blenheim, 2004)

--

Boys are rotten,
Made out of cotton,
Girls are sexy,
Made out of Pepsi,
Boys go to College
To get more knowledge,
Girls go to Jupiter,
To become stupider.

(Invercargill, 1978-80)

--

Boys go to College
To get more knowledge,
Girls go to Jupiter,
To become stupider.

(Hastings, 2002)

--

Boys go to Mars

To get flash cars.
Girls go to College
To get more knowledge.

(Wellington, 2000)

--

Boys are clever, made forever.
Girls are rotten, made out of cotton.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Boys have got the muscles,
Teachers have the brains,
Girls have got the sexy legs,
So they win all the games.

(Waimate, 2000)

--

Boys have showers to get their powers.

(Wellington, 2001)

--

Boys are 'er,
Girls are sexy made out of Pepsi.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Boys are rotten, made out of cotton,
Girls go to the gym, to get more slim.
Boys go to rugby to get more ugly.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Variations in Factor, 1988:140.

--

Variations in Turner, 1978:95 include;

Boys are strong,
Poo, they pong.

(Melbourne, 1973)

Boys are blue
And girls are pink;
But boys let off
A terrible stink.

(Melbourne, 1967)

--

See also "Girls are weak..." in this collection.

--

Keywords: gender differences, commercial product,
Location: Various NZ,
Group size: 2
Incidence: 19

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 343
Date: 1998
Title: On the banks
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

On the banks of the dainty rainty (Daintree Rainforest?)
Where the bull dogs jump from bank to bank.
With a hip and a hop and a hippity hop.
One, two, three.

(NZ ex Australia, 1998)

--

Location: NZ (ex Australia)
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 344
Date: 1970s- 2002

Title: Glory, glory Hallelujah
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Mine eyes have seen the glory,
Of the burning of the school.
We have tortured every teacher,
We have broken every rule.
We have boarded up the office,
And we've hung the principal,
And now we're marching on.
Glory, glory hallelujah,
The teacher hit me with a ruler,
So I socked on the B,
With a rotten tangerine,
And she sank down like a German submarine.

(Whangarei, 1970s)

--

Glory, glory hallelujah,
Teacher hit me with a ruler,
So I hid behind the door with a magnum 44
And the teacher was no more.
I went to her funeral.
I went to her grave
Instead of chucking flowers,
I chucked a grenade,
Her body went up,
Her body went down,
Her body went splat,
All over the ground.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Glory, glory, how peculiar,
Teacher hit me with a ruler,
The ruler snapped in half,
And we all began to laugh,
And the walls came tumbling down.

(New Plymouth, 1980s)

--

Glory, glory, how peculiar,

Teacher hit me with a ruler,
Cos I bopped her on the beam,
With a rotten tangerine,
And the juice came flowing down.

(New Plymouth, 1980s)

--

Glory, glory hallelujah,
Teacher hit me with a ruler,
I hit her on the chin,
With a rotten mandarin,
And her teeth came marching out.

(Christchurch, 1970s; Amberley, 1990s; Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Mine eyes have seen the glory
Of the burning of the school,
We've murdered every teacher,
And we've broken every rule.
We're marching down the corridor,
To hang the principal,
And we go marching on.

(Christchurch, 1970s)

--

We're marching to the glory,
Of the burning of the school.
We murdered all the teachers,
And we broke the golden rule.
We went into the office
And we shot the principal,
And the blood came pouring out!
Gory, gory, what a helluva way to die (x 3)
And the blood came pouring out.

(Wellington, 1970s)

--

Glory, glory hallelujah,
Smack the teacher with a ruler,
Hide behind the door,
With a magnum 44,
And the teacher isn't teaching anymore.

(Timaru, 2002; Rotorua, 2002)

--

Glory, glory hallelujah
Teacher hit me with a ruler,
Hid behind the door,
With a magnum 44,
And the teacher was a teacher, no more!

(Christchurch, 1990)

--

Background Info: Sung to the tune of "John Brown's Body". (Turner, 1969:64)

--

For comment on physical violence in schools or 'beatings', see Opie, 1967:374.

--

Many variations recorded in Knapp, 1976:173-175, including the lines:

We have barbequed the principal,
Destroyed the PTA.

We have stood in every corner,
We have spit on every wall.

I shot her in the seater,
With a forty-five repeater.

I hit her in the rear,
With a bottle of beer.

I shot her in the butt,
With a rotten coconut.

--

Keywords: teacher, violence, authority, power

Location: Various NZ, Australia

Group size: 2

Incidence: 12

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 346

Date: 1990s-2006
Title: Girls are weak
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Partisian
Rhyme:

Girls are sexy, made out of Pepsi,
Boys are rotten, made out of cotton.

(Whangarei, 2000; NZ ex UK, 2004; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Girls are weak,
Boys are strong,
Like King Kong.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Girls go to College to get more knowledge.
Boys go to Jupiter, to get more stupider.

(Blackball, 2002)

--

Girls go to Mars, to be superstars.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Girls go to Mars to get more bras.
Boys play rugby, to get more ugly.

(Rotorua, 2002)

--

Girls have showers to get more powers.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Girls are weak, chuck them in the creek.
Boys are stronger, they live longer.

(NZ, 2000)

--

Girls are from Mars,
And got nice cars.
Guys are from Venus
With a small penis.

(Howick, 2000)

--

Girls are cool, in the swimming pool,
Boys are weak, lying in the creek.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Girls are weak, like Bo Peep,
Throw them in the creek.

(Northland, 2000)

--

Girls go to Mars, to get more stars,
Boys go to Jupiter, to get more stupider.

(NZ, 2000; NZ ex UK, 2004)

--

Girls are weak, throw them in the creek,
Boys are strong, like King Kong.

(Ashburton, 2005)

--

Girls are strong, like King Kong.
Boys are weak, throw them in the creek.

(Auckland, 2004)

--

Girls are sexy, made out of Pepsi,
Boys are spastic, made out of plastic.

(Mt Maunganui, 2004)

--

Background Info: Many versions and comments on this rhyme in Factor, 1988:140-142, including "children's acute observation and awareness of shifts in social values, their sharp ear for whatever is new and newsworthy".

--

Variation in "Play and Folklore", Issue 40, 2001: 2:

Girls are weak, chuck them in the creek,
Boy are weaker, chuck them in deeper.
Girls are strong, chuck them in long,
Boys are stronger chuck them in longer.

--

Keywords: gender differences, gender issues
Location: Various NZ,Australia
Group size: 2
Incidence: 15

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 347
Date: 1960s-2004
Title: Mary had a canary
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Mary had a canary,
She also had a duck,
She hid behind the kitchen sink
And taught them how to
Fry eggs for breakfast,
Fry eggs for tea.
The more you eat, the more you drink.
The more you want to pee,
Aunty Mary..

(Christchurch, 1960s)

--

Aunty Mary had a canary,
Thought it was a duck,

She took it to the kitchen,
And taught it how to
Fried eggs for breakfast, fried eggs for tea,
You eat too much you drink too much,
Until you want to pee.
Aunty Mary..

(Christchurch, 1970s)

--

Peter had a boat, the boat began to rock,
Up jumped a shark and bit him on the
Cocktails and ginger ale, 50c a glass,
If you don't like it shove it up your
Ask no questions tell no lies,
I saw a Japanese man doing up his
Flies are bad, mosquitoes are worse,
This is the end of my dirty little verse.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

A watchdog was sitting on a rock,
Along came a crayfish (catfish) and chopped off his cock..
Tails and ginger ales, 5 cents a glass,
If you don't want them, shove them up your..
Ask me no questions, tell me no lies,
I saw two policemen pulling up their..
Flies are a nuisance, mosquitoes are worse,
This is the end of my silly, little verse.

(Nelson, 1990s; Wellington, 1990s)

--

Mary had a little lamb,
She also had a duck,
She took it round the corner,
To teach it how to
Fry eggs for breakfast,
Fry eggs for tea.
The more you eat, the more you drink.
The more you want to
Peter had a boat, the boat began to rot,
Up jumped jaws and bit off his
Cocktails and gingerales, fifty cents a glass,
If you don't like them I'll shove them up your
Ask no questions, tell no lies,

I saw the bogeyman doing up his
Flies are a nuisance, mosquitoes are worse,
This is the end of my silly little verse.

(Auckland, 2000; Christchurch, 2001; Christchurch, 2002; Rununga, 2004)

--

Mary had a little lamb,
She thought it was quite silly,
She threw it up into the air,
And caught it by its
Willy is a sheep dog sitting on the grass,
Up comes a flea (green ant) and bit him on the
Ask me no questions, tell me no lies,
I saw two policemen pulling up their..
Flies are a nuisance, spiders are worse,
This is the end of my silly, little verse.

(Blenheim, 1970s; Auckland, 1970s; Manurewa, 1983; Nelson, 1990s; Christchurch, 1990s; Tauranga, 1990s; Gore, 2000; Timaru, 2001; Kaiapoi, 2001; Kaiapoi, 2003)

--

Background Info: Lowenstein, 1974:12:

Auntie Mary had a canary,
Thought it was a duck,
She took it behind the kitchen door
And taught it how to
Fried eggs for breakfast,
Fried eggs for tea,
You eat so much,
You drink so much
You think you want to
Paddle your own canoe

(Melbourne, 1967-1973)

--

Contributed by Patterns of Language student from UK memories:

Auntie Mary had a canary
Up her bloomer leg.
When she farted
Down it darted.
"Let me out," it begged.

--

Keywords: scatological, circular verse
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 19

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 348
Date: 1950
Title: On top of old Smokey
Gender: Male
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

On top of old Smokey.
Where nobody goes,
Lives Jane Russell,
Without any clothes.

(NZ ex Australia, 1950)

--

Location: NZ (ex Australia)
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 349
Date: 1950
Title: X sells fish
Gender: Male
Classification: Tease
Rhyme:

[X] sells fish,
Three ha'pence a dish.
With a nose like a squashed tomato,
And feet like flat fish.

(NZ ex Australia, 1950)

--

Location: NZ (ex Australia)
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 352
Date: 1970-1990s
Title: A little bit of air
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

A little bit of air coming from the heart.
Flowing down the backbone, generates a fart.
A fart is very useful, gives the body ease,
Warms the bed in winter
And suffocates the fleas.

(NZ ex Australia, 1970)

--

There is a little puff,
That travels from the heart,
And when it travels downwards,
It turns into a fart.
Now farts are very useful,
To give the belly ease,
They warm the bed in winter,
And suffocate the fleas.

(Masterton, 1990s)

--

Keywords: fart lore, bawdy, scatological
Location: NZ, Australia
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 354
Date: 1998
Title: Elvis Presley is a star.
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Elvis Presley is a star.
S-T-A-R
Boys have got the muscles,
Girls have got the legs.
Fire cracker, fire cracker,
Boom, boom, boom,

Fire cracker, fire cracker,
Boom, boom, boom.
Girls can do the splits,
Boys can do the flips.
Girls are sexy drinking Pepsi,
Boys go kiss kiss,
Girls go ahhh (spew)

(NZ ex Australia, 1998)

--

Keywords: gender differences, commercial products,
Location: NZ (ex Australia)
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 356
Date: 1998
Title: 1,2,3,4
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

1,2,3,4,
Lift your leg and let it roar.
5,6,7,8,
Everyone evacuate.
9,10,11,12.
Shoot the girl and go to hell.

(NZ ex Australia, 1998)

--

Keywords: scatological, gender issues, violence, fart lore
Location: NZ (ex Australia)
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 357
Date: 1970s-2006
Title: Pardon me
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Pardon me for being so rude,
It was not me it was my food. (Ashburton, 2006)
It got so lonely down below.
It just popped up to say hello.

(Tauranga, 1970s; Auckland, 2000)

--

Pardon me for being so rude,
It was not me it was my food.
It just popped out to say hello,
And now it's gone back down below.

(NZ ex UK, 1950s; Methven, 1970s; Papakura, 2000)

--

Background Info: Said after burping.

--

Keywords: scatological, food, grace
Location: Various NZ, Australia
Group size: 2
Incidence: 6

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 358
Date: 1990s-2006
Title: Personal Jinx
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Personal jinx

(NZ ex Australia, 1990s; Christchurch, 2000)
(Said when 2 people say the same thing at the same time, no one can speak then until the other person says their name.)

--

Jinx, 1,2,3,
Talk again,
You're dead.

(Auckland, 2006)

--

Background Info: Bauer, 2002, Sect.19:1-2, records terms used when two people say the same thing at the same time; jinx, personal jinx, master jinx, private jinx, jinx padlock and many other terms.

Personal jinx means that only the jinxer can clear the jinx, whereas with jinx, anyone can.

--

See also "Play and Folklore", Issue 27, 1994:9, for further details regarding jinx rituals.

--

Keywords: half belief

Location: Various NZ, Australia

Group size: 2

Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 359

Date: 1990s-2000

Title: See my finger

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Fun tease

Rhyme:

See my finger,
See my thumb,
See my fist,
And here it comes.

(Christchurch, 1990 x 3; Gisborne, 2000; Timaru, 2000)

--

See my finger,
See my thumb,
See my bum
On Channel One.

(Christchurch, 1990; Whangarei, 2000)

--

See my finger,
See my thumb,

Pull down my pants
And see my bum.

(Kerikeri, 2000)

--

See my finger,
See my thumb,
Well, you'd better,
'Cos here it comes.

(Te Aroha, 1990s)

--

See my finger,
See my thumb,
This is the shape of Elsie's bum.
(Referring to Elsie Tanner in "Coronation Street")

(Springfield, 1970s)

--

Background Info: Recorded as a verbal teasing rhyme 1920-1950 by Sutton-Smith,
1959:100.

--

Turner, 1978:89-90 records versions including:

See my finger,
See my thumb,
See my little tommy gun.
(Canberra, 1962)
Look at the sky,
Look at the ground,
Look at my thumb,
Gee you're dumb.

(Victoria, 1910)

--

Opie, 1967:196 records the version:

See my finger,
See my thumb,
See my fist,

You'd better run.

(UK, 1950s)

--

Onwuchekwa, 2003:106 records the variations from urban black America:

See my pinky,
See my thumb,
See my fist,
You better run.

See my heart,
Gee, you're smart,
See my thumb,
Gee, you're dumb.

--

Keywords: threat, taunt, media culture, bawdy
Location: Various NZ, Australia
Group size: 2
Incidence: 10

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 360
Date: 1998
Title: Turn on the radio
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Partisian
Rhyme:

Turn on the radio,
What do you hear?
(Name of school, team)
Turn on the radio,
What do you hear?
(Name of school, team)
Give us a cheer,
We're going to beat them, bash them,
That's our custom.
Goooo (school)

(NZ ex Australia, 1998)

--

Keywords: partisan

Location: NZ (ex Australia)
Group size: 8
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 364
Date: 1920-2006
Title: All in together girls
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

All in together, girls,
This fine weather, girls.
When it's your birthday,
Please jump out.
(Please run in.)
Jan, Feb..December.

(Northland, 1960s; Auckland, 1960s; Rotorua, 1990s; Auckland, 1990s; Kaitaia, 1990s;
Whakatane, 2000; Christchurch, 2006)

--

All, all, all in together,
When it is your birthday,
Please jump out,
Jan..Dec.

(Auckland, 2004)

--

All in together, girls,
Just like the weather, girls.
Please jump in
When your birthday calls.
Jan, Feb..

(NZ, 1980s)

--

All, all, all in together,
When is your birthday,
Please jump out.
Jan, Feb..

(Kamo, 2000; Auckland, 2004)

--

All in together, girls,
Never mind the weather, girls.
There's a lad around the corner.
Got his eye on Alice Horner.

(NZ ex UK, 1940s)

--

All in together,
Never mind the weather.
I spy Jack, peeping through a crack.
1,2,3 busy, busy bee.
19,20, leave the rope empty.

(Christchurch, 2001)

--

All in together,
This fine weather,
Trip stays out,
And the last pepper.
1,2,3, busy, busy bee,
19, 20, leave the rope empty.

(1920-1950 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:75))

--

All in together,
This fine weather,
I saw a peacock,
Sitting on the window.
Fish, bang, fire, out.

(1920-1950 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:75))

--

Background Info: Group skipping rhyme.
Combining jump in and out versions - speed up rope for months of the year. The last
player left in must endure 'Pepper' by herself. (Sutton Smith, 1959:75)

--

Ethel Beed recalls from her Sydney childhood, 1911- 1914, the group skipping game:

All in together, this cold weather,
I saw Peter, hanging out the window,
Bush(?) bang, fire.

On the word 'fire', all skippers had to leave the rope with the skipper who stops
the rope turning having to take an end.
("Play and Folklore", Issue 5, 1983:12)

--

Variations: Turner, 1978:11:

All in together girls,
This fine weather girls,
I saw a nanny goat,
Putting on a petticoat,
Push, bang, fire.

(Sydney, 1956)

--

Opie, 1997:282-286, records versions of this popular calling-in game involving large
numbers running in and out of the turning rope. Those that trip or are last out take
turns as rope-turners.

All in together, girls,
Never mind the weather, girls,
When I count twenty,
The rope must be empty.
Five, ten, fifteen, twenty.

All in together,
All sorts of weather,
I saw a pig's tail,
Hanging out the window.
Shoot, bang, fire!

(Surrey, c. 1895)

--

Keywords: calendar
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 3
Incidence: 15

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 365

Date: 1900s-2006

Title: Jam, jam

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Skipping

Rhyme:

Jam, jam apple tart,
Tell me the name of your sweetheart,
A, B, C..

(Timaru, 1960s; Christchurch, 1960s; Fairlie, 1960s; Palmerston, 1960s; Tolaga Bay, 1970s; Paraparaumu, 1986; Auckland, 1990s x 4; Timaru, 1990s; Christchurch, 1990s x 2; Hokianga, 1990s; Dunedin, 1990s; Hamilton, 1990s; Lower Hutt, 1990s; Wainuiomata, 2000; Napier, 2000 x 2; Rotorua, 2000 x 2; Hamilton, 2000 x 3; Wellington, 2000; Greytown, 2002; Porirua, 2003 x 3; Wairoa, 2005)

--

[X, X], come with me, (come to tea)
[X, X], marry me.
Yes / no / yes / no.

(Kaitaia, 1990s; Springston, 1996; Rotorua, 2000; Wellington, 2002)

--

Jam, jam apple crush,
Tell me the name of your true love.
A, B, C, D..

(Christchurch, 2006)

--

Apple crumble, apple tart,
Tell me the name of your sweet heart.
A, B, C, D..

(Dannevirke, 2000)

--

Jam, jam, apple squat,
Tell me the name of your sweetheart,
A, B, C..

(Blenheim, 2000)

--

Jam, jam, apple touch,
Tell me the name of your sweetheart,
A, B, C..

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Raspberry, gooseberry,
Apple jam tart,
Tell me the name of your sweetheart,
A, B, C..

(Kerikeri, 2002)

--

Peanut butter, marmalade jam,
Tell me the name of your boyfriend.
A, B, C..

(Palmerston, 1990s)

--

Ice cream, jelly, apple tart,
Tell me the name of your sweetheart.
A, B, C, D..
[X, X], come to tea,
[X, X], marry me,
Yes/no/yes/no..

(Northland, 2000; Lower Hutt, 2002; Wellington, 2002)

--

Raspberry, strawberry, apple jam,
Tell me the name of your young man.
A, B, C..

(Gisborne, 1950s)

--

Blackberry and apple tart,
Tell me the name of your sweetheart.
A, B, C..

(Gisborne, 2001)

--

Jelly, jelly apple tart,
Tell me the name of my sweetheart,
A, B, C..

(Wellington, 2002)

--

Apple jelly, jam tart,
Tell me the name of your sweetheart.
A, B, C..
Does he love me?
Yes/no, yes/no
Will he invite you out for tea?
Yes/no, yes/no.
Will you get married?
Yes/no, yes/no.
What colour dress will you wear?
What colour shoes will you wear?
Where will you get married? (bathroom, toilet, church, garden)
What will you be wearing? (dress, underwear, nothing)
What will your husband be wearing? (tuxedo, boxers, nothing)
How many babies will you have?
Where will you have your children? (hospital, rubbish dump, bed)
What sort of ring? (ruby, diamond, emerald, sapphire)
Where will you live? (city, country, town)
What will you live in? (castle, palace, pigsty, mansion)

(Napier, 1990s; Ashburton, 1990s; Masterton, 1990s)

--

Alternative first lines:
Raspberry, strawberry, blackberry jam.
Apple jelly my jam tart.

(See Sutton Smith, 1959:79)

--

Each, peach, apple tart,
Tell me the name of your sweetheart.
A, B, C..

(Taranaki, 1920s)

--

Background Info: Similar button counting rhymes noted by Opie, 1967:339.
In 1823 a recount given from 1770s of the rhyme which foreshadowed the destiny of a young school boy. "Sowja, sailor, tinker, tailor, apothecary, plow-boy, thief.." used when counting buttons on a new waistcoat. Girls similarly counted beads on a necklace to predict their future.
Closely related to "Rich man, poor man, beggar man, thief. Doctor, lawyer, Indian chief".

--

See Abrahams, 1969:168.
Also used when counting buttons, flower petals.

--

Sutton-Smith, 1959:41, describes Flower and Grass Games being played by girls, where a details of a husband and future life is determined by pulling off petals or ears of a rye grass (1870-1920).

--

See Turner, 1978:18 for extensive divination variations including:

What colour will your house be?
What number will your house be?
How many children will you have?
How many beds will you make?
How many bottles will you use?
How many grandchildren will you have?
How old will you be when you die?

(Victoria, 1900-1973)

--

Bauer, 2002, Sect. 68:6, noted the following variations:

Peanut butter, Marmite, jam,
Tell me the name of your sweet man.

(Kaitaia, c. 2002)

Strawberry, banana, apple pie,
Tell me the name of your sweetie pie.

(Hamilton, c. 2002)

Ice cream soda, caramel punch,
Tell me the name of your honey-bunch.

(Hastings, c. 2002)

--

Detailed discussion on this divination game in Opie, 1997:245-250, including numerous variants.

--

Butler, 1989:43 records a skipping rhyme version from US beginning:

I love my Papa, that I do
And momma says she loves him too.
But Papa says he fears someday
With some bad man I'll run away.
Whom will I marry?
Rich man, poor man, beggarman, thief,
Doctor, lawyer, merchant, chief..

Also a similar rhyme from Spain (1967):

I would like to know my vocation:
Single, married, widowed.
I would like to know whom I'll marry:
Narro, Pepe, Luis, Juan, Antonio:
I would like to know the day I'll marry:
Monday, Tuesday..Sunday.
I would like to know the month I'll marry:
January..December.

Similar versions from Peru, Puerto Rica and Austria.

--

Keywords: divination, life passages,
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 8
Incidence: 52

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 366
Date: 1999
Title: A,B,C,D..Z
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

A,B,C

Do you want a cup of tea?
Do you want to marry me?
Yes, no, yes, no..

(Wellington, 1999)

--

Keywords: divination, marriage
Location: Wellington
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 369
Date: 2005
Title: Mary had a little lamb
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Mary had a little lamb (x 3)
Its fleece was white as snow.
Mary had a little clock,
That went tic, tack toe.
Mary had a little cat,
That kissed everyone all day long.
Mary had a little nose,
That shot out boogies everywhere.
Mary had a little balloon
That blew up in her face.

(Ashburton, 2005)

--

Location: Ashburton
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 980
Date: 2002
Title: Hey, old lady
Gender: Male
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Hey, old lady,
Don't kick that dog,
It might be a member,
Of the Mongrel Mob.
ARF! ARF!

(Kawerau, 2002)

--

Background Info: Said by friend of the Mongrel Mob motorcycle gang. (Personal informant)

--

Keywords: NZ culture, gangs
Location: Kawerau
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 370
Date: 1970s-2006
Title: When Sally was a baby
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

When Sally was a baby she used to act like this, "Waa,waa,"
When Sally was a toddler, she went, "Don't want this, don't want this."
When Sally was a schoolgirl, she went "Miss, Miss I need to go piss."
When Sally was a teenager, she went, "Ohh ah I lost my bra in my boyfriend's car,"
When Sally was a mother, she went, "Rock, rock around the clock."
When Sally was a grandmother, she went, "Knit, knit I lost my stitch."
When Sally was a skeleton, she went, "Crack, crack I broke my back."
When Sally was a ghost, she went, "Boo, boo."
When Sally was a star, she went, "Twinkle, twinkle little star."

Cumulative version:

Alice was a baby
Baby - waah, waah,
Toddler - waah,wahh, I want my sucker,
Schoolgirl - waah, waah, I want my sucker, I know the answer,
Teenager - waah... criss cross lollipops.
Mother - waah, waah.. 1, 2, 3, 4 chuck the baby out the door.
Grandma - wahh waah.. oh my sore back.
In the grave - waah, waah, (closed mouth)

(Auckland, 2002)

--

My cousin Susie,
Baby - Wahh, wah, wah.
School girl - Miss, Miss I need a piss.
Teenager - Ohh, ahh, I lost my bra, left it in my boyfriend's car,
Grandma - Knit, knit, you little twit.
Zombie - Weeee, waaaah.
(Hamilton, 2004)
When Susie was a baby, wah, wah.
Toddler - one, two, one, two.
School girl - Miss, Miss I can't do this.
Teenager - Ohh ahh, I lost my bra, I left my knickers in my boyfriend's car
Adult - Rock, rock, around the clock.
Grandma - Knit, knit, you're a twit.
Dead - (assume a corpse-like pose.)
Skeleton - Rattle, rattle,
Ghost - Wooo, wooo.
Angel - Flap, flap.
Heaven - Relax to the max.

(Raumati South, 2000)

--

When Sally was a baby, she went "Waa, waaa."
When Sally was a preschooler, she went, "Miss, Miss, I need to go piss."
When Sally was a school girl, she went, "Miss me, miss me, now you've got to kiss me!"
When Sally was a mother, she went, "1,2,3,4, throw the baby out the door, 5,6,7,8 let's all celebrate."
When Sally was a grandmother, she went, "Knit, knit, knit my tit."
When Sally was a grandmother, she went, "Knit, knit you little twit."
When Sally was a zombie, she went, "Weeee, waaaah!"
When Sally was a devil, she just stayed still.

(Christchurch, 1970s; Christchurch, 1990s; Wellington, 1990s; Whakatane, 1990s; Timaru, 1990s)

--

When Miss Mary was a baby, she used to go like this,
"Wah, wah, wah."
When Miss Mary was a toddler, she used to go like this,
"Wah, wah, I want a sucker."
When Miss Mary was a school girl, she used to go like this,
"I know the answer."
When Miss Mary was a teenager, she used to go like this,
"Oh ah I lost my bra, I don't know where my undies are,

Here they are, here they are, in my boyfriend's racing car."
When Miss Mary was an adult, she used to go like this,
"...1, 2, 3, 4, chuck the baby out the door."
When Miss Mary was a granny, she used to go like this,
"Knit, knit, my knitting sticks."
When Miss Mary was a ghost, she used to go like this,
"Booo!"

(Arrowtown, 2006)

--

My name is Susie. I am a baby, and this is howa howa she reads,
Wa,wa,wa, wa,.
My name is Susie. I am a school girl. Miss, miss I can't do this.
I am a teenager. Ohh ahh I lost my bra.Lost it in my boyfriend's car.
I am a mother. Rock, rock around the clock.
I am a grandmother. Speak up dear. I can't hear.
I am dead. Snore, snore.
I am a pile of bones. Clatter, clatter, pile of dust.
I am a ghost. Oooo.

(Christchurch, 1990)

--

When Sally was a baby
Baby - Waa, waa.
Pre schooler - Miss, Miss, I got to go piss.
School girl - Miss me, miss me, now you've got to kiss me.
Teenager - Oh ah I lost my bra, I don't know where my knickers are. They might be pink, they might be white, they might be filled with dynamite.
Mother-1,2,3,4, throw the baby out the door. 5,6,7,8, let's all celebrate.
Grandmother - Knit, knit, my tit.

(Kerikeri, 1990s)

--

Cross down O' Mary,
Down, down, O' Mary,
She is a baby this is the way she reacts, waa, waa
Cross down O' Mary.
She is a toddler, this the way she reacts..
She is a grandma, this is the way she reacts, "Speak up dearie."
She is a skeleton, this is the way she reacts, rattle, rattle.
She is a ghost, this is the way she reacts, "Boo, boo."

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Background Info: Comment on this rhyme in Factor, 1988:175, related to a 'freedom from customary propriety'. Also known as Miss Suzy, Alice rhyme. Other names used include; Molly, Twiggy, Delphine, Lucy and Fanny.

--

Thought to have developed from an early singing game, "When I was a lady," Opie, 1988:458-461.:

When I was a lady, a lady, a lady,
When I was a lady, a lady was I.
'Twas this way and that way, and this way and that way,
When I was a lady a lady was I.

--

Arleo, 2001:115-134 for details of the international nature of this game. Arleo found versions of this game in Australia, Britain, Cyprus, Denmark, France, Ireland, Israel, South Africa, Spain and USA, in at least five different languages, English, Danish, Greek, French and Spanish. The rhyme describes the stages of life for its female character as she goes through the stages of life from infancy to death and beyond.

--

Susie appears to miss out a little on the career path, as in the New Zealand version there is no mention of a career, and in the many Australian versions the only careers mentioned are typist, teacher, and stripper. (Australian Folklore Collection, Museum Victoria)

--

Keywords: rites of passage, life passages, roles, international
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 11

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 372
Date: 2003
Title: Apple pie, cherry tart
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Apple pie, cherry tart,
Tell me the name of your sweetheart.

A B C..
[X, X] come to tea, (on my knee)
[X X] marry me. (kiss me)
Yes, no, yes, no.. (till trips)

(Hokitika, 2003)

--

Keywords: love, divination
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 5
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 375
Date: 1914-1950s
Title: Austria was Hungary
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Word play
Rhyme:

Austria was Hungary,
So it ate Turkey,
Slipped on Greece,
And broke China.

(NZ, 1914)

--

Hungary was hungry,
Ate a piece of Turkey,
Off the plate of China,
Dipped in Greece.
Greece was slippery,
Slipped into Italy,
Kicked little Sicily,
Right into the middle
Of the Mediterranean Sea.

(Auckland, 1950s)

--

Italy and Sicily couldn't agree,
So Italy kicked Sicily into the sea.

(Auckland, 1914 -18)

--

Background Info: Alternative version (Turner,1978:75):

Long legged Italy
Kicked poor Sicily
Right in the middle
Of the Mediterranean Sea;
Austria was Hungary
Took a bit of Turkey
Dipped it in Greece
Fried it in Japan
And ate it off China.

(Melbourne, 1963)

--

Keywords: WW2, political, word play

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 2

Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 377

Date: 1900s-2004

Title: Ask your mother

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Bawdy

Rhyme:

Ask your mother for sixpence,
To see the big giraffe,
With pimples on his whiskers,
And pimples on his arse,
Ask me no questions,
Tell me no lies,
Once I saw a German boy (Chinaman) doing up his..
Flies are a nuisance,
Mosquitoes are worse,
This is the end of my silly little verse.

(Whakatane, 1940s; Christchurch, 1950s)

--

Ask your mother for sixpence,
To see your Uncle Jim,

Sitting in the pig trough, (dunny can)
Learning how to swim.
First he does the breast stroke,
Then he does the crawl,
Over goes the pig trough,
Uncle Jim and all.

(Wellington, 1930s)

--

Ask your mother for sixpence,
To see the big (jolly) giraffe,
With wrinkles on its back legs,
And wrinkles on his arrsssk..
Your mother for ..

(Swanson, 1950s; Barrytown, 2004)

--

Ask your mother for sixpence,
To see the tall giraffe,
With d (p)imples on his whiskers,
And pimples on his a..
Ask..

(Christchurch, 1940s; Coromandel, 1940s; Kerikeri, 1950s; Rotorua, 1950s)

--

Ask your mother for sixpence ,
To see the new giraffe,
With whiskers on its pimples,
And pimples on its
Ask..

(Te Aroha, 1900s)

--

Ask your mother for sixpence,
To see the new giraffe,
With pimples on its hind legs,
And pimples on his ..
Ask..

(Tauranga, 1950s)

--

Ask your mother for sixpence,
To see the new giraffe,
With whiskers on his forehead, (chin)
And whiskers on his a..
Ask..

(Hastings, 1960s; Auckland, 1990s)

--

Ask your mother for sixpence,
To see the big giraffe,
He's got pimples on his nostrils,
And pimples on his..
Ask your mother for sixpence.

(Christchurch, 1950s)

--

Background Info: Lowenstein, 1974:12 recorded:

Ask your mother for sixpence
To see the tall giraffe,
With pimples on his elbows
And pimples on his..
Ask your mother for sixpence.

(Melbourne, 1967)

Ask your mother for sixpence
To see the tall giraffe,
He sticks his head between his legs
And whistles up his..
Ask your mother for sixpence.

(Newcastle, 1950s)

--

Lowenstein, 1974:34 records these variations:
(Tune-Soldier's Chorus, Faust)

Oh Jemimah, look at your Uncle Jim,
Diving in the piss pot, teaching himself to swim,
First he's doing the breast stroke,
Now he's doing the side,
Now he's under water,
Swimming against the tide.

(West Victoria, 1930s)

Oh Jemimah, look at your Uncle Jim,
Out on a hike now don't you envy him.
The first day he did twenty miles,
The second only four,
The third day he met a furniture van,
We won't say any more.

Oh Jemimah, look at your Uncle Jim,
Going on a diet, trying to get quite slim,
First he lived on dry toast,
Next he lived on bread and ale,
Now he's eating monkey nuts and growing a curly tail.

--

Keywords: circular rhyme
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 14

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 378
Date: 1953
Title: A wish, a wish
Gender: Female
Classification: Jinx Fun
Rhyme:

A wish, a wish a wish come true,
A wish, a wish the same to you.
Pins, needles,
(Name a poet, name a poet and make a silent wish.)

(Auckland, 1953)

--

Background Info: Chanted when two people say the same thing at the same time. One condition is they must not choose Shakespeare as the poet. (Personal informant)

--

Keywords: wish, jinx
Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 981
Date: 2002
Title: He took me by the hand
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

He took me by the hand,
Down to the old rose tree,
He kept the meaning to himself,
But gave the rose to me.

(Christchurch, 2002)

--

Keywords: love, courtship
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 3
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 398
Date: 1940s-2006
Title: Boy girl
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Boy, girl, garden gate.
Stayed out late, rather late.
Father comes, big boots,
Girl screams, boy scoots.

(Inglewood, 1940s)

--

One night - out late,
Boy, girl - garden gate.
Father comes - big boots,
Boy screams - girl scoots.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Boy, girl, garden gate,
Stood talking, rather late.
Father comes, big boots,
Girl screams, boy scoots.

(Hawarden, 1970s)

--

Boy, girl, by the gate,
Standing kissing really late.
Dad comes, big boots.
Girl runs, boy shoots.(through)

(Te Aroha, 2000)

--

Keywords: courtship
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 4

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 399
Date: 1940s
Title: Be I Hampshire
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Be I Hampshire, be I darned I,
Be I come from Fareham?
My ol' gal's got ten, like I
And she knows how ti rare 'em.

(NZ ex Hampshire, England, 1940s)

--

Keywords: archaic language
Location: NZ (ex UK)
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 400

Date: 2002
Title: A bitch
Gender: Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

A bitch is a female dog,
A dog barks,
Bark is part of a tree,
Trees are part of nature,
Nature is beautiful and so is a dog.

(Hamilton, 2002)

--

A bitch is a dog,
A dog barks,
Bark is on a tree.
Trees are nature,
Nature is beautiful,
So thank you for the compliment!

(Masterton, 2000)

--

Keywords: logical nonsense, word play
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 401
Date: 2001
Title: Apple tree
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Game
Rhyme:

Apple tree, apple tree,
Will your apple fall on me?
I won't cry, I won't shout,
If your apple knocks me out.

(Auckland, 2001)

--

Background Info: Elimination game where an object is passed around circle and child left holding the object is out when chant ends. (Personal informant)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 402
Date: 1995-2006
Title: Ally, ally
Gender: Female
Classification: Hopping
Rhyme:

Ally, ally, chickali, chickali.
Bum, bum, poodle,
Willy willy whiskas,
Chinese chopsticks, Indian chief.

(Auckland, 1995)

--

My name is
Ali ali double I, double i,
Ooey goey
Cluck, cluck.cluck.
My mum's got the measles,
Chinese cheezles,
That's what it's all about.

(Arrowtown, 2006; Ashburton, 2006)

--

My name is Ali, Ali,
Chickali, chickali.
Pom pom poodle,
Polly Wolly whiskers,
Chinese chopsticks,
Chicken corned beef.
Indian chief.

(Arrowtown, 2006)

--

Background Info: Nonsense syllables are related to 'Chinese counting'. See Opie, 1984:39-41.

From UK, 1950s:

Addi, addi, chickari, chickari,
Oonie, ponie, om, pom, alarie,
Ala wala whiskey,
Chinese chunk.

--

Keywords: nonsense
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 10
Incidence: 4

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 403
Date: 1995
Title: Apples are red
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Apples are red,
Violets are blue.
Sugar is sweet,
That's why I love you.

(Tauranga, 1995)

--

Keywords: love
Location: Tauranga
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 404
Date: 2000
Title: Ashes to ashes
Gender: Male
Classification: Parody,
Rhyme:

Ashes to ashes,

Dust to dust.
If it wasn't for women,
Our thing would rust.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Ashes to ashes,
Dust to dust.
If it wasn't for girls,
Our balls would rust.

(New Plymouth, 2000)

--

Keywords: bawdy
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 405
Date: 2002
Title: Allilli
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Allilli allilli,
Chookalie, chookalie,
Pop, pop, whirly,
Whirky, whirly, whiskers,
Chinese checkers,
Woo-Pow!

(Lumsden, 2002)

--

Keywords: nonsense
Location: Lumsden
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 407

Date: 1990s
Title: Away on a hill top
Gender: Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Away on a hilltop
Green grows the grass,
I saw a billy goat,
Sliding on his..
Ask no questions,
Tell no lies,
I saw a Chinaman,
Doing up his..
Flies are a nuisance,
Bugs are worse,
And that is the end of my silly verse.

(Thames, 1990s)

--

Alt. beginning: Henry was a sheepdog, lying in the grass. (Christchurch, 1990)

--

Keywords: predictive, bawdy
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 411
Date: 2001
Title: A walla walla
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

A walla walla boomba,
Bits of cucumber.
Meat balls and spaghetti,
The big banana.

(Seddon, 2001)

--

Keywords: Nonsense

Location: Seddon
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 412
Date: 2000-2002
Title: The Addams family
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

The Addams family started
When Uncle Festa farted.
He farted through the keyhole
And paralysed the cat.
The cat fell in the hangi (dunny),
It wasn't very funny,
It cost a lot of money
To get the bastard (bugger, damn thing) out.

(Tauranga, 2002; Auckland, 2002)

--

Background Info: A parody of the theme song of the television series "The Addams Family" (1990s).

--

Turner, 1978:151 records these versions:

The Addams family started
When Uncle Festa farted,
They thought it very funny
When he blew up the dunny
And landed in the sewer,
A drain of raw manure.
The Addams family
[Blurt, blurt].

(Melbourne, 1970s)

The Addams family started
When Uncle Festa farted,
The children were disgusted,
They stuck their dicks in custard,
The Addams family.
Drop dead.

(Melbourne, 1973)

--

Keywords: bawdy, scatological, Maori culture

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 4

Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 413

Date: 1994

Title: A crocodile

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Counting-out

Rhyme:

A crocodile morning,

Quack, quack, quack.

A seno, seno, seno, seno eh!.

1,2,3.

(Auckland, 1994)

--

Keywords: Pacific culture, nonsense

Location: Auckland

Group size: 5

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 415

Date: 1990s-2003

Title: Banana Split

Gender: Female

Classification: Elastics

Rhyme:

Banana split, banana split,

Banana, banana, banana,

Banana split.

(Auckland, 1990s; Tauranga, 1990s; Auckland, 2000; Porirua, 2003)

--

Keywords: food
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 3
Incidence: 4

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 423
Date: 2001
Title: Bob the builder
Gender: Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Bob the builder, can he sniff them?
Bob the builder, yes he can.
Smelling all the clothes.
He can't resist smelling the sheets,
To get the job done.
Bob the builder, can he sniff them?
Bob the builder, yes he can.
He doesn't see the Target cameras.

(Rotorua, 2001)

--

Background Info: In reference to the television programme on consumer affairs
("Target")

--

Keywords: bawdy, media, topical
Location: Rotorua
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 424
Date: 1950s-2002
Title: Beg your pardon
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Beg your pardon, Mrs Arden,
There's a chicken in your garden.

(Auckland, 2001, Nelson, 2002)

--

Beg your pardon, Mrs Arden,
There's a crocodile in your garden.

(NZ, 2000)

--

Beg your pardon, Mrs Harden,
There's a rooster in your garden.

(Mt Maunganui, 1950)

--

Beg your pardon, Mrs Varden,
There's a pig digging up your garden.

(Te Awamutu, 1970s)

--

I beg your pardon, Mrs Harding,
But your cat is in my garden.

(NZ ex UK, 1950s)

--

Background Info: Referred to by Sutton-Smith, 1959:98 (1950s):

Beg your pardon, Mrs Arden,
There's a nigger in your garden.

Beg your pardon, grouchy Grace,
Hope the cat will spit in your face

--

Recorded as a form of mock apology in Opie, 1967: 50:

Beg your pardon, grant your grace,
I hope the cows will spit in your face.

--

Features in adult novel by Shena Mackay, "The Orchard Road", about a 1950s Kent childhood, as an old Geordie rhyme:

Pardon Mrs Arden,
Me chicken's in your garden.
If it wasn't for his liver,
I'd drown him in the river.
(p 106)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 6

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 428
Date: 1998-2000
Title: Bang, bang
Gender: Male
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Bang, bang, you're dead,
Fifty bullets in your head,
One more up your bum,
That makes fifty one,
You're dumb.

(Rangiora, 2000)

--

Bang, bang, you're dead,
Three bullets in your head,
One black, one blue,
One made of boc, boc, poo.

(Hamilton, 2000)

--

Bang, bang, you're dead,
I think there are bullets in your head.
(A retort after loss of an ownership battle)

(Christchurch, 1998)

--

Keywords: violence, bawdy, scatological, retort

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 430
Date: 1995
Title: Bullet shells
Gender: Male
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Bullet shells, bullet shells,
Santa Claus is dead,
Teddy bear, teddy bear,
Shot him in the head.
Barbie doll, Barbie doll,
Tried to save his life.
G I Joe, G I Joe,
Stabbed him with a knife.

(New Plymouth, 1995)

--

Keywords: violence, commercial product, media
Location: New Plymouth
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 431
Date: 2001
Title: I'm a Barbie girl
Gender: Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

I'm a Barbie girl, in a Barbie world.
Life's fantastic, I'm made out of plastic.
I've got rubber hair, purple underwear.
I take a shower, every half hour.
Come on Barbie,
Let's go party,
No way, no way.

(New Plymouth, 2001)

--

Background Info: Rowan,2005, records a similar rhyme beginning "I'm a cheatin' girl, in a bowling world.. "(E.London, 2005)

--

Rhymes relating to Barbie often incorporate exaggerated mimed actions. Discussion of this aspect and text of rhymes in Grugeon, 2001:110.

We are the Barbie girls,
We wear our hair in curls,
We wear our dungarees
To hide our dirty knees.
We wear our father's shirt,
We wear our brother's tie,
And when we want a guy,
We simply wink the eye.

(UK, 1983)

Exaggerated actions and much mirth accompanied this following version:

We are the teenage girls,
We wear our hair in curls.
We wear our dungarees,
Up to our sexy knees.
I met a boy last night,
He paid me 50p to go behind a tree,
To have it off with me.
My mother was surprised to see my belly rise.
My daddy jumped for joy, it was a baby boy.
My mum had fifty tits. (fits)

(UK, 1997)

--

Keywords: commercial product, media culture, modern culture

Location: New Plymouth

Group size: 6

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 982

Date: 2000-2002

Title: Hey Mickey

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Partisan

Rhyme:

Hey, Mickey,
You're so fine,
You blow my mind,
Hey Mickey, hey, hey, Mickey.

(Napier, 2000; Gisborne, 2002)

--

Background Info: Chanted to encourage a school sports team.

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 10
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 432
Date: 2002
Title: Brick wall
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Brick wall (hands flat)
Waterfall (wriggle fingers)
You think you know it all (point finger)
But you don't (shake head and hands)
But I do (point to self)
So "phs, phs" (sweeping motion with back of hands).

(NZ ex USA, 2002)

--

Background Info: From movie "Dickie Roberts: Former Childhood Star":

Brick wall waterfall,
Dickie thinks he's got it all,
But he don't and I do.
So boom with that attitude
Peace, punch, Captain Crunch,
I've got something you can't touch,
Bang, bang, choo choo train,
Wind me up, I do my thing,
No Reeses Pieces, Seven-Up

You mess with me, I'll mess with you.

--

From www.warrenfahey.com (accessed 15 January, 2007) Australian Folklore website:

Brick wall waterfall,
Dickie thinks he's got it all,
But he don't and I do.
So boom with that attitude.
Peace, punch. Captain Crunch,
I've got something you can touch,
So bang, bang, choo choo train,
You wind me up and I do my thing.
And I know karate and I know kung foo,
You mess with me and I'll mess with you.
So recess, pieces, seven up,
You mess with me and I'll mess you up!

(Sydney, Australia, 2005)

--

Keywords: action, movies, modern culture,
Location: NZ (ex USA)
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 433
Date: 2002
Title: Build a bridge
Gender: Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Build a bridge and get over it.

(Nelson, 2002)

--

Background Info: A comment used to tell a person to not take the issue at hand too seriously, or to 'get over it'.

--

Keywords: retort
Location: Nelson

Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 434
Date: 1965
Title: Borough bumpkin
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Partisian
Rhyme:

Borough, Borough bumpkin,
Sitting on a pumpkin,
The pumpkin burst.
And Tinwald came first.

(Ashburton, 1965 x 2)

--

Keywords: school chant, partisan
Location: Ashburton
Group size: 8
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 435
Date: 1928-2006
Title: A boy stood on the burning deck
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

The boy stood on the burning deck,
Picking his nose like mad.
He rolled it up in little balls,
And threw them at his dad.

(Oxford, 1928; Christchurch, 1930s; Tauranga, 1940s; Otahuhu, 1950s; Auckland, 1960s; Hawarden, 1980s; Rotorua, 2002; Ashburton, 2006)

--

A boy stood on the burning deck,
His pocket full of crackers,
One fell down his trousers,
And blew off both his knackers!

(Rotorua, 2002)

--

The boy stood on the burning deck,
His knickers were made of cotton.
The flames went up his hairy legs,
And burnt his great big bottom.

(Christchurch, 2003)

--

The boy stood on the burning deck,
Confused with all his blisters,
But what he failed to understand,
They should have been his sister's.

(Auckland, 1930s)

--

The boy stood on the burning deck,
His feet were all in blisters.
His underpants fell round his knees,
And now he wears his sister's.

(Porirua, 1950s)

--

The boy stood on the burning deck,
His bum was full of blisters,
The flames came up and burned his pants,
And now he wears his sister's.

(Blenheim, 1990s)

--

The boy stood on the burning deck,
Playing a game of cricket.
The ball went up his trouser leg,
And hit the middle wicket.

(Dunedin, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Original version known as Casabianca (The boy stood on the burning

deck - Battle of the Nile - Lord Nelson) beginning:

The boy stood on the burning deck,
Whence all but he had fled;
The flame that lit the battle's wreck
Shone round him o'er the dead.

(Felicia Hemans, 1793-1835)

--

Factor, 1988:116 records from an autograph album in 1896:

The boy stood on the burning deck,
Picking his nose like mad.
Rolling it up in little balls,
And throwing it at his dad.

--

Variations in Opie, 1967:93:

The boy stood on the burning deck,
His legs all covered with blisters.
His father was in the public house,
With beer all down his whiskers.

(Opie, 1959)

--

Opie, 2000:55 records this parody:

The boy stood in the supper-room
Whence all but he had fled;
He'd eaten seven pots of jam
And he was gorged with bread.
"Oh, one more crust before I bust!"
He cried in accents wild;
He licked the plates, he sucked the spoons -
He was a vulgar child.
There came a hideous thunder-clap
The boy, oh, where was he?
Ask of the maid who mopped him up,
The bread-crumbs and the tea.

--

Lowenstein, 1974:13 records:

The boy stood on the burning deck
His back against the mast
He knew if Mr [X] passed
He'd ram it up his arse.
But Mr [X] he was cunning,
He threw the boy a plum
And when he bent to pick it up
He rammed it up his bum.
But this boy he was cunning
He'd learnt a trick at school
He turned a double somersault
And broke off his tool.
Now Mr [X] has a new one
Made of bright and shining brass
God help any poor bastard
Who gets that up his arse!

(Newcastle, 1950s)

--

Botkin, 1944: 784, records this version from USA:

The boy stood on the burning deck,
Eating peanuts by the peck.
A girl stood by all dressed in blue,
And said, "I'll guess I'll have some too."

--

Further variations in Turner, 1978:130 include

The boy stood on the burning deck,
Playing a game of cricket;
The ball went up his left leg
And hit the middle wicket.

(Melbourne, c. 1950)

--

Withers, 1948:40 records

The boy stood on the burning deck,
Peeling potatoes by the peck.
When all but he had fled,
He looked around and said,
"Say, father, say,
Can I throw the peels away?"

--

Keywords: bawdy, scatological, topical
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 14

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 436
Date: 1970s-2005
Title: 1,1,2,2, Boogie Ave
Gender: Female
Classification: Elastics
Rhyme:

1,1,2,2, Boogie, Boogie Avenue.

(Wairoa, 1970s; Auckland, 1980s; Auckland, 2000; Lower Hutt, 2005)

--

1,1,2,2, Boogie, Boogie in, in,
1,1,2,2, Boogie, Boogie, out, out.

(Tauranga, 2000)

--

Background Info: Each verse is repeated as the child completes the jumping sequence at increasingly higher elastic heights. These different levels are referred to as ankles, kneesies, underbums, hipsies, underarms, necksies. Also jumpsies, dancies or jump dancies. (Personal informant)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 437
Date: 1984
Title: One day when I went walking
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

One day when I went walking by,

I saw a birdie in the sky,
He dropped a message in my eye,
Thank heavens [X] does not fly!

(Auckland, 1984)

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Auckland
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 440
Date: 1960s- 2002
Title: Baa baa black sheep
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Baa baa white sheep, do you go to school?
No sir, no sir, don't be a fool.
I don't like the teacher,
I don't like the class,
All I want to do is eat the green, green grass.

(NZ ex UK, 2000; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Baa baa black sheep,
Have you any milk?
No, sir, no, sir,
I am not a cow.

(Kumeu, 2003)

--

Baa baa white sheep,
Have you any cotton?
Yes sir, yes sir,
It's all rotten.
One for the jumpers,
One for the smocks,
One for the little girls,
With holes in her socks.

(Taupo, 2003)

--

Baa baa black sheep, have you any cotton?
No sir, no sir, it's all gone rotten.

(NZ, 1960s)

--

Baa baa black sheep, have you any jelly?
No sir, no sir, it's all gone smelly.
Thank you, said the master,
Thank you, said the dame,
Thank you, said the little girl,
Who lives down the drain.

(NZ ex UK, 1970s)

--

Baa baa black what are you called?
Black sheep, white sheep, any one at all.

(NZ, 2000)

--

Baa baa black sheep, have you any wool?
Yes sir, yes sir, three bags full.
One for the jumpers, one for the socks,
One for the little boy, with holes in his socks.

(Christchurch, 1960s)

--

Baa baa white sheep,
Have you any wool?
Yes, sir, yes, sir,
Three bags full.
One for the jerseys,
One for the frocks,
One for the big boy,
With holes in his socks.

(Kumeu, 1970s)

--

Baa baa white sheep,
Have you any wool?
Yes, sir, yes, sir,
Three bags full.
One for the jerseys,
One for the frocks,
One for the little boy with holes in his socks.

(NZ, 2000)

--

Baa baa black sheep,
Have you any wool?
Yes, sir, yes, sir,
Three bags full.
One for the master,
One for the dame,
One for the city boy,
Who lives down the drain.

(Hamilton, 2000)

--

Background Info: Parody from playground recalled as skipping and ball games,
contributed by personal informant:

Baa baa black boy,
Have you any coal?
Yes sir, yes sir,
Three sacks full:
One for the gaffer,
One for the squire,
And one for the owner
Who's going to hell fire.

(UK, 1950s)

--

Keywords: authority, school
Location: Various NZ, UK,
Group size: 2
Incidence: 11

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 442

Date: 1938-1990s
Title: Make new friends,
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Make new friends,
But keep the old.
One is silver,
The other gold.

(Christchurch, 1938)

--

Make new friends,
But keep the old.
New friends are silver,
Old friends are gold.

(Auckland, 1990s)

--

Keywords: friendship
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 443
Date: 1914-1940s
Title: As through life
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

As through life you journey,
Two things stand like stone.
Kindness in another's trouble,
Courage in your own.

(NZ, 1914)

--

Life is full of toil and trouble.
Two things stand like stone.
Kindness in another's trouble,

Courage in your own.

(NZ, 1938)

--

Life's not always (is mostly) froth and bubble,
Two things stand alone, (like stone)
Kindness in another's trouble,
Courage in your own.

(NZ, 1940s)

--

Background Info: Based on poem by Australian poet Adam Lindsay Gordon.

--

Keywords: friendship, courage, advice
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 444
Date: 1938
Title: Think of me
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Think of me when you are lonely,
Keep for me one little spot.
In the depths of your affection,
Plant me one forget-me-not.

(Christchurch, 1938)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 445
Date: 1938

Title: I wish
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

I wish I were an elephant,
Or p'raps a tall giraffe.
Then I wouldn't have to sign,
This bloomin' autograph.

(Christchurch, 1938)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 447
Date: 1938
Title: Remembrance
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Remembrance is the sweetest flower,
Of all this world's perfuming.
Memory guards it, sun or shower.
Friendship keeps it blooming.

(Christchurch, 1938)

--

Keywords: memories, friendship
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 448
Date: 1938
Title: May the pathway
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

May the pathway of your future,
Be a sunny one for you.
And those who travel by your side,
Be loving, kind and true.

(Christchurch, 1938)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 450
Date: 2000
Title: Bacon, pork, pig,
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Bacon, pork, pig,
I wish I could do the jig.
Bacon, pork, ham,
What a lucky man I am.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 8
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 451
Date: 1990s-2006
Title: Bubbles
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Bubbles say hutchie-dutchie,
Knee, knee flick you up my darling,
Bubbles say hutchie-dutchie,
Bubbles say hutchie-dutchie,
Boom shaggy lagga,
Boom shaggy lagga,

Boom shaggy lagga,
Boom, boom, bang.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Bubbles go hachi-dachi,
Knee, knee, click, click.
You are my darling
Sitting in a hachi-dachi.
Bubbles go hachi-dachi.
Boom shaka laka laka,
Boom shaka laka laka,
Boom shaka laka laka,
Shake it, shake it BOOM
FREEZE (Turn around BANG)
10,9,8,7,6,5,4,3,2,1, blast off! (pretend to punch partner in stomach)

(Auckland, 1994; Auckland, 2001)

--

Bubbles the hutchy dutchy,
Knee, knee,
You are my darling,
Sitting in a hutchy dutchy,
Bubbles the hutchy dutchy,
Freeze!

(Auckland, 2002)

--

Bubbles say hutchy touchy,
You are, you are,
Shake it up, shake it up,
Boom!

(Auckland, 2002)

--

Bubble, say hutchie, dutchie,
Knee, click, you are my darling.
Sitting in a hutchie dutchie, bubble,
A hutchie dutchie bubble.
Bubble, bubble, turn around bang.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Bubbles a huchie duchie,
Knee, knee, knee,
You ain't my darling,
Sitting in a huchie, duchie,
Bubble, bubble,
Boom shack a lack a lacka,
Boom shack a lack a lacka,
Bom.

(Northland, 1990s)

--

Bubbles say,
Itchy witchy,
Nee, nee,
You are my darling,
Sitting on an itchy, witchy bubble,
Say itchy witchy bubbles,
Say itchy witchy boom.

(Wellington, 1990s)

--

Bubbles (clap hands together)
A hutchy dutchy, (clap other person's hands)
Knee, knee, (slap your knees)
Blink (try not to blink afterwards)

(Raumati South, 2000)

--

Background Info: Rhyme gathers speed as it progresses, often ending with a punch or freeze - first to move is out. (Personal observation)

--

Bauer, 2002, Sect. 70:2, collected versions from Kaitaia and Hawkes Bay.

--

Keywords: nonsense,
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 20
Incidence: 9

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 452
Date: 2000
Title: Blueberry
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Blueberry, strawberry,
Chocolate berry pie,
Who's gonna be your lucky guy?
A,B,C..

(NZ ex Canada, 2000)

--

Keywords: divination
Location: NZ ex Canada
Group size: 3
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 453
Date: 1960s-2002
Title: Build a bonfire
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Build a bonfire, build a bonfire,
Put the teachers on the top.
Put the prefects in the middle,
And burn the bleeding lot.

(Auckland, 1960s; NZ, 1960s; New Plymouth, 1970s)

--

Build a bonfire,
Build a bonfire,
Put the teacher on the top,
Put the headmaster in the middle,
And burn the bloody lot.

(Rotorua, 2002)

--

Background Info: Sung to the tune of "Clementine", an American western folk ballad.
(1884)

--

Keywords: authority, teachers
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 7
Incidence: 4

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 454
Date: 2000
Title: Bart versus Lisa
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Bart versus Lisa, who will win?
Their father's fat,
And their mother's thin.
Their grandpa smells of whiskey and gin.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Keywords: television, media culture, Simpsons, alcohol
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 3
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 455
Date: 2001
Title: Batman
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Batman, Batman,
I can do karate,
Batman, Batman,
Oops, I'm sorry. (punch on the arm)

(Auckland, 2001)

--

Keywords: media culture, television
Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 456
Date: 2000
Title: Big Ben
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Big Ben strikes ten,
1,2,3,4,5,..10

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 11
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 457
Date: 2000-2006
Title: Bob Marley
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Bob Marley, cha cha cha.
On his Harley,clap, clap, clap.
Up and down, clap, clap, clap.
Through the town, clap, clap, clap.
Bob Marley,
On his Harley,
Up and down,
Through the town.
FREEZE.

(Blenheim, 2000; Mangakino, 2001)

--

Bob Marley drives a Harley,
Round town,
He's a clown.
(Repeat, increasing speed, then freeze)

(Arrowtown, 2006)

--

Keywords: media culture, commercial product
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 458
Date: 1990s-2003
Title: Black foot
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Counting-out
Rhyme:

Black foot, black foot,
Change your black foot.

(Palmerston North, 1990s; Porirua, 2003)

--

Black shoe, black shoe, black shoe, dot.
Black shoe, black shoe, black shoe, dot.
(Dot refers to 'losing a life' - each person has 2 lives.)

(Napier, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Children stand in a circle with their feet in the middle. The leader counts a round, touching feet while chanting the rhyme. When both feet have been touched, then that player is eliminated.
Bauer, 2002, Sect. 17:14 reported this rhyme as only being found in the North Island.

--

Keywords: counting-out
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 6

Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 459

Date: 1950s

Title: Black balls

Gender: Male

Classification: Taunt

Rhyme:

Black balls are cheap today,
Cheaper than yesterday.

(Whangarei, 1950s)

--

Background Info: Not connected to race in this instance, rather recalled as an invitation to fight. (Personal informant)

--

Location: Whangarei

Group size: 6

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 460

Date: 1960s

Title: Borough Bulldogs

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Partisian

Rhyme:

Borough Bulldogs,
Whitney rats,
When you see St Mary's,
You've got to raise your hats.

(Blenheim, 1960s)

--

Background Info: Catholic children's taunt to children at another local primary school. (Blenheim Borough and Whitney Street School, 1960s-1970)

--

Keywords: partisan, taunt
Location: Blenheim
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 461
Date: 2000-2006
Title: Batman
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Batman, na na na na na, Batman,
Driving down the motorway,
Truck comes the other way,
Na na na na Flatman.

(Auckland, 2000; Ashburton, 2000; Ashburton, 2006; Arrowtown, 2006)

--

Keywords: media culture
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 4

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 462
Date: 1998
Title: Banana bread
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Banana, banana, banana,
Banana bread.
Get it while it's in your head,
Or the next day you'll be dead.
Get it or you won't survive,
It's only \$24.95,
It's good, it's healthy, it's full of fruit.
Get it in the shops because it's good for you.

(Auckland, 1998)

--

Keywords: NZ culture, commercial product, food
Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 463
Date: 1950s
Title: Black is the raven
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Black is the raven, black is the rook,
Black is the boy who steals this book.
For when you die the Lord will say,
Where is the book you stole away?
And if you say you do not know.
The Lord will cast you down below.

(NZ ex UK, 1950s)

--

Black is a raven, black is a rook,
Black is the one who steals this book.

(NZ, 1950s)

--

Background Info: These rhymes were used for protection of both autograph albums and text books in Australian schools in the 1940s. (Personal informant)

--

Found inscribed in F Camerarii's Aristotle (1578) were the words:

This boke is one thing,
The halter is another,
And he that stealeth the one,
Must be sure of the other.

(Opie, 2000:152)

--

Keywords: threat
Location: Various NZ, UK

Group size: 1
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 466
Date: 1950s-2000
Title: Seven blackbirds
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Seven blackbirds in a tree,
Count them and see what they be,
1 for sorrow,
2 for joy,
3 for a girl,
4 for a boy,
5 for silver,
6 for gold,
7 for a secret
That's never been told.

(Wellington, 2000)

--

One for sorrow,
Two for joy,
Three for a letter,
Four for a boy,
Five for silver,
Six for gold,
Seven for a secret,
That's never been told.

(NZ ex UK, 1950s)

--

One for sorrow,
Two for joy,
Three for a girl,
Four for a boy,
Five for silver,
Six for gold,
Seven for a secret, never to be told,
Eight for a wish,
Nine for a kiss,
Ten for a bird, never to be missed.

(Lower Hutt, 1972)

--

Background Info: Described in "Play and Folklore", Issue 28, 1995:6, being used when counting magpies
c.1928-1930 in Australia:

One for sorrow,
Two for joy,
Three for a letter,
Four for a boy,
Five for a wish,
Six for a kiss,
Seven for a wish that'll never be told,
Eight for gold.

--

Opie, 1967:217, also describes this rhyme and variations being used with reference to magpies being sighted. Also used in reference to numbers on bus tickets and their divisibility by 7 or 5 or 3 (pages 333 - 334) and counting sneezes.

--

Gullen, 1950:22 records the following variations:
Divination by magpies - Scottish:

Ane's joy, twa's grief,
Three's a waddin', four's a death,
Five's a coffin, six a hearse,
Seven a great man in distress.

Irish:

One for sorrow,
Two for joy,
Three for a wedding,
Four for a boy,
Five for silver,
Six for gold,
Seven for a secret,
That's never been told.

--

Keywords: Samoan, divination

Location: Wellington

Group size: 2

Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 468

Date: 2003

Title: Brussels sprouts

Gender: Male

Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

Brussels sprouts are good for you,
The more you chew the more you spew.

(NZ, 2003)

--

Keywords: food

Location: Lumsden

Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 470

Date: 2001

Title: A chicka boom

Gender: Female

Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

Ahh chicka boom, boom, boom,
Ahh chicka boom, boom, boom
Boys got the muscle,
Girls got the sex,
1,2,3 I'm the best in the west.

(Auckland, 2001)

--

Keywords: bawdy, sex

Location: Auckland

Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 473

Date: 2001
Title: A bird
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

A bird came to the fair,
It messed up my hair,
Put it in the zoo,
Before I do.

(Auckland, 2001)

--

Keywords: animals
Location: Auckland
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 475
Date: 1999
Title: My boyfriend
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

My boyfriend took me to the shop,
To buy some bubble gum.
But when I wasn't looking,
He stuck it up my bum.

(Auckland, 1999)

--

Keywords: bawdy
Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 476
Date: 1950s-1999
Title: By hook or by crook
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

By hook or by crook,
I'll be first/last in this book.
By eggs or by bacon,
I think you're mistaken.

(NZ ex UK, 1950s; NZ, 1950s)

--

By window or sill,
I'm darned if you will!
By ham or by bacon,
I think you're mistaken.

(Auckland, 1999)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 478
Date: 1999
Title: Bay, bay, bay city
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

B-A-Y, B-A-Y, B-A-Y, C-I-T-Y
With a R-O double L-E-R-S
Bay City Rollers are the best.

(Auckland, 1999)

--

Keywords: partisan, media
Location: Auckland
Group size: 9
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 479
Date: 1960s-2006

Title: Burning down the motorway
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Driving down the highway,
Doing 64.
[Daddy] did a big one,
And blew me out the door.
The wheels couldn't take it.
The engine fell apart.
All 'cos of [Daddy's] supersonic fart.

(Auckland, 2000; Timaru, 2006; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Burning down the motorway,
Doing twenty four,
[X] did a fart,
That blew off the door.
Engine started shaking,
The car blew apart.
All because of [X's]
Supersonic fart.

(Orewa, 1990s; Auckland, 2000; Christchurch, 2006)

--

Travelling along, Highway 64,
[Dad] did a fart and blew off the door,
The wheels couldn't take it,
The roof fell apart,
All because of [Dad's] automatic fart.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Cruisin' down the highway,
Doing 64,
Granny did a big one, blew off the door,
The motor couldn't stand it,
The wheel fell apart,
All because of Granny's supersonic fart!

(Blenheim, 2000)

--

Burning down the motorway,
At a hundred ks,
Granny did the biggest blow off,
That I've heard for days.
Engine exploded,
Car fell apart,
All because of Granny's
Supersonic fart.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Going down the motorway,
Doing one hundred ks
Granny did the biggest fart,
I had heard in days.
The motor exploded,
The car fell apart.
Thanks to Granny's
Supersonic fart.

(Auckland, 2002)

--

Background Info: From Turner, 1969:88:

Driving up the highway, doing 44,
Jerry done a gusher, blew me out the door,
The wheels couldn't take it, the engine fell apart,
That's what happened when Jerry done a fart.

(1967)

--

Keywords: scatological, bawdy, fart lore
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 3
Incidence: 10

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 480
Date: 2000
Title: Ben, Ben Billy's friend
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

Ben, Ben, Billy's friend.
Jumped the wall and,
Ben, Ben, friend of Billy,
Being very silly.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Location: Auckland
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 481
Date: 2000
Title: Boys have got the muscles
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Boys have got the muscles,
Teacher's got the brains.
Girls have got the sexy legs,
So they win all the games.

(Waimate, 2000)

--

Keywords: gender differences
Location: Waimate
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 605
Date: 1945
Title: If men think ill of thee,
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

If men think ill of thee,
Live that none may believe them.

(Timaru, 1945)

--

Location: Timaru
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 606
Date: 1945
Title: Henry Ford
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Henry Ford found a board, and a piece of tin,
The board he sawed, the tin he bent,
He cranked her up, and off she went.

(Geraldine, 1945)

--

Location: Geraldine
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 607
Date: 1946
Title: May dame Fortune follow you throughout your life,
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

May Dame Fortune follow you throughout your life.
But may you never meet her daughter, Miss Fortune.

(Timaru, 1946)

--

Keywords: word play
Location: Timaru
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 608
Date: 1948
Title: Plough deep
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Plough deep while sluggards sleep.

(Leeston, 1948)

--

Location: Leeston
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 609
Date: 1946
Title: When you are far
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

When you are far across the sea.
Sit on a log and think of me.
If a log you cannot find,
Trot along and never mind.

(Ashburton, 1946)

--

Location: Ashburton
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 610
Date: 1970s -2006
Title: God of Nations
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

God of Nations smell my feet,
In the bonds of Shortland Street. (Coronation Street)
Hear our voices tweet, tweet, tweet,
God defend our toilet seat.

(Ashburton, 1990 x 2; Owaka, 1990s; Auckland, 1990s x 4; Napier, 1990s x 2; Otago, 1990s; Nelson, 1990s; Timaru, 1990s; Wellington, 1994; Waiuku, 2000; Hastings, 2000; Wellington, 2002; Lower Hutt, 2000; Wellington, 2003; Hororata, 2000; Howick, 1997; Oamaru, 2004; Dunedin, 1990s; Ashburton, 2006; Sheffield, 2006)

--

God of nations, smell my feet,
I don't care about Coronation Street.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

God of Nations at thy feet,
In the bonds of stinky feet.
Hear our voices tweet, tweet, tweet,
God defend the toilet seat.

(Auckland, 2002)

--

God of Nations, smell my feet,
Smell them, smell them,
What a treat.

(NZ, 2002)

--

God of Nations, smell my feet,
Where the heck are Pearl and Pete?

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

God of Nations, burnt my bum,
With the stupid annoying sun,
It hurt so much, the whole world heard,
Now people say I'm a stupid nerd.

(Oamaru, 2004)

--

God of Nations at thy toes,
In the bonds of panty hose.

(Palmerston North, 1969)

--

God of Nations, sun and moon,
Way down here with Piggy Muldoon.
Save us from this horrid goon.
God defend our toilet seat.

(Auckland, 1970s)

--

God of Nations, at thy feet,
In the local pub we meet,
Don't drink whiskey, it's too dear,
Buy the local DB beer.

(Ashburton, 1990s; Lawrence, 1990s)

--

God of Nations, quadruple star,
From the stripe of love and peace.
Make my praises heard afar,
Give me all your candy.

(Dunedin, 1990s)

--

God of Nations,
Smell my feet,
Sitting on the toilet seat,
May your stinkies go afar,
God defend our noses.

(Auckland, 2001)

--

Background Info: Parody based on the words of New Zealand's national anthem.

--

Keywords: commercial products, rugby, NZ culture, political, alcohol, modern culture,
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 35

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 611
Date: 1943
Title: When you are
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

When you are up to your neck in hot water,
Just think of the kettle and sing.

(Christchurch, 1943)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 612
Date: 1939
Title: When your heart
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

When your heart is down to zero,
And you cannot tell just why,
Do not let your thoughts go drifting,
And think you're going to die.
But shunt your train of thought
So weary upon the broad main line,
And very soon you'll find
That you are feeling fine.

(NZ, 1939)

--

Keywords: advice
Location: NZ

Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 614
Date: 1938
Title: A ship without a sail
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

A ship without a sail,
Is like a shirt without a tail.

(NZ, 1938)

--

Keywords: word play
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 615
Date: 1930s
Title: What did you hear?
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

What did you hear?
That which you said.
But I didn't say anything!
That's what I heard.

(NZ, 1930s)

--

Keywords: word play
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 616

Date: 1937
Title: Pop goes the lemonade
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Pop goes the lemonade,
Pop goes the cider,
Ma pops in the bed,
And Pa in beside her.

(NZ, 1937)

--

Keywords: word play, bawdy
Location: VariousNZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 617
Date: 1937-1950s
Title: X is her name
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

[X, Y] is her name,
Single is her station,
Happy will he be,
The man who makes the alteration.

(NZ, 1937)

--

[Jane Walter] is your name,
Bouremouth is your station.
Happy be the little man,
Who makes the alteration!

(NZ ex England, 1950s)

--

Keywords: marriage
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 1

Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 618

Date: 1920s-2000

Title: Over the garden wall

Gender: Female

Classification: Autograph, skipping

Rhyme:

Over the garden wall,
I let the baby fall,
Mother came out
And gave me a clout, (shout)
And sent me over the wall.

(Fairlie, 1960s; Porirua, 1970s; Auckland, 2000)

--

Over the garden wall,
I let the baby fall,
Mother came out,
And gave me a clout,
Over the garden wall.

(1920-1950 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:78))

--

Background Info: Variations: Turner, 1978:24.

" For this rhyme the rope is doubled, the top part held tight by two girls, one at each end; the lower part is not turned but sways backwards and forwards. A girl holds the tight rope with one hand and jumps over the lower part of the rope as it sways, reciting the verse. While reciting the last line, the skipper jumps over the tight part of the rope." (Sydney, 1945. Turner, 1969:35)

--

Sutton-Smith, 1959:78 describes similar actions as above.

--

Also described by Opie, 1997:155, as a ball- bouncing game, including the actions of dropping the ball for the 'baby' and giving yourself a 'clout':

Over the garden wall,
I let the baby fall,
Mother came out

And gave me a clout,
I asked her who she was bossing about,
She gave me another to match the other,
Over the garden wall.

(UK, 1950-1970)

--

Keywords: sibling rivalry, violence,
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 3
Incidence: 4

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 620
Date: 1944
Title: God made the niggers
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

God made the niggers,
He made them in the night,
He made them in a hurry,
And forgot to paint them white.

(NZ, 1944)

--

Background Info: Similar to rhyme in Turner, 1969:113:

God made little nigger boys,
He made them near a fence.
He made them in a hurry,
And forgot to give them sense.

(Queensland, 1950s)

This version was collected by Dorothy Howard and she believed it was a reflection of local racial prejudice. Turner, however, disputes this in his concluding essay (127-144).

--

Keywords: racist,
Location: NZ
Group size: 1

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 621

Date: 1945

Title: May all you ups and downs

Gender: Female

Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

May all your ups and downs in life be golden,
May all your dreams come true,
May God bless and keep and lead you,
Dear [X], is my wish fond and true.

(NZ, 1945)

--

Location: NZ

Group size: 1

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 622

Date: 1943

Title: Mother told Isobel

Gender: Female

Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

Mother told Isobel, my nose was too small,
Said I had hardly, any nose at all.
Then she says, "Baby, smell a pretty rose."
Now how can I smell it, if I haven't any nose?

(NZ, 1943)

--

Keywords: fun

Location: NZ

Group size: 1

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 623

Date: 1945
Title: Not failure
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Not failure, but low aim is a crime.

(NZ, 1945)

--

Keywords: advice
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 624
Date: 1943
Title: Whence do we come?
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Whence do we come? We wonder and wonder.
Wither do we go? Always we ponder.
Why are we here? We ask and ask.
What is for each of us, the special task?
Whence wither what and why.
When shall we find reply.
When each has played his part with willing.

(NZ, 1943)

--

Keywords: advice
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 625
Date: 1944
Title: May success
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

May success follow you, as ripples follow a ship.

(NZ, 1944)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 626
Date: 1943
Title: When a task
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

When a task is once begun,
Never leave it till it's done.
Be the labour great or small,
Do it well or not at all.

(NZ, 1943)

--

Keywords: advice
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 627
Date: 1944
Title: Bank of happiness
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Bank of Happiness,
Please pay to [X], her full share
Of happiness throughout her life.

(NZ, 1944)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 628
Date: 1946
Title: Little piggy
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Little piggy in the street,
Motor car - sausage meat.

(NZ, 1946)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 629
Date: 1946
Title: They walked down the lane
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

They walked down the lane together,
The sky was covered in stars,
They reached the gate in silence,
He lifted up the bars.
She neither smiled nor thanked him,
She knew not how.
For he was a farmer's boy.
And she the Jersey cow.

(NZ, 1946)

--

Keywords: NZ culture, word play
Location: NZ

Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 630
Date: 1946
Title: Fresh tasks
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Fresh tasks, fresh joys, will the future bring,
Fresh thoughts for each coming morrow,
I pray that it brings you songs of peace,
And never a sign of sorrow.

(NZ, 1946)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 631
Date: 1965
Title: The sun shone
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

The sun shone on the dunny door,
[X] was within.
I heard a crash!
And then a splash!
Good Lord! She's fallen in.

(Ashburton, 1965)

--

Background Info: See also the rhyme beginning, "The night was dark and stormy".

--

Location: Ashburton
Group size: 1

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 632

Date: 1965

Title: I choose this page

Gender: Male

Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

I chose this page,
So nice and pink,
I dip my pen into the ink.
I thought and thought but nothing came.
So I thought I would just sign my name [X].

(Ashburton, 1965)

--

Location: Ashburton

Group size: 1

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 633

Date: 1965

Title: High on a hill

Gender: Male

Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

High on a hill where grows the grass,
Down came a billy goat, sliding on his a..
Don't be mistaken, don't be misled.
Down came a billy goat sliding on his head.

(NZ, 1965)

--

Keywords: bawdy

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 634
Date: 1965
Title: Little bits of sand
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Little bits of sand wear away the rocks.
Little bits of toenail, wear away the socks.

(Ashburton, 1965)

--

Keywords: advice, fun
Location: Ashburton
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 635
Date: 1965
Title: When you are old
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

When you are old and cannot see,
Put on your specs and think of me.

(Ashburton, 1965)

--

Background Info: When you grow old and ugly,
As some folks do.
Remember you have a friend,
Who's old and ugly too.
(Bronner, 1988:89)

--

Location: Ashburton
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 636

Date: 1965
Title: She went to pick a rose
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

She went to pick a rose,
A pretty rose so tender.
She went to pick a rose,
And ping went her suspender.

(Ashburton, 1965)

--

Location: Ashburton
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 637
Date: 1969
Title: Christmas is..
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Christmas is a time for cheer,
So fill yourself with Christmas beer.

(Ashburton, 1969)

--

Keywords: occasional rhyme
Location: Ashburton
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 638
Date: 1969-1970s
Title: When X was small
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

When [X] was small it was toys, toys, toys.

Now she is older it is boys, boys, boys.

(Ashburton, 1969)

--

When [Jenny] was little it was toys, toys, toys.
But now that she is bigger it is boys, boys, boys.

(Tolaga Bay, 1970s)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 639
Date: 1969-1970s
Title: X on the ballroom floor
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

[X] on the ballroom floor, her dancing was fantastic,
All of a sudden she rushed to the door, you can't trust elastic.

(Ashburton, 1960s; Rotorua, 1970s)

--

[X] was dancing on the ballroom floor,
Dancing away fantastic,
When all of a sudden she rushed for the door,
You never can trust elastic.

(Masterton, 1960s)

--

[X] went to the ball,
Thinking she was quite fantastic.
Suddenly she rushed out the door,
You can't trust McKenzies' elastic.

(Gisborne, 1960s)

--

Keywords: commercial product, embarrassment
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 4

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 640
Date: 1969
Title: Ha
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Ha, ha, ha, makes me laugh,
To think you want my autograph.

(Ashburton, 1969)

--

Location: Ashburton
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 898
Date: 1960s
Title: Eeeie, meenie
Gender: Female
Classification: Nonsense
Rhyme:

Eenie, meenie decimeenie,
Ooah looah, la meenie,
Eenie, meenie, decimeenie,
Ooah, looah
A peep doodley,
Oaten doaten,
Do art a dooter,
Datten, Shh.

(NZ ex Australia, 1960s)

--

Keywords: rhyming nonsense
Location: NZ (ex Australia)

Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 641
Date: 1969
Title: Please excuse
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Please excuse your teacher,
For writing on the cover,
I'm just leaving room for your lover.

(Ashburton, 1969)

--

Location: Ashburton
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 642
Date: 1970s-2001
Title: Flee, Fly, Flow
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun chant
Rhyme:

Flee (flee)
Flee, fly, (flee, fly)
Flee, fly, flow (flee, fly, flow)
Vista, (vista)
Coom-a-la, coom-a-la, coom-a-la,
Vista.
Oh no, not the vista
In-a-mini, desks-a-mini
Oo-la-la-wull-a-mini
In-a-mini, dess-a-mini
Oo-la-la-wah.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Flea, flea,

Flea, fly, flea, fly.
Flea fly mosquito,
Flea, fly mosquito,
Oh no no no, not mosquito, (x 2)
Itchy bitchy scratchy watchy (x 2)
Got a buggy down my backy (x 2)
Hit that buggy with a fly spray (x 2)
Beat billy boat-en doat-en.
Bo-bo bar deet-en dat-en.
Shh!

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Flee (x 2)
Flee fly (x 2)
Flee fly flo (x 2)
Vesta (x 2)
Cooma la, cooma la cooma la vesta.
Oh no no not the vesta,
Ina meni, dessa meni,
Oo la la walla meni
Ina meni, dessa meni,
Oo la la wah,
Beat billy boaten doaten,
Bo bo bar deeten daten,
Shh.

(NZ, 1980s)

--

Flee, flee, flee fly, flee fly,
Flee fly mosquito (x 2)
Oh no no no not mosquito, (x 2)
Itchy bitchy scratchy watchy (x 2)
Got a buggy down my backy (x 2)
Hit that buggy with a fly swat (x 2)

(Wellington, 2000)

--

Flea (flea)
Flea fly, (flea fly)
Flea, fly, flow (flea fly flow)
Vista, (vista)
Coom-a-la, coom-a-la, coom-a-la,
Vista

Oh no not the vista
In-a-mini, dess-a-mini,
Co-la-la wull-a-mini,
In-a-mini, dess-a-mini,
Oo-la-la wah,
Beet-bill-y boat-en doat-en
Bo-bo-bar deet-en dat-en
Shh!

(Gisborne, 2001)

--

Background Info: Group chant where the group follows by repeating the leader's words. Used as a model for children to make up own versions. Popular in America at summer camps and sung by Scouts and Guides around the world, especially during 1970s; also recorded in Norway in 1973. Further background and music in Opie, 1988:404.

--

First part chanted, second part sung.
Shh - whispered as a contrast. (Personal informant)

--

Popular music: recorded by Red Hot Chilli Peppers on their album "Out in L.A." and by Fe-Mail as part of the musical sound track of "Little Vampire".

--

Keywords: nonsense chant
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 10
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 644
Date: 1990s-2006
Title: Cora mellie
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Cora mellie, catcha fellie
La la rose,
Stink bomb (repeat above verse faster)
Freeze, like this!

(Blenheim, 2004)

--

Cor melly, issa melly,
Lullaby, stinky bum,
Cor melly, issa melly,
Lullaby, stinky bum,
Freeze, freeze, freeze like this.
Double, double, spice, spice,
Double, double, girls, girls,
Double spice, double girls,
Double, double, spice girls.

(Christchurch, 2006)

--

Cor melly, eta melly,
Lily boys, stink bum.
Cor melly, eta melly,
Lily boys, stink bum.
Freeze, freeze, freeze like this.
Double, double, spice, spice,
Double, double, girls, girls,
Double spice, double girls,
Double, double, spice girls.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Cold molly it a lilly,
Illy boy stink bum,
Cold molly it a lilly,
Lilly boy stink bum freeze.
Freeze like this.
Double, double, this, this,
Double, double, that, that,
Double this, double that,
Double double this that,

(Timaru, 1998)

--

Cor malley,
Catch a fell,
La la rulz, Stink bomb, stink bomb,
FREEZE.

(Marlborough, 2002)

--

Call melli etamelli,
Lullaby stinky bum,
Lullaby stinky bum,
Freeze, freeze, like this.
Double double cheese smee,
Double cheese, double smee,
Double, double cheese smee.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Carmelli, catch a fell
La la la rulz
Stink bomb, stink bomb.
Freeze.

(Seddon, 2000)

--

Comele x 3
Ketefele x 3
Leeleebolls x 3
Stinkbump (repeat rhyme)
Freeze like this.

(Whakatane, 2002)

--

Cormally, catymally,
Lalla boz,
Stink bombs,
Freeze, freeze, like this.

(Nelson, 2000)

--

Background Info: Complex hand movements and clapping sequences accompany this rhyme.

--

Bauer, 2002, Sect. 70:25, recorded from Christchurch the following version:

Kormalley is a smelly la la boy, stink bomb (x 2)
Freeze freeze like this
Double double this this..

Gor malley is a smelly lala boy,
Stink bum.
Gor malley is a smelly stink bum.
Freeze, freeze like this.

(Christchurch, c. 2002)

--

Keywords: nonsense, media culture, scatological
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 9

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 645
Date: 2001
Title: Crocodile
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Crocodile's my name,
Cro, cro, crocodile
E silo, silo, silo silo,
E silo, silo, malo, malo,
Malo, malo, malo,malo,
Malo, malo 1,2,3!

(Auckland, 2001)

--

Background Info: Speed increases as rhyme progresses.

--

Keywords: Pacific culture
Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 646

Date: 1973-2003

Title: Cat's got the measles

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Jumping and counting-out

Rhyme:

Cat's got the measles, the measles, the measles,
Cat's got the measles,
Cross your legs and you are out!

(Christchurch, 1990s x 2; Waimate, 2000; Christchurch, 2003 x 2)

--

Cat's got the measles, the measles, the measles,
Cat's got the measles,
The measles got the cat.

(Christchurch, 1973)

--

Donkey's got the chicken pox, the chicken pox,
Dog's got the cough, the cough,
Owls got the flu, the flu,
Rabbit's got a cold, a cold.

(Kaiapoi, 2003)

--

Cat's got the measles,
Cat's got the flu,
Cat's got chicken pox,
I hate you. (So have you.)

(Christchurch, 2003)

--

Cat's got the measles, the measles, the measles,
Cat's got the measles,
Who is out!

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Background Info: Jumping game involving crossing and uncrossing legs - if at the end of the rhyme your legs are crossed, then you are out.

--

Grugeon, 2001:108 records:

Cat's got the measles,
Dog's got the fleas,
The baby's got the chicken pox,
And so have we.

(UK, 1997)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 9

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 648
Date: 2000-2006
Title: Coconut
Gender: Female
Classification: Counting-out hand game
Rhyme:

Coconut, coconut, coconut crack (spat).

(Auckland, 2000; Napier, 2000; Auckland, 2002; Hokitika, 2003; Tauranga, 2003;
Timaru, 2005; Timaru, 2006; Christchurch, 2006)

--

Coconut, coconut,
Crack your coconut!

(Wellington, 2006 - ball bouncing)

--

Background Info: Hands clenched in front while selector counts around, on the word
'crack' the hand is withdrawn.

--

Keywords: Pacific culture
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 5
Incidence: 9

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 649
Date: 1995
Title: The captain's wife
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

The Captain's wife was Mabel,
Whenever she was able,
She's given the crew,
Their daily screw,
Upon the chart room table.

(Nelson, 1995)

--

Keywords: bawdy
Location: Nelson
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 650
Date: 1970s
Title: There was the captain's daughter
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

There was the Captain's daughter,
She fell into the water,
You could tell by her squeals,
That the electric eels,
Had reached her sexual quarters.

(Nelson, 1970s)

--

Location: Nelson
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 651

Date: 1960s-2000

Title: Cross my heart

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Oral legislation

Rhyme:

Cross my heart and hope to die,
Stick a needle through my eye.

(Dunedin, 1960s; Gisborne, 1980s)

--

Cross my heart and hope to die.

(Auckland, 1960s; Whangarei, 2000 x 2)

--

Cross my heart
And hope to die,
Poke a needle.
If I ever tell a lie.

(Timaru, 1990s)

--

Cross my heart and hope to die
Stick a needle in my thigh.

(Wellington, 2000)

--

Background Info: Discussion in Opie,1967:124-125 relating to the crossing the heart rituals. Variations include:

Cross my heart,
If I ever tell a lie,
Put a rope round my neck
Then let me die.

Clasp my hands,
Look at the sky,
Cross my heart
And hope to die.

--

Turner, 1969:82, describes how the left breast was crossed with the right fore-finger as the rhyme was spoken as a testimony to the truth of the speaker's statement.

--

Keywords: promise
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 7

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 652
Date: 1970s-1999
Title: Cup of tea
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Cup of tea,
Nup of tea
Tup of tea
Sup of tea.

(Greymouth, 1999)

--

Cup o' tea,
Cup o' tea,
Milk and sugar.

(Dunedin, 1970s)

--

Background Info: Said instead of Ka mate (haka).

--

Keywords: Maori culture, word play, NZ culture
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 3
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 653

Date: 1990s
Title: Cups and saucers
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Cups and saucers,
Saucers and cups,
Don't worry [X]
We won't tell your mother
You've been kissing A,B,C..
True/false/fairytale.

(Palmerston, 1990s)

--

Cups and saucers,
Saucers and cups,
Who will you marry?
A, B, C..

(Palmerston, 1990s)

--

Keywords: divination, marriage
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 6
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 654
Date: 1950s
Title: Cowardy, cowardy custard
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Cowardy, cowardy custard,
You ate a barrel full of mustard.

(Auckland, 1950s)

--

Cowardy, cowardy custard,
You ate your father's mustard.

(NZ, 1900s (Sutton-Smith, 1959:93))

--

Cowry, cowry, custard,
Your mother's made of mustard.

(NZ, 1900s, (Sutton-Smith, 1959:98))

--

Background Info: Opie, 1967:184, discusses the association between cowardice, yellow and custard. It seems that only in the 19th century has yellow been associated with faintheartedness; previously the colour yellow denoted jealousy.

--

Variations in Turner, 1978:84. include:

Cowardy, cowardy custard,
Ate your mother's mustard.

Cowardy, cowardy custard,
Your mother gives you mustard.

Cowardy, cowardy custard,
Dip your nose in mustard.

(Australia, 1930s-1970s)

--

Gomme, 1898:25 reports a tiggig game which uses:

Cowardy, cowardy, custard,
Eat your father's mustard,
Catch me if you can.

(Cited in Turner, 1969:70)

--

Keywords: taunt
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 655

Date: 2003
Title: Cat's got the measles
Gender: Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Cat's got the measles,
Cat's got the flu,
Cat's got the chicken pox,
And so have you (I hate you)

(Christchurch, 2003)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 983
Date: 2000
Title: How much oil
Gender: Male
Classification: Tongue twister
Rhyme:

How much oil could an oil boiler boil,
If an oil boiler could boil oil?

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Keywords: tongue twister
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 984
Date: 1940s- 2000
Title: Shirley Temple
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Shirley Temple is a star,

S, T, A and R,
She can do the wiggle, waggles,
She can do the splits,
She can pull her pants,
Right up to her hips.

(NZ, 1980s)

--

Shirley Temple is a star,
S-T-A-R, (Lawrence, 1980s)
She can do the wibble, wobble,
She can do the splits,
She can lift her skirt,
Right up to her hips.

(Whangarei, 1970s; Rotorua, 1970s; Gisborne, 1972; Methven 1980s; Auckland, 1980s x
2; Christchurch, 1980s x 2; Gisborne, 1980s; Lower Hutt, 1990s; Springston, 1996;
Blenheim, 2000; Rotorua, 2000)

--

Shirley Temple is a star,
S-T-A-R,
She can do the wibble, wobble,
She can do the splits,
She can exit, just like this.

(Rotorua, 2000)

--

Shirley Temple is a star,
S-T-A-R,
She can do the wiggle wobbles,
She can do the kicks,
She can do the cross legs,
She can do the splits.

(Christchurch, 1970s)

--

Shirley Temple is a star,
S-T-A-R,
She can do the jelly wobbles,
She can do the splits,
She can lift her dress up,
Higher than her hips.

(Christchurch, 1980s)

--

Shirley Temple is a star,
S-T-A-R,
She's got the lips, kiss, kiss,
She's got hips, boom, boom,
And a bra.

(Christchurch, 1990)

--

Shirley Temple is a star,
S-T-A-R,
What shall we send her to curl her hair?
Salt, mustard, vinegar, pepper.

(NZ ex UK, 1970s)

--

Shirley Temple is a star,
S-T-A-R,
She can do the rumble,
She can do the splits,
She can do anything,
Just like this.
Firecracker, firecracker,
Boom, boom, boom.
Firecracker, firecracker,
Boom, boom, boom.
Girls do a curtsy,
Boys do a bow.
Girls go whoo hoo,
Boys go wow!

(Taupo, 1980s)

--

Background Info: Refer also, Opie, 1967:112. Variations include:

Shirley Temple walks like this,
Shirley Temple throws a kiss,
Shirley Temple says her prayers,
Shirley Temple falls down the stairs.

(UK, 1952 - skipping rhyme)

--

Turner, 1978: 25 includes variations:

Shirley Temple is a star,
S.T.A.R,
She can do the rumba,
She can do the kicks,
She can do the twirly-wirly,
She can do the splits.

(Victoria 1960s-1970s)

--

The sequence of actions is similar to a game recorded by Gomme, 1898:329-42, called "Wallflowers", with the lines:

She can hop and she can skip,
And she can turn a candle-stick.

--

Keywords: topical rhyme, media culture,
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 6
Incidence: 20

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 985
Date: 2003
Title: Hey sexy
Gender: Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Hey sexy,
Mine's flexy,
Slips in easy,
When it's greasy.

(Christchurch, 2003)

--

Background Info: Collected from private girls' school.

--

Keywords: bawdy
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 986
Date: 1968
Title: Her eyes are blue
Gender: Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Her eyes are blue,
Her freckles are many,
And if you ask me,
She's not worth a penny.

(Christchurch, 1968)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 987
Date: 1980s-2004
Title: Helicopter
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Helicopter, helicopter,
Please come down,
If you don't I'll shoot you down.
Boom (Bang).

(Auckland, 1980s; Upper Hutt, 1990s; Rotorua, 1990s; Timaru, 1990s x 2; Gisborne, 1990s; Rotorua, 2000; Avondale, 2000; Auckland, 2000; Nelson, 2002)

--

Helicopter, helicopter,
Please come down,

Helicopter, helicopter,
Please come down,
Your mum is in the toilet upside down,
If you don't come she'll shoot you down.

(Whakatane, 1990s)

--

Helicopter, helicopter,
Please come down,
Down from the mountains,
Down to the ground.

(Palmerston, 2000)

--

Helicopter, helicopter, turn around,
Helicopter, helicopter, touch the ground,
Helicopter, helicopter, go upstairs,
Helicopter, helicopter, say cheers!

(Christchurch, 2004)

--

Helicopter, helicopter, turn around,
Helicopter, helicopter, touch the ground,
Helicopter, helicopter, please come down,
If you don't I'll shoot you down!
Pow, pow, pow.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Background Info: In this game one child swings a doubled up skipping rope above their head with others circling around. On the word 'bang', the rope is undoubled and swung around at ground level for others to jump over.

--

Bauer, 2002, Sect. 68:2-3, recorded this rhyme in Whangarei, Kaitaia, Rotorua and New Plymouth, along with a description of the rhyme and game.

Helicopter, helicopter, please come down,
If you don't I'll shoot you down
To the witches' town,
Bang, bang, bang.

(New Plymouth, c. 2002)

--

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 5

Incidence: 14

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 988

Date: 1980s-2006

Title: HELP

Gender: Female

Classification: Skipping

Rhyme:

H. E. L. P. repeated until skipper trips.

H = high water (high rope)

E = egg beater (eyes closed, turn around)

L = lullaby (rope turned backwards and forwards)

P = pepper (very fast)

(Christchurch, 1990s x 7; Hawarden, 1990; Wellington, 1998; Timaru, 2000 x 2;
Palmerston, 2000; Christchurch, 2003; Sheffield, 2006)

--

H

E

L and P

H

E

L and P (repeated with rope turning faster on L and P)

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

H = high-water

E = eyes closed

L = leap frog (crouch down and jump like a frog)

P = pepper

(Rotorua, 1990s)

--

H. E. L. P.
Help
H. E. L. P
Help

(Christchurch, 1998; Kaiapoi, 2003; Blenheim, 2004 x 2)

--

Blue bells, cockle shells, eevy ivy over,
H. E. L and P
Spells H. E. L and P
Spells..

(Christchurch, 2006)

--

Background Info: H = Helicopter, the tripper must skip with the rope not touching the ground.

E = Egg beater, tripper must shut eyes and turn around while jumping the rope.

L= Lullaby, the rope is swung from side to side for tripper to jump over.

P = Pepper, the rope is turned very fast.

Sometimes J and M included, J= Jolly, M= Medium

--

Turner, 1969: 26 records different actions for each of the letters of this rhyme.
including high, eyes closed, low, peppers, slow, scissors.
(Australia, 1955-1967)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 5
Incidence: 21

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 989
Date: 2000
Title: Here comes
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Here comes the person,
Out comes the fart,
Here comes a lump of poo,
From the old retard.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Keywords: scatological, fart lore
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 3
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 990
Date: 1960s-2003
Title: How much wood
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Tongue Twister
Rhyme:

A woodchuck would chuck as much wood,
As a woodchuck could,
If a woodchuck could chuck wood.

(Christchurch, 1960s; Christchurch, 2003)

--

How much wood would a woodchuck chuck,
If a woodchuck could chuck wood?

(NZ, 1960s; Christchurrch, 1990s; Dunedin, 1990s; Tauranga, 2002)

--

Background Info: Opie, 1967:30 records a number of variations of this rhyme including:

How many cookies could a good cook cook?
How many cans can a cannibal nibble?
How much oil can a gumboil boil?

--

Keywords: tongue twister
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 7

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 991
Date: 2002
Title: Honey bee
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Honey bee, honey bee,
Chase around the apple tree,
I call in..[friend's name]

(Rotorua, 2002)

--

Alt. You can't catch me, me, me. (chasing game)

(Rotorua, 2000)

--

Location: Rotorua
Group size: 4
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 992
Date: 1960s-2006
Title: Have you ever
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Have you ever, ever, ever,
In your long-legged life,
Seen a long-legged sailor,
With a long-legged wife?
No I've never, never, never,
In my long-legged life,
Seen a long-legged sailor,
With a long-legged wife.

(NZ, 1960s; Te Awamutu, 1990s)

--

Have you ever, ever, ever,
In your leef, live, life,
Seen divel, deivel, devil,

Kiss his weef, wif, wife?

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Background Info: Turner,1978:35 describes alternative verses including:
short legged life, cross-eyed life, elbow life, knee cap life, ankle life.

--

Onwuchekwa, 2003:119 records from black urban America:

Have you ever, ever, ever,
In your whole darn life,
Seen a farmer, farmer, farmer,
Kiss his wife, wife, wife?
No I've never, never, never,
In my whole darn life,
Seen a farmer, farmer, farmer,
Kiss his wife, wife, wife.

--

Knapp, 1976:129 records the version with a 'spider' replacing the long-legged sailor. Also includes the traits of short-legged, bow-legged, pigeon-toed, bald-headed, pot-bellied.

--

Keywords: nonsense, word play
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 6
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 993
Date: 1970s-2006
Title: Hi ho, hi ho
Gender: Male
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Hi ho, hi ho,
It's off to work (school) we go.
With a bucket and a spade,
And a hand grenade,
Hi ho, ho ho.

(Tauranga, 1990s; Rangiora, 1970s)

--

Hi ho, hi ho,
I bit the teacher's toe,
She bit mine too,
And it turned blue.
Hi ho, hi ho, hi ho.

(Christchurch, 1990)

--

Hi ho, hi ho,
It's off to work we go,
With hand grenades and cannonades,
Hi hi, hi, ho.

(Christchurch, 1990)

--

Hi ho, hi, ho,
It's off to work we go,
With a shovel and a pick,
And a girl in the nick,
Hi ho, hi ho,
It's off to work we go.

(Waitakere City, 1990s)

--

Hi ho, hi ho,
I bit the teacher's toe,
The dirty rat she bit me back,
Hi, hi, hi, ho.

(Lower Hutt, 2006)

--

Background Info: Turner, 1978:116 records the version as a parody of Disney's Snow White:

Hiho, hiho,
Snow White sat on the po,
The prince came in,
And stuck it in,

Hiho, hiho..

(Melbourne, 1935)

--

Keywords: violence, authority
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 6

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 994
Date: 2000
Title: Hairy legs
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Hairy legs,
Dirty knees,
What are these? (point to breasts)

(Wellington, 2000)

--

Keywords: bawdy
Location: Wellington
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 995
Date: 1960s
Title: Hush, hush
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Hush, hush, who goes there?
It's Christopher Robin on the stairs,
Blood on the carpet,
Fur on the mat,
Christopher Robin's castrated the cat.

(NZ ex UK, 1960s)

--

Keywords: bawdy, violence
Location: NZ (ex UK)
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 996
Date: 1950s-1990s
Title: Higher up the mountain
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Higher up the mountain,
Greener grows the grass,
There I met a billy goat,
Who wouldn't let me pass.

(Auckland, 1950s)

--

The higher up the mountain,
The greener grows the grass,
I saw a little billy goat,
Sliding on his overcoat.

(Auckland, 1970s)

--

The higher up the mountain,
The greener grows the grass,
Down came a billy goat,
Sliding on his ..
Ask me no questions,
Tell no lies.
Down came a billy goat,
Sliding on his overcoat.

(Christchurch, 1960s)

--

Higher up the mountain,
Green grows the grass,
Down came a billy goat,

Sliding on his .
Ask me no questions,
Tell no lies.
I saw two policemen doing up their..
Flies are a nuisance, mosquitoes are worse,
That is the end of my silly little verse.

(Blenheim, 1980s; Dunedin, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Compare to rhymes in this collection beginning:
Ask me no questions..
Suzy had a steamboat..
Mary had a canary..
Country girls are pretty..
Can can girls..

--

Factor, 1988:163 refers to these rhymes as 'avoidance' rhymes.

--

Keywords: predictive, bawdy
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 998
Date: 2000
Title: Do you want
Gender: Male
Classification: Guile
Rhyme:

Do you want a Hertz doughnut?
If response is 'yes', then stamp on respondent's foot.
Hurts, don't it!

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Keywords: word play
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 999
Date: 1960s-1970s
Title: He loves me
Gender: Female
Classification: Half belief
Rhyme:

He loves me, he loves me not.

(Awanui, 1960s; Christchurch, 1960s; Wairoa, 1970s)

--

Background Info: Chanted while pulling petals off a flower. Last one gives the answer.

--

Keywords: love, divination
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1000
Date: 1990s
Title: Ho, Ho
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Ho ho fuckin' ho,
What a crock of shit,
We all work for Santa Claus,
We've had enough, we quit.
We do all the fuckin' work,
While he does all (stars in) the shows.
So stick your Christmas tree up your arse,
Ho, ho, fuckin' ho.

(Christchurch, 1990s; Te Awamutu, 1990s)

--

Keywords: occasional rhyme
Location: Various NZ

Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1001
Date: 1995-2000
Title: Ha ha ha
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Tease
Rhyme:

Ha, ha, ha, he, he, he,
You can't catch me for a bumble bee.

(Christchurch, 1995)

--

I'm the Queen bee,
And you can't catch me.
Yes, I can.
Want a bet?
Yes, I can,
No you can't.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Background Info: Often chanted in conjunction with a game of tag, in the form of a flaunt, especially if the chaser is slow.

--

Opie, 1984:63, notes the variation to "Ha, ha, ha, he, he, he, You can't catch me for a bumble bee" as
"Ha, ha, ha, he, he, he, you canna catch me for a wee bawbee"
or "You can't catch me for a cup of tea"
or "You can't catch me for a toffee flea". (1940-1950s)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1002

Date: 2003
Title: Ice cream soda
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Ice cream soda with a cherry on top, (thumbs up)
Ice cream soda with a cherry on the bottom, (thumbs down)
Down, down baby,
Down a rollercoaster,
Sweet, sweet baby, I'll never let you go.
Shimmy, shimmy, coco-pops,
Shimmy, shimmy, pow! (shooting action with hands)

(NZ, 2003)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1003
Date: 1900s-2000
Title: Ickle ockle
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Counting-out
Rhyme:

Ickle, ockle, black bockle,
Fishes in the sea.
If you want a pretty maid,
Please choose me.

(Hokitika, 1960s)

--

Ickle, ockle, black, (blue) bottle,
Ickle, ockle, out.
O. U. T. spells out,
And out you shall go.

(Christchurch, 1950s; Auckland, 1960s; Auckland, 1990s)

--

Ible oble chocolate bobble,

Ible oble out.
If you eat the chocolate bobble,
You may step out.

(NZ ex UK, 1990s)

--

Ibble bobble black bobble,
Ibble obble out.
Turn the dirty dish wash,
Inside out.
First you turn it inside,
Then you turn it out.
Ibble obble black bobble,
Ibble obble out.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Ickle, ockle, blue bottle,
Ickle, ockle, out,
If you come to my house,
I will kick (boot) you right out.

(Auckland, 1950s; New Lynn, 1960s; Auckland, 1970s; NZ, 1970s; Manurewa, 1970s;
Northland, 2000)

--

Black bottle, you are out.

(Gore, 2002)

--

Ickle ockle black bottle,
Ickle ockle out.

(Tauranga, 2000; Auckland, 1980s; Wellington, 1990s)

--

Ickle ockle black bottle,
Ickle ockle snout.
Keep away from my house.
I will boot you out.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Ickle, ockle, black bottle,
Ickle, ockle out.
Turn the dirty dishcloth,
Inside out.

(Palmerston, 1910)

--

Ibble obble black bobble,
Ibble obble out,
With a dirty dishcloth,
Torn in two,
Out goes you.
Y. O. U.

(NZ ex UK, 1960s)

--

Background Info: Used as either counting out or to choose a partner or leader in a game. Players each hold fists out while leader counts around the circle. When both fists are 'out' then player steps back until all but one have been eliminated.

--

Also referred to as dipping rhymes by Opie, 1984:32-35.

--

Noted by Sutton Smith, 1959:63, as being used in Otago 1900. One of the three most common counting-out rhymes used in NZ before 1900. The other two were Eenie, meenie and Onery, twoery..

--

Variation in Turner, 1969:13:

Eetle otte black bottle,
Eetle otte out.

(Melbourne, 1945)

Ibble abble black bubble,
Ibble abble out.

(Melbourne, 1967)

--

Keywords: nonsense
Location: Various NZ, UK
Group size: 5
Incidence: 19

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1004
Date: 1995
Title: Ickle, ockle ation
Gender: Female
Classification: Elastics
Rhyme:

Ickle, ockle, ation,
My operation,
How many people at the station?
1,2,3,4..

(Hamilton, 1995)

--

Location: Hamilton
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1005
Date: 1995
Title: Ice cream, soda pop
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Ice cream, ice cream,
Soda pop,
Tell me, tell me,
When to stop.
1, 2, 3,

(Auckland, 1995)

--

Location: Auckland

Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1006
Date: 2003
Title: Icecream and Jelly
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Ice cream and jelly,
A punch in the belly.

(Timaru, 2003)

--

Location: Timaru
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1007
Date: 1990-2000
Title: Ice cream soda, pavalova
Gender: Female
Classification: Elastics
Rhyme:

Ice cream soda,
Pavalova,
Coca Cola,
Inside, outside,
Twist.

(Christchurch, 1990; Auckland, 2000)

--

Ice cream soda,
Coca Cola,
One, one,
Two, two,
Boogie, boogie,
Avenue,
Twist and twist,
OUT.

(Auckland, 1994)

--

Ice cream soda,
Pavalova,
Chocolate pudding,
Cherry on top.

(Hamilton, 2000)

--

Ice cream soda,
Pavalova,
Cocacola,
My friend, out.

(Hamilton, 2000)

--

Ice cream, ice cream,
Soda pop,
Tell me, tell me,
When to stop,
1, 2, 3,

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Keywords: commercial product, NZ culture
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 6

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1008
Date: 1998
Title: If your teacher
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

If your teacher interferes,
Tie him up and box his ears,
If that does not serve him right,

Blow him up with dynamite.

(Christchurch, 1998)

--

Keywords: authority, school

Location: Christchurch

Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1009

Date: 1990

Title: Ice cream, jelly

Gender: Female

Classification: Skipping

Rhyme:

Ice cream, jelly, apple tart,
Tell me the name of your sweet heart,
A, B, C..

(NZ, 1990)

--

Keywords: divination

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 4

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1010

Date: 1990s-2003

Title: Icky, licky, lollipop

Gender: Female

Classification: Clapping

Rhyme:

Icky, licky lollipop,
Icky, licky do,
Icky, licky, lollipop,
The boys love you.

(Awanui, 1990s)

--

Itsy, bitsy lollipop,
Itsy, bitsy, poo,
Itsy bitsy, lollipop,
The boys love you. (Coromandel, 1990s)
Except that is not true! (Shampoo)

(Gisborne, 1990s; Rotorua, 2000; Auckland, 2000)

--

Itchy witchy lollipop
Itchy witchy woo,
Itchy witchy lollipop,
The boys like you,
And that is true.

(Porirua, 2003)

--

Itsy bitsy lollipop, lollipop, lollipop,
Itsy bitsy lollipop, who is out?

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Incy wincy lollipop, lollipop, lollipop,
Incy wincy lollipop, lollipop, lollipop,
Boys love me.

Christchurch, 2000 - skipping)

--

Keywords: nonsense
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 8

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1011
Date: 1994
Title: If it's yellow
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

If it's yellow,
Let it mellow,
If it's brown,
Flush it down.

(Auckland, 1994)

--

Background Info: Used during Auckland's water shortage, winter, 1994.

--

Keywords: NZ culture, topical rhyme, scatological
Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1012
Date: 1990s-2006
Title: If I was a dog
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

If I was a dog,
And you were a flower,
I'd lift up my leg,
And give you a shower.

(Christchurch, 1990s; Awanui, 2000; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 3
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1014
Date: 2000-2001
Title: If you go down
Gender: Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

If you go down to the woods today,
You're in for a big surprise.
If you go down to the woods today,
Be sure to close your eyes.
'Cos Mum and Dad are having a shag, (Mangakino, 2001)
And Uncle Bob is sucking his knob,
And Auntie Sue is having a screw,
With Grandad.
(Auntie Sue is having it on, with the milkman)

(Papakura, 2000; Christchurch, 2001)

--

Background Info: Sung to the tune of "The Teddy Bear's Picnic".

--

Keywords: bawdy,
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1015
Date: 2003
Title: I am not
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

I am not a cow,
I am not a bee,
I am not an alligator,
I am me!

(Christchurch, 2003)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 657
Date: 1980s-2006
Title: Concentration

Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Concentration, concentration is the game,
Keep the rhythm, keep the rhythm going.
1,1,6,6,- 6,6,4,4, - 4,4,5,5, - 4,5,6 (out).

(Christchurch, 2006)

--

Con-CEN- tration, Con-CEN-tration,
Now begins,
Keep the rhythm moving, keep the rhythm moving,
Start now,
1,2,2,3,3,4,4,5..

(Auckland, 1980s; Waitakere, 2001; Nelson, 2002; Titahi Bay, 2003; Blenheim, 2003;
Timaru, 2004)

--

Con-cen-tra-tion,
Concentration, here we go,
Keep the rhythm,
Keep the rhythm to the beat,
Count down starts now,
0,1-1,2-2,3-3,4-4,5-5,6-6,7..

(Porirua, 2000)

--

Concentration, concentration, now begins,
Keep the rhythm, keep the rhythm moving on,
A-Aaron, B-Barbara,(The aim is to recall names for each letter of the alphabet, or
alternatively other categories that are selected.)

(Whangarei, 1980s)

--

Concentration, concentration, concentration,
Sixty four, sixty four, sixty four,
No repeats, no repeats, no repeats,
Or hesitations, or hesitations, or hesitations,
Category, category, category,
(Enter a category e.g. food)
Pasta, pasta, pasta,

Banana, banana, banana (And so on, can either be in alphabetical order or otherwise.)

(Auckland, 2002)

--

Background Info: Often played in a group sitting in a circle and clapping hands on knees. Each player is allocated a number that is used in the 'calling'. The game can begin with this rhythm- establishing chant and continues until the rhythm is lost or a player makes a 'calling' error, as in sound clip. (Personal observation)

--

Bauer, 2002, Sect.70:23-24 collected a version from the Hamilton area:

Concentration, concentration, navigation,
Keep the rhythm, keep the rhythm moving,
Start now.

[X] (any name)

I'm first (then just say names in the rhythm until someone misses).

--

Keywords: categories.

Location: Various NZ,

Group size: 6

Incidence: 10

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 659

Date: 1978-2005

Title: C C C

Gender: Female

Classification: Clapping

Rhyme:

C, C, C,
I don't want to go to Mexico,
No more, more, more.
There's a big fat policeman,
At the door, door, door,
He'll drag you off by the collar,
Just to earn an extra dollar,
I don't want to go to Mexico,
No more, more, more.

(Kerikeri, 2002)

--

I don't want to go to school
No more, more, more.
There a big fat teacher
At the door, door, door.
He grabs you by the vest
And makes you do a test
I don't want to go school
No more, more, more.

(Auckland, 1990s)

--

See, see see and a ra ra ra
Don't wanna go to school any more, more, more,
Fat teacher, fat teacher at the door, door door.
Baby's got a bottle (colours),
Hey diddle diddle and you freeze it like this.

(Blenheim, 2000; Porirua, 2003 x 2; Paraparaumu, 2004; Christchurch, 2004;
Wainuiomata, 2005)

--

A, B, C, going up, going down,
Going criss-cross lollipop, turn around,
Touch the ground, get up, get up,
Get busy, busy, I can do karate,
Get up, get up, get busy, busy,
I can show my body, get up, get busy, busy,
Oops, I'm sorry, freeze, freeze, just like this.
Bubble say hutchie dutchie, you are my darling.
Sitting on a hutchie, dutchie bubbles,
Sitting on a hutchie, dutchie, boom,
Shake, shake, de shake,
Tick, tick, tick boom!

(Porirua, 2000)

--

See, see see and a ra ra ra
Don't wanna go to school any more, more, more,
Fat teacher, fat teacher at the door, door door.
Baby's got the bottle, baby's got the bottle,
Baby's got the bottle and it looks like this!
A, B, C, going up, going down,
Going criss cross lollipop, turn a round.

Touch the ground, get up, get up,
Get busy, busy, I can do karate,
Get up, get busy, busy,
I can show my body.

(Taumaranui, 2004)

--

Shame, shame, shame,
I don't wanna go to school no more, no more,
There's a big, fat teacher at the door, door, door.
She'll take you by the collar
And beat you till you holler.
I don't wanna go to school no more, more, more.

(NZ, 2000)

--

C C C and a ra ra ra,
Don't wanna go to school, no more, more, more,
Fat teacher, fat teacher, at the door, door, door.
Hey good looking, what you got cooking? (Babe's got the colour x 2)
Somebody's got the gasoline!
Freeze, freeze, freeze, like this!

(Auckland, 2000)

--

See, see, see, ra, ra, ra,
Don't want to go to school,
Any more, more, more,
Fat teacher, fat pig,
At the door, door, door,
Don't want to go to school,
Any more, more, more,
Who's got the best silence,
Freeze.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Background Info: Hand movements rather than clapping as such.

--

Variants in Turner, 1978:73:

I'm not going to school any more, more, more.
There's a big fat teacher at the door, door, door,
She asked me a sum, and she kicked me up the bum.
(She pulls you by the pants and makes you do a dance.)
I'm not going to school any more, more, more.

--

Opie, 1988:478:

I'm not going to school any more, more, more.
There's a big fat teacher at the door, door, door,
She pulls me by my hair, and sits me in a chair.
I'm not going to school any more, more, more.

(UK, 1971)

Based on an old American rhyme:

I won't go to Macy's any more, more, more,
There's a big fat policeman at the door, door, door.

(Macy's is a famous New York store)

Noted as a ball bouncing game in Leeds 1966:

Don't go to Granny's any more, more, more,
There a great fat copper at the door, door, door,
He'll grab you by the collar and make you pay a dollar,
So don't go to Granny's any more, more, more.

--

Keywords: authority, school

Location: Various NZ, USA

Group size: 2

Incidence: 13

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 660

Date: 1980s-2004

Title: Ci Ci my playmate

Gender: Female

Classification: Clapping

Rhyme:

Ci Ci, my playmate,
I cannot play with you.

My dolly's got the flu,
Chickenpox and measles too.
I found that dolly, that dirty dolly,
Under the drainpipes.
And I kept her too, too, too.
Come, come my playmate,
I cannot play with you,
My sister's got the measles,
And the flu.
Slide down the banister,
And we'll be friends for evermore,
Walk out the door.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Say, say, you play with me,
Come out and play with me,
And bring your darling sweet,
Climb up the apple tree.
Lay down your rainbow, for ever more,
For ever, more, more,
Shut the door.

(Porirua, 2000)

--

Ci Ci, my playmate,
My dog is down my loo.
The toilet paper too.

(Nelson, 2002)

--

See, my playmate,
Come out and play with me,
And bring your dollies, 1,2,3, (free)
Climb out my apple tree,
Slide down the banister
Into the cellar door,
And we'll be (jolly) friends for evermore.

(Christchurch, 2000; Ashburton, 2005)

--

See, see my playmate,

I cannot play with you.
My sister got the flu,
At the age of 92.
Slide down the drainpipe
Into the cellar door.
Where we can play for evermore.
Dom dom dom dom.

(Upper Hutt, 2004)

--

See, see my playmate,
I cannot play with you.
My dog has got the flu,
And German measles too.
Slide down a rainbow,
On to a lollipop,
Sugar, sugar, pop, pop.

(Christchurch, 1980s; Wellington, 2000)

--

See, see my playmate,
I cannot play with you,
My dolly's got the flu,
Chicken pox and measles too.
And down that drain pipe,
I saw my dolly,
I saw that dolly,
I saw her down, down, down the drain pipe,
Eating some pie. (wolf whistle)

Christchurch, 2000)

--

Say, say you play with me,
Come out and play with me,
And be my darling sweet,
Under the apple tree,
Climb up a rainbow,
1, 2, 3, 4..

(Paraparaumu, 1980s)

--

Say, say my playmate,

I cannot play with you,
My sister's got the flu,
Chicken pox and measles too.
Slide down the banister,
Into the party,
And we'll be friends for,
More and more and more,
And shut the door.

(Blenheim, 2000 x 2; Seddon, 2000)

--

C C my playmate,
I cannot play with you,
My dolly's got the flu,
Chicken pox and measles too.
I found that dolly,
That dirty dolly,
Down by the drainpipe,
And kept it too, too, too.

(Timaru, 2002 x 3)

--

Background Info: Accompanied by hand movements and actions, rather than clapping.

--

ALTERNATIVE VERSION

Say, say, oh enemy
Come out and fight with me,
And bring your pistols (devils) three.
Climb up my poison tree.
Slide down my razor blade,
Into my cellar door, (dungeon door)
And we'll be enemies
Forevermore, more, more.

--

Turner, 1978:43 version begins:

Old playmate, come out and play with me,
And bring your dollies three
And climb the apple tree.
Slide down the rainbow
Into my cellar floor

And we'll be jolly friends forever more.

(Victoria, 1970)

A variation of a popular song of 1930s.

--

Versions in Knapp, 1976:131:

Oh little cockroach,
Come out and play with me,
I hate to step on you,
Boo-hoo, boo-hoo, boo-hoo,
Crawl down my rain barrel,
And out my cellar door,
We won't ever be friends
Forevermore.

--

Onwuchekwa, 2003:97, adds to the enemy theme with the verses from urban black America:

Oh little devil,
Come out and fight with me,
And bring your fork-a-fee,
Heehee heehee heehee.
I'll scratch your eyes out,
I'll make you bleed to death,
And we'll be enemies,
Forever more.

--

From www.warrenfahey.com (accessed 15 January, 2007) Australian Folklore website:

See, see my playmate,
I cannot play with you.
My sister's on the loo,
Since 1982.
Roll down my rainbow
Into the corridor,
And we'll be friends for ever more, more, more.

--

Keywords: scatological, friendship, violence

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 2

Incidence: 17

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 662
Date: 1999-2006
Title: Cuddly koalas
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Action
Rhyme:

Cuddly koalas, cuddly koalas,
Possums too, possums too.
Wannabee and wombats,
Wannabe and wombats,
Kangaroos,
Kangaroos.

(Auckland, 1999)

--

Cuddly koalas, cuddly koalas,
Possums too, possums too.
Wallabies and wombats,
Wallabies and wombats,
Kangaroos,
Kangaroos.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Background Info: Sung to the tune of Frere Jacques.

--

Sung at a Brownie meeting as an action song.

--

Keywords: Australian culture
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 665
Date: 1960s
Title: Come honey

Gender: Female
Classification: Spelling
Rhyme:

Come
Honey
I
Need
Action = CHINA

Every
Girl
You
Pump
Tells = EGYPT

(Kawerau, 1960s)

--

Keywords: mnemonic
Location: Kawerau
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 666
Date: 2000
Title: There's an egg on your head
Gender: Female
Classification: Action
Rhyme:

There' s an egg on your head,
And the yolk's dripping down.
Concentration, concentration.

There's a dagger in your back
And the blood's dripping down.
Concentration, concentration.

(Tauranga, 2000)

--

Background Info: Compare with the rhyme beginning, "Concentration".

--

Location: Tauranga
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 667
Date: 1960s-2006
Title: I went to the Chinese restaurant
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

I went to a Chinese restaurant
To buy a loaf of bread,
I wrapped it up in a five pound note,
And this is what I said,
My name is Elvis Presley,
Girls are sexy,
Sitting in the backseat,
Drinking Pepsi,
Calls (?) my baby,
Swimming in the gravy,
Dad's gone crazy,
Join the navy.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

I went to a Chinese restaurant
To buy a loaf of bread,
The lady at the counter
Was standing on her head.
I asked her what her name was,
And this is what she said.
My name is L-I -l -I
Chickle I chickle I
Ooey gooey, yuck, yuck, yuck.
Chinese checkers, cheese on toast,
Put it in the oven with a poke, poke, poke.

(Kaiapoi, 2003)

--

I went to the Chinese restaurant
To buy a loaf of bread, bread, bread.
He wrapped it up in a five pound note
And this is what he said, said, said,

My name is ooly ooly chickali chickali
Ooly ooly up up up.
Cheese on toast with last week's roast,
Tied up with a little poke, poke, poke.

(Hamilton, 2002)

--

I went to the Chinese restaurant
To buy a loaf of bread, bread, bread.
I met a Chinese lady
And this is what she said, said, said.
My name is Ell-ie Chick-a-lie
Pom, pom poodle,
Willie, Willie whiskers,
Indiana Jones,
Elvis Presley, girls are sexy,
Sitting on the toilet drinking Pepsi,
Whoo-oo-oo Pow!

(Dunedin, 2000)

--

I went to a Chinese restaurant,
To buy a loaf of bread,
He wrapped it up in a five pound note,
And this is what he said,
Ali, chickalia, kalo,
I went to California, jumped in a lake
And swallowed a snake
And ended up with a belly ache.

(Methven, 2002)

--

I went to the Chinese restaurant
To buy a loaf of bread.
I wrapped it up in a five pound note,
And this is what I said,
My name is Elvis Presley, girls are sexy,
Sitting in a bathtub drinking Pepsi.

(New Plymouth, 1980s)

--

I went to the Chinese restaurant

To buy a loaf of bread, bread, bread.
He wrapped it up in a five pound note,
And this is what he said, said, said.
My name is Alli Alli, chicken eye,
Ohhli ohliwam pam pam
Jolly jolly whisker, three jolly sisters,
Do me a favour, drop dead!

(Tauranga, 1980s)

--

I went into a china shop,
To buy a loaf of bread, bread, bread.
And chewed it up like bubble gum,
And this is what they told me.
My name is Elvis Presley,
Girls are sexy,
Sitting on the toilet drinking Pepsi,
Watching movies, playing with the boobies,
This is what they said,
Big tits!

(Manaku, 2000)

--

Went to the Chinese restaurant
To buy a loaf of bread, bread, bread.
Wrapped it up in a five pound note
And this is what it said, said, said.
My name is Alli, Alli,
Chickidy, Challi,
Pompom woodle,
Willie, Willie, woodle,
Chinese chopsticks, Indian Chief,
Ka pow!

(Ashburton, 1990s)

--

I went to a Chinese bakery,
And bought a loaf of bread, bread, bread,
He wrapped it up in chewing gum,
And this is what he said, said, said,
My name is L-I-L-I Chickly Chickli,
Ooey gooey, brock, brock, brock,
Stuff 'em in the oven,
And poke, poke, poke,

Shove 'em in the oven,
And choke, choke, choke.

(Christchurch, 1990s x 2)

--

I went to a Chinese chip shop,
To buy a loaf of bread, bread, bread,
I wrapped it up in a five pound note,
And this is what he said, said, said,
My name is Andy pandy, sugar and candy,
Mum's gone crazy,
Da's had a baby,
Do me a favour,
Get lost!

(NZ ex UK, 2002)

--

I went to a Chinese restaurant,
To buy a loaf of bread, bread, bread,
He wrapped it up in bubble gum,
And this is what he said, said, said,
My name is Elvis Presley,
Girls are sexy,
Sitting in the back seat,
Had a baby in the navy,
Da,da,da,da,da,dah dah!

(Masteron, 2000)

--

I went to a Chinese restaurant,
To buy a loaf of bread, bread, bread,
He wrapped it up in bubble gum,
And this is what he said, said, said,
My name is Al-I, Al-I, chicken-i, chicken-I,
Pom, pom whirly, whirly, whiskers,
Chinese chopsticks, on corned beef,
Indian's teeth, false teeth.

(Mangawhai, 1980s)

--

I went to a Chinese restaurant,
To buy a loaf of bread, bread, bread,

I wrapped it up in a ten pound note
And this is what I said, said, said,
Andy Pandly sugar and candy,
Boys in the bathroom drinking all the Pepsi,
Mum's had a baby, Dad's gone crazy,
Do me a favour - push off!

(Wellington, 2005)

--

Background Info: Turner, 1969:43. variations include:

I went to a Chinese restaurant
To buy me a loaf of bread, pom, pom,
He wrapped it up in a five pound note
And this is what he said, said, said,
Oo ee oo ah ah,
Ting tang wallah wallah bing bang.

(Melbourne, 1967)

--

See also Bishop and Curtis, 2001:111 for modern version:

I went to the Chinese restaurant
To buy a loaf of bread, bread, bread.
He wrapped it up in a five pound note
And this is what he said, said, said,
"My name is Elvis Presley,
Girls are sexy
Sitting on the doorstep
Drinking Pepsi
Having a baby,
Sitting in the navy,
Boys go kiss, kiss (blow kisses)
Girls go woo." (lift skirt to show knickers)

(UK, c. 2000)

--

Also Rowan, 2005:

My name is Andy Pandly,
Sugar and candy,
Dad's had a baby,
Mum's gone crazy,
Do me a favour - get lost!

Reported from an East London playground, c. 2005, along with the comment by the girls that "We changed the words so it was dad having a baby. It makes it funnier..we're always making things up like that."

--

Also from Rowan,2005:

I went to a Chinese restaurant..
Wrapped it up in a five pound note,
And this is what they said,
"My name is Elvis Presley
I'm a movie star,
I do the hippy-hippy shake,
And I play the guitar.
The boys are hunky,
The girls are sexy,
Sitting in the back seat,
Drinking Pepsi,
Where's your father?
Round the corner,
In the harbour, drinking lager,
He feels a bit dizzy and he drops down dead.

(Glasgow, c. 2005)

--

Nonsense syllables are related to 'Chinese counting'. See Opie, 1984:39-41.
From the UK comes this version:

I went to a Chinese laundry
To buy a loaf of bread;
They wrapped it up in a tablecloth
And this is what they said:
Eenie, meenie, macca, racca..(41)

--

Keywords: Asian culture, nonsense, commercial product, media culture
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 15

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 669
Date: 1990
Title: Open the fridge

Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Open the fridge (Actions accompany)
Take some Coke,
Drink it,
Shut the fridge.
Me Chinese,
Me play joke,
Me put wee wee
In your Coke.

(Christchurch, 1990)

--

Keywords: scatological, commercial product, racist
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 672
Date: 1960s-2002
Title: Chinese men
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Chinese men are very funny,
This is how they count their money,
Usher, usher, turn around and push ya. (bump bottoms)

(Auckland, 2000; Wellington, 2002)

--

Chinese people are so funny,
This is how they count their money.
Usha, usha,
Turn around and bush her.

(Wellington, 1990s)

--

Chinese, Japanese,
Are so funny,

This is the way,
They count their money.
Oosha, oosha,
Turn around and push ya!

(Christchurch, 1960s; Mangawhai, 1990s; Auckland, 1990s; Auckland, 1994)

--

Chinese people are so funny,
This is the way they count their money.
Busha, busha,
Turn around and pusha.

(NZ, 2000)

--

Background Info: Turner, 1969:26 describes a similar version with reference to German boys:

German boys are very funny,
This is the way they earn their money;
Zip-a-la-la, zip-a-la-la, 1,2,3.

(Melbourne, 1958)

--

Nonsense syllables are related to 'Chinese counting'. See Opie, 1984:39-41.

--

Opie, 1997:240 -241 records these variations:

German boys are so funny,
This is the way they count their money.
Whoop-a-la-la, whoop-a-la-la,
Whoop, whoop, whoop.

This particular rhyme seems to be connected to a similar one beginning with 'German bands are so funny' and ending with 'Oroom-pah-pah'.

--

Keywords: Asian culture, taunt, racist
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 8

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 673
Date: 1920s-1950s
Title: Ching Chong Chinaman,
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Ching Chong Chinaman, velly, velly sad,
Peed on his cabbages and made them all bad.

(Oxford, 1920s; Wellington, 1950s)

--

Background Info: Actual taunt said at Te Aro School, Wellington, by children on way to Mt Cook School for technicraft classes - aimed at Chinese of Haining Street.
(Personal informant)

--

Keywords: racist, Chinese
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 674
Date: 1900s-1970s
Title: Ching Chong Chinaman
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Ching Chong Chinaman velly, velly sad,
He afraid that the trade,
Velly, velly, bad.
No e joke e,
Broke e broke e
Shut e up e shop e
Ching Chong Chinaman chop chop chop.

(Dunedin, 1940-1950s)

--

Ching Chong Chinaman,
Muchy, muchy la,

Two kai niania,
Lai, kai, la.

(Wairoa, 1970s)

--

Ching Chong Chinaman
Bought a toy doll.
Washed it, dyed it,
Then he caught a cold.
Sent for the doctor,
Doctor couldn't come,
Because he had a pimple,
On his tum, tum, tum.

(NZ, 1900 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:94))

--

Ching Chong Chinaman,
Born in a jar,
Christened in a teapot,
Ha, ha, ha.
A cabbage, a carrotie,
Turnie up the lettucie.

(NZ, 1900 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:95))

--

Background Info: Recalled by grandmother (Maori). Directed to Chinese in Dunedin during WWII years. (Personal informant)

--

Comment in Factor, 1988:107, 144, regarding origins in 1887.

--

See also Sutton Smith, 1972:128:

Ching Chong Chinaman
Born in a jar.
Christened in a teapot,
Ha, ha, ha!
A cabbage, a carrotie,
Turnie up the lettucie.

--

Variations in Turner, 1978:112 include:

Ching Chong Chinaman,
Bought a penny doll;
He washed it, he dressed it,
He called it Millie Moll.
He rang for the doctor,
The doctor couldn't come
Because he had a pain in his tum, tum, tum.

(Queensland, 1930)

Ching Chong Chinaman,
Velly, velly sad,
Allee gleene peaches
Go velly bad.

(G McInnes, "The Road to Gundagai", 1965:239 - Melbourne, 1920s)

--

Bolton, 1888:116, reports a counting-out rhyme from Oregon beginning:

Ching Chong Chinaman,
How do you sell your fish?
Ching Chong Chinaman,
Six bits a dish..

(Cited in Turner, 1969:87)

--

Sutton-Smith, 1959:9, describes how in pre- 1920s "adults, particularly foreigners, were also regarded as legitimate targets for children's pranks and teasing rhymes..Unlike insults directed towards other foreigners, which were mainly of an aggressive and physical kind (throwing stones onto roofs, letting the air out of tires, jeering, and catcalling), insults to Orientals were often of a symbolic nature. For example, one spat through crossed fingers and then rubbed the spittle into the ground with one's foot. This insult would, it was said, bring down dire Oriental vengeance if performed in the presence of the local greengrocer. (Wellington, 1920). Alternatively, one threw one's cap on the ground, and then, clasping the hands in front and bowing the head, trotted round it on tiptoe in the shuffling manner which was supposed to characterize the Chinaman's gait (Wellington, 1910)."

--

Keywords: racist, Chinese, nonsense

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 2
Incidence: 4

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 675
Date: 1990
Title: Ching, Chong, Chinaman
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Ching Chong Chinaman,
Swinging on a rubber band,
Hit the sun, burnt his bum,
That's the end of Chapter One!

(Te Aroha, 1990)

--

Keywords: Asian culture, racist, Chinese
Location: Te Aroha
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1016
Date: 1960s-2006
Title: I'm a pretty Dutch girl
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

I'm a pretty little Dutch girl,
As pretty as can be,
And all the boys in Amsterdam,
Go crazy over me, me, me.
My boyfriend's name is Tony,
He comes from the land of Paloney,
With freckles on his lips,
And freckles on his nose,
So this is how the story, goes, goes, goes.
One night he gave me kisses,
One night he gave me hugs.
One night he gave me twenty five kisses
And pushed me down the stairs, stairs, stairs.

(NZ, 1970s)

--

I'm a pretty little Dutch girl,
As pretty as can be,
And all the boys in my backyard, (baseball team)
Go crazy over me.
My boyfriend's name is Blackey, (Fatty)
He comes from Cincinatti, (Allabatty)
With a pimple on his nose, and ten black toes.
One day when I was walking, I saw my boyfriend talking,
To a pretty little girl with a golden curl.
This is what he said to her,
I L - O - V - E , love you,
I K - I - S - S , kiss you.
In the D - A - R - K dark.

(Whangarei, 1970s; Auckland, 1990s)

--

I'm a pretty little Dutch girl,
As pretty as can be,
And all the boys in the bakery,
Are crazy over me, me, me.

(Putaruru, 1970s)

--

I'm a pretty little Dutch girl,
As pretty as can be,
And all the boys in the baseball team,
Go crazy over me, me, me.
My boyfriend's name is Tony,
He comes from the land of Poloney,
With freckles on his nose,
And rings around his toes,
And that's the way my story goes, goes, goes.
One night he gave me coffee,
One night he gave me tea,
One night he gave me 25cents
And kicked me down the stairs, stairs, stairs.
I gave him back his coffee,
I gave him back his tea.
I gave him back his 25cents,
And that's the way my story ends, ends, ends.

(Rotorua, 1960s)

--

My boyfriend's name is Jackie,
He comes from Taranaki,
With a pimple on his nose,
And big, long toes,
And this is how my story goes.
One day when I was walking,
I saw my boyfriend talking,
To a pretty young girl,
With strawberry curls.
And this is what he told her,
I love you so sincerely,
I love you with all my heart,
So jump in the lake and swallow a snake,
And come out with a belly ache.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

I'm a pretty little Dutch girl,
As pretty as can be,
And all the boys on the baseball team,
Go crazy over me, me, me.
My Daddy's name is Tony,
He owns a baloney,
With thirty five toes and a horse up his nose.
My boyfriend gave me apples,
My boyfriend gave me pears,
My boyfriend gave me thirty five cents
And threw me down the stairs.
I gave him back his apples,
I gave him back his pears,
I gave him back his thirty five cents,
And stole his underwear.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

My boyfriend's name is Willy,
He comes from Pipanilly,
He's got a cherry as a nose,
And forty eight toes,
And this is how my story goes.
One day I was out walking,
And saw my boyfriend talking,
To a pretty young girl with a chocolate curl.
And this is what he said to her,

I L.O.V.E. love you,
I K. I. S. S. kiss you,
So I jumped in the lake,
And swallowed a snake,
And came back up with a belly.

(Timaru, 2006)

--

Background Info: Discussion and tune to this rhyme in Opie, 1988:450-452.

--

Identified in New York, 1940, UK, 1959.

Other variations:

Fatty from Cincinnati; Sammy from Alabamy; Sambo from Alabamo; Randy from the land of candy. Schwartz, 1992:174

--

Lowenstein, 1974: 24 records the version:

I'm a pretty little Dutch girl
As pretty as can be, be, be.
And all the boys around the place
Are crazy over me, me, me.
My mother sent me to the shop
And told me not to stay, stay, stay.
I met a boy from down the lane,
And stayed to Christmas day.
He offered me some peaches,
He offered me some pears,
He offered me some twenty five cents
To kiss him on the stairs.
I do not want your peaches,
I do not want your pears,
I do not want your twenty five cents,
To kiss you on the stairs.
My boyfriend's name is Tony,
He comes from the land of Baloney,
With two big toes and a pimple on his nose.
And this is how my story goes.
One day when I was walking
I heard my boyfriend talking,
To a pretty little girl with a funny little curl,
And this is what he said to her.
I love you very dearly
With all my heart sincerely.
I'll take you down to the big old tree,

And there we'll raise a family.

(Melbourne, 1967)

--

Keywords: romance, NZ culture,
Location: Various NZ, South Africa
Group size: 4
Incidence: 8

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 685
Date: 1970s-2000
Title: Come to school
Gender: Male
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Come to school, come to school,
For a life of misery,
There's a poster on the school sign,
Saying welcome unto thee!
Don't believe it, don't believe it,
It is all a big fat lie,
If it weren't for Mr [X],
We could be in paradise.

(Orewa, 2000)

--

Twizel Area, Twizel Area,
It's a place of misery,
With a signpost at the gateway,
Saying welcome to you all.
Don't believe it, don't believe it,
They are always telling lies,
If it weren't for the teachers,
It'd be a paradise.
Make a bonfire, make a bonfire,
Put the teachers on the top,
And burn the bloody lot.

(Twizel, 1970s)

--

Background Info: Sung to tune of Clementine, an American western folk ballad. (1884)

Comment in Factor, 1988:159 in association with the rhyme "On top of old Smokey", and the need for children to use their rhymes as a form of power over those who are seen to have control over them (teachers and schools).

--

See also variations beginning: "Build a bonfire", "On top of Old Smokey".

--

Keywords: authority, NZ culture

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 5

Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 686

Date: 1890s-1930s

Title: Cups and saucers

Gender: Female

Classification: Skipping

Rhyme:

Cups and saucers,
Plates and dishes,
Here comes Johnny
With the cast-iron britches.
How many stitches in his britches?
1,2,3..

(Masterton, 1930s)

--

Cups and saucer, plates and dishes,
There goes Sally in calico britches.

(Taranaki, 1890s (Sutton-Smith, 1959:65))

--

Keywords: archaic language

Location: Masterton

Group size: 4

Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 689
Date: 1950s
Title: Dearly beloved brethren
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Dearly beloved brethren, is it not a sin?
To peel a potato and throw away the skin?
The skin feeds the pigs, the pigs feed you,
Dearly beloved brethren, is this not quite true?

(NZ ex UK, 1950s)

--

Background Info: Found in connection with the finger play rhyme,
"Here is the church, here is the steeple" (Abrahams, 1980:35).

--

Keywords: logic
Location: NZ (ex UK)
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 690
Date: 1927-30
Title: Dam the river
Gender: Male
Classification: Curse
Rhyme:

Dam the river,
Blast the rocks,
And blow the fire to blazes.

(NZ ex UK, 1927)

--

Location: NZ (ex UK)
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 691

Date: 1950s
Title: Dunce, dunce
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Dunce, dunce, double D,
Can't say your ABC,
Can't make a cup of tea,
Dunce, dunce, double D.

(NZ ex UK, 1950s)

--

Background Info: Discussion in Opie, 1967:180, regarding the use of the term 'dunce'. A dunce "may be sane, good at games, and seldom act the fool, but he lacks scholastic abilities, he is dense, slow on the uptake, he has got a thick head."

Dunce, dunce, double D,
Doesn't know his ABC.

(UK, 1898)

Dunce , dunce, double D,
Cannot learn his ABC,
Put a cap on, then you'll see,
What a silly boy is he.

--

Keywords: school
Location: NZ (ex UK)
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 693
Date: 1950s
Title: Change the name
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Change the name and not the letter,
Marry for worse and not for better.

(NZ ex UK, 1950s)

--

Keywords: marriage
Location: NZ (exUK)
Group size: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 694
Date: 1995
Title: Cheese on toast
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Cheese on toast, ready for the roast,
This is the way I count my money,
Oosha, Oosha, turn around and pushha.

(Christchurch, 1995)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 697
Date: 1970s
Title: Can't catch me
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Chasing
Rhyme:

Can't catch me,
Dirty old flea.

(Auckland, 1970s)

--

Keywords: chasing, taunt
Location: Auckland
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 698
Date: 1990
Title: Can can girls
Gender: Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Can, can, girls are pretty,
They sure know how to dance,
They lift their legs into the air,
Until you see their fuzz..y
Wuzzy was a bear, sitting on a rock,
Along came a bumble bee, and stung off his cock..
Tails ginger ale, fifty cents a glass,
If you don't like it shove it up you're a..
Ask me no questions tell me no lies,
I saw a policeman doing up his flies.
Are a nuisance, bugs are worse,
This is the end of my silly verse.

(Christchurch, 1990)

--

Background Info: Compare with rhymes beginning:

Ask me no questions..
Suzy had a steamboat..
Higher up the mountain..
Mary had a canary..
Country girls are pretty..

--

Factor, 1988:163, refers to such rhymes as 'avoidance' rhymes.

--

From www.warrenfahey.com (accessed 15 January, 2007) Australian Folklore website:

We are the can can girls,
We wear our hair in curls,
We don't smoke or drink,
Or that's what our parents think,
We don't play with toys,
We just kiss with boys,
We are the can can girls,
Of 2005.

(Sydney, Australia, 2005)

--

Keywords: predictive, teenage culture
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 701
Date: 1950s-2000
Title: Convent cats,
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Convent cats are dirty rats.

(Whangarei, 2000)

--

Convent cats, stink like rats.

(Gore, 1960s)

--

Convent dogs, sitting on logs,
Eating bellies out of frogs.

(Hastings, 1950s)

--

Convent dogs, sitting on logs,
Eating bellies out of frogs.

(NZ, 1950s; Ashburton, 1960s)

--

Background Info: See also variations beginning "Catholic dogs".

--

Keywords: religious taunts, Catholics
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 6

Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 899

Date: 1960s

Title: Eenie, meenie

Gender: Female

Classification: Counting-out

Rhyme:

Eenie, meenie, mickeracker,
Rareri, dominacer,
Chickeracker, lollipopper
Om, pom, pusher.

(Putaruru, 1960s)

--

Location: Putaruru

Group size: 4

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1017

Date: 1960s

Title: I'm a little Dutch girl

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Game

Rhyme:

I'm a little Dutch girl, (x 3)
From over the sea,
I'm a little Dutch boy, (x 3)
From over the sea.
We'll fall in love, love, love
From over the sea.
We'll get married, married, married,
From over the sea.
We'll have babies, babies, babies,
From over the sea.
We'll grow old, old, old,
From over the sea.
Then we'll die, die, die,
From over the sea.

(Auckland, 1960s)

--

Keywords: rite of passage,
Location: Auckland
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 703
Date: 1960s-1997
Title: Caterpillar custard
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Caterpillar custard, green snot pie,
All mixed up with a dead dog's eye,
Slap it on a butty, nice and thick,
Wash it down with a cup of cold..
We all picked up the thickest stick,
The thickest stick we could find.
But [X] picked up something the dog left behind.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Great big gobs of greasy, grimy gopher guts,
Mutilated monkey meat,
Itsy, bitsy birdy beaks,
French fried eyeballs floating in a pool of blood,
All mixed up in battle-beaten beaver brains,
And I forgot my spoon.

(NZ, 1980s)

--

Green mouldy custard, thick snot pie,
All mixed up with a dead dog's eye.
Slap it on your sandwich, slap it on thick,
And then wash it down with a cup of hot sick.

(Wellington, 1960s)

--

Great big gobs of greasy grimy gopher guts,
Little hairy piggy feet,

Mutilated monkey meat,
All chopped up with overpowering porpoise pus,
And me without a spoon.

(Masterton, 1970s)

--

Ooey gooey custard,
Green maggot pie.
Four dogs' gizzards,
And one cat's eye.
Four blood sandwiches,
Coated on thick,
All washed down with a cup of cold sick.

(NZ ex Australia, 1980s)

--

Mouldy, mouldy custard,
Green snot pie,
Mix it all together with a dead dog's eye.
Get your bread and butter plate,
Spread it on thick,
Then drink it down,
With a cup of cold sick.

(Waimate, 1970s)

--

Smelly melly custard,
Snot and bogey pie,
Dead dog's giblets,
Cold cat's eye.
Spread it on toast,
Spread it on thick,
Wash it all down,
With a cup of cold sick.

(Christchurch, 1997)

--

Keywords: scatological, bawdy
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 7

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 704
Date: 1970s
Title: Cows are in the meadow,
Gender: Male
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Cows are in the meadow,
Sheep are in the corn,
Don't climb the barbed wire fence,
You'll get your knickers torn.

(Taupo, 1970s)

--

Keywords: NZ culture
Location: Taupo
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 705
Date: 1999
Title: Cockroach sandwiches
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Cockroach sandwiches for my lunch,
Hate the taste, love the crunch.

(Methven, 1999)

--

Keywords: food
Location: Methven
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 707
Date: 2000
Title: Cream with coffee
Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Graffiti
Rhyme:

Cream with coffee, cream with tea,
Come to bed and cream with me.

(Waimate, 2000)

--

Keywords: bawdy,
Location: Waimate
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 708
Date: 2000
Title: Cowboy Joe
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Cowboy Joe from Mexico,
Hands up, stick 'em up.
Drop your guns, and pick them up.
O U T spells out. (actions accompany)

(Waimate, 2000)

--

Background Info: Variations in Turner, 1978:14, include:

Cowboy Joe from Mexico,
Hands up, stick 'em up,
And don't forget to pick 'em up,
Out you go.

(Victoria, 1956-73)

--

Opie, 1997:231 describes this rhyme as being popular in 1960s throughout Britain.
Variations include:

Buffalo Bill from Faraway Hill,
Hands up, stick 'em up.
Drop your guns and pick 'em up.

Buffalo Bill from Faraway Hill.

--

Location: Waimate
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 709
Date: 1980s
Title: A canner
Gender: Female
Classification: Ball game
Rhyme:

A canner exceedingly canny,
One morning remarked to his Granny,
A canner can can anything that he can,
But a canner can't can a can, can he?

(Christchurch, 1980s x 2)

--

Keywords: tongue twister
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 710
Date: 1999
Title: Chips, eggs and bacon
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Chips, eggs and bacon,
I think you are mistaken.

(Nelson, 1990)

--

Keywords: mistake
Location: Nelson
Group size: 1

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 712

Date: 1990-1995

Title: The clock struck one

Gender: Female

Classification: Bawdy

Rhyme:

The clock struck 1,
The fun has just begun,
Sing doo a dee dee dee, dum dee da doo,
The clock struck 2
And he's touching my shoe,
The clock struck 3
And he's up to my knee,
The clock struck 4
We're rolling on the floor,
The clock struck 5
He's up to my thigh,
The clock struck 6
It's connecting dicks,
The clock struck 7
Feels like we're in heaven,
The clock struck 8
The doctor's at the gate,
The clock struck 9
There's nappies on the line,
The clock struck 10
Let's do it all again.

(Christchurch, 1995)

--

The clock struck 1,
And the fun's just begun,
Sing doo a dee dee dee, dum dee da doo,
The clock struck 2
And he caught me on the loo, singing..
The clock struck 3
And it feels as good as can be, singing..
The clock struck 4
We're rolling on the floor, singing...
The clock struck 5
And I'm glad to be alive, singing...
The clock struck 6
It's connecting dicks, singing...

The clock struck7
Feels like we're in heaven, singing...
The clock struck 8
The doctor's at the gate, singing...
The clock struck 9
And it feels really fine, singing...,
The clock struck10
Let's do it all again.

(Christchurch, 1990)

--

Background Info: Collected from girls' boarding school.

--

Onwuchekwa, 2003:144 records this version from urban black America:

No 1
My story has just begun.
No2
She told me what to do.
No 3
She laid me between her knees.
No 4
Then we were on the floor.
No 5
Her belly began to rise.
No 6
I inserted my big dick.
No 7
I thought I was in heaven.
No 8
The doctor was at the gate.
No 9
The twins were at her side.
No 10
Then we started all over again.

--

From Lowenstein, 1974:15:

Chapter one, one, one,
Let's have some fun, fun, fun.
Chapter two, two, two,
What shall we do?
Chapter three..
Sit on my knee.

Chapter four..
Lie on the floor.
Chapter five..
Open legs wide.
Chapter six..
Intersection of..
Chapter seven..
Feels like heaven.
Chapter eight..
Feeling great.
Chapter nine,,
Baby feeling fine.
Chapter ten..
Let's do it again.
(Melbourne, 1971)

--

Keywords: life passages, sex
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 4
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 713
Date: 1997
Title: Charlie Chaplin
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Charlie Chaplin sat on a pin,
How many inches did it go in?

(Timaru, 1997)

--

Keywords: media culture
Location: Timaru
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 714
Date: 1996
Title: Charlie Farley
Gender: Male

Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Charlie Farley stole some barley,
Out of the baker's shop,
The baker came out and gave him a clout,
And made poor Charlie hop, hop, hop.

(Christchurch, 1996)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 793
Date: 1938
Title: Recipe for love
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Recipe for true love:
1 oz sweet lips
2 ozs kissing
3 ozs teasing
4 ozs squeezing
All to be baked in a young man's arms
And served after dark.

(Millers Flat, 1938)

--

Keywords: love, word play
Location: Millers Flat
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 794
Date: 1938
Title: Heavenly joys
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

If you want to partake of heavenly joys,
Think more of the Lord and less of the boys.

(NZ, 1938)

--

Keywords: tease
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 716
Date: 1960s-1990s
Title: Charlie Chaplin
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Charlie Chaplin meek and mild,
Swiped a sausage from a child,
When the child began to cry,
Charlie socked him in the eye,
Oh, the moon shines bright on Charlie Chaplin,
His boots are crackin' for a want of blackin'
And his old dusty coat needs a mendin'
Until hey, send him to the Dardanelles.
Charlie Chaplin went to France
To teach the ladies how to dance,
First the heel and then the toe,
Lift your skirt and round you go.
Charlie Chaplin had no sense,
He bought a fiddle for 18 pence,
The only tune that he could play
Was ta ra ra de boom de ay.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Charlie Chaplin went to France,
To teach the ladies how to dance,
This is what he taught them.
Heel, toe and over you go (x 3)

(Waipukurau, 1960s)

--

Background Info: Section on Charlie Chaplin rhymes in Opie, 1967:108-110.

--

See also Sutton-Smith, 1959:82 & 87 for versions played as action and ball bouncing rhymes pre 1950s:

Charlie Chaplin walks like this,
Charlie Chaplin throws a kiss.
Charlie Chaplin winks one eye,
Charlie Chaplin waves good-bye. (82)

Charlie Chaplin went to France,
To teach the ladies how to dance,
And this is the way he taught them.
Heel, toe and over we go.
Heel and toe and over we go.
Heel and toe and over we go.

(Dunedin, 1915, a ball bouncing rhyme with the ball being bounced under the leg.)

--

For sexual connotations see Butler, 1989:67-68:

Charlie Chaplin sat on a pin.
How many inches did it go in? (Virginia, 1947)

--

Discussion in Turner, 1969:2. Minney in "Chaplin -The Immortal Tramp" (1954) noted the rhyme sung by children in the street in USA and UK:

1,2,3,4, Charlie Chaplin went to war,
He taught the nurses how to dance,
And this is what he taught them:
Heel, toe, over we go,
Heel, toe, over we go,
Salute to the King and bow to the Queen
And turn your back on the submarine.

--

Keywords: media culture, topical rhyme
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 5
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 719
Date: 2002
Title: Cruisin' down the road
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun rap
Rhyme:

Cruisin' down the road in my Holden '66
When I felt like a feed,
Yeh Bro! Fish and chips,
Stacked up all my whanau,
They're stacked up in the car,
Do you like my pretty car keys? Yeh Bro!
They're pretty dark.
Don't be late, get your bait,
We can always go fishin' with your cousin's mate!

(Rotorua, 2002)

--

Background Info: .
Keywords: Maori, NZ culture
Location: Rotorua
Group size: 5
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 723
Date: 1947
Title: Cry baby Cry
Gender: Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Cry, baby, cry,
Poke your finger in your eye,
Tell your mother it wasn't I
Cry baby cry.

(NZ ex UK, 1947)

--

Background Info: Discussion in Opie, 1967:186-188.
Also Sutton Smith, 1959:97:

Cry, baby, cry,
Put your finger in your eye,
And tell your mother,
It wasn't eye.

--

Used in John Updike's novel "Couples", p.83.
"Cry-baby, cry-baby, sit-and-wonder-why-baby."

--

Onwuchekwa, 2003:109 records variations from urban black America:

Cry, baby, cry,
Stick your finger in your eye.
See the water fly,
Cry until you die.

Cry, baby, cry,
Stick your finger in your eye,
Tell, tell, ring the bell.

--

From Withers, 1948:114:

Cry, baby, cry,
Stick your finger in your eye;
If your mother asks you why,
Tell her that you want some pie.

--

Keywords: unpopular children
Location: NZ (ex UK)
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 725
Date: 1972 - 2000
Title: Captain Cook
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Captain Cook lost one hook (hand behind back)
Captain Cook lost the other hook,

Captain Cook lost one eye,
Captain Cook lost the other eye,
Captain Cook lost one leg,
Captain Cook got them back again!

(Napier, 2000)

--

Captain Cook lost one arm,
Captain Cook lost the other arm,
Captain Cook lost one eye,
Captain Cook lost the other eye.
Captain Cook lost one leg,
Captain Cook lost the other leg.

(Christchurch, 1980s)

--

Lord Nelson, Battle of Trafalgar, lost one arm,
Lord Nelson, Battle of Trafalgar, lost the other arm,
Lord Nelson, Battle of Trafalgar, lost one eye,
Lord Nelson, Battle of Trafalgar, lost the other eye.
Lord Nelson, Battle of Trafalgar, lost one leg,
Lord Nelson, Battle of Trafalgar, lost the other leg.
Drop down dead.

(Wellington, 1972)

--

Background Info: Actions accompany skipping rhyme.
Bauer, 2002, Sect.68:10-11, recorded variations of this rhyme in Tauranga x 2,
Palmerston North, Wanganui x 2, along with the variant:

Captain Cook sailed the ocean,
Captain Cook sailed the sea,
And the waves got higher and higher and over,
Captain Cook lost one arm.

(Wanganui, c.2002)

--

Keywords: NZ history,
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 726

Date: 1930s-2004

Title: Captain Cook

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Bawdy

Rhyme:

Captain Cook did a poop,
Behind the kitchen door,
A blade of grass, tickled his arse,
And made him do some more.

(Kerikeri, 2000; Taranaki, 1960s)

--

Captain Cook did a poop,
Behind the kitchen door,
The cat jumped up and bit his butt,
And made him do some more.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Captain Cook did a poop,
Behind a sailor's tree,
A bit of grass, tickled his arse,
And made him do a pee.

(Timaru, 1980s)

--

Captain Cook did a poop,
Behind the bathroom door,
Take my hat and do it in that,
And don't be dirty anymore.

(Rotorua, 1950s)

--

Captain Cook did a poop,
Behind the kitchen door,
[X] came and picked it up,
And then he did some more.

(Tauranga, 2004)

--

Captain Cook did a poop,
Behind the kitchen door,
Along came the cat and licked it up,
And tickled his bum for more.

(Hastings, 1960s)

--

Captain Cook did a poop,
Behind the kitchen door,
A cat and a pup licked it up,
And asked him for some more.

(Auckland, 1970s)

--

Captain Cook did a poop,
Behind the kitchen door,
A mouse ran past and tickled his arse,
And made him do some more.

(Auckland, 1930s)

--

Background Info: Originally recorded in 1940s Australia as "Captain Cook chased a chook". Variations in Turner, 1978:71. Also in Lowenstein, 1974:14.
Including:

Captain Cook chased a chook
All around Australia.
He lost his pants in the middle of France
And continued in his underpants.

(Melbourne, 1973)

Captain Cook, the dirty chook,
Went sailing down a river.
He struck a rock and broke his cock
And made his puff balls shiver.

(Sydney, 1932)

--

From the Scottish website www.glesga.ukpals.com/MemoryLane%20Songs.htm: (Accessed 15 January, 2007)

Captain Cook was making soup,
His wife was making jelly.
Captain Cook fell in the soup,
And burnt his rubber belly.

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 9

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 727
Date: 1970
Title: Captain Cook sailed
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Captain Cook sails the seven seas,
The waves go higher and higher,
And higher and over,
1,2,3,4..

(Wellington, 1970)

--

Location: Wellington
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 728
Date: 1998-2006
Title: Captain Cook
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Captain Cook, the dirty chook,
Went sailing down the river,
Hit a rock and split his cock,

And left his balls to shiver.

(Ashburton, 1998)

--

Captain Cook rode a chook,
Down the Maori River,
Hit a rock,
Split his cock,
Left his balls to shiver.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Ashburton
Group size: 1
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 731
Date: 1998
Title: Captain Cook
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Captain Cook did a job,
Beneath the banana trees,
A blade of grass tickled his arse,
And made him do wees.

(Christchurch, 1998)

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 734
Date: 1967
Title: Do you know?
Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Do you know Teresa Green?
Do you mean to say you don't know trees are green?
Do you know Tony Chestnut?
You don't know toe, knee chest, nut?

(Tauranga, 1967)

--

Keywords: riddle, word play
Location: Tauranga
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 737
Date: 1950s-1990s
Title: Dictation, dictation
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Dictation, dictation, dictation,
Three sausages went to the station,
One got tossed,
One got lost
And the other got washed down the basin.

(NZ ex UK, 1950s)

--

Dictation, dictation,
A man had a big operation,
They pulled out his gizzards,
And thought they were lizards,
Dictation, dictation, dictation.

(Waikari, 1990s)

--

Dictation, dictation, dictation,
Three sausages went to the station,
One got lost, one got squashed,
And one had a big operation.

(Hawarden, 1990s)

--

Background Info: 280
Keywords: media culture,
Location: Various NZ UK
Group size: 6
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 738
Date: 2000-2002
Title: Diddly, diddly dandy
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Diddly, diddly, dandy, (Milly Molly, Mandy)
I'm a stick of candy,
Lick me slow,
Lick me fast,
How many licks do you think I'll last?

(Auckland, 2000; Whakatane, 2000; Swanson, 2001; Tauranga, 2001; Blenheim, 2002;
Christchurch, 2002)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 6
Incidence: 6

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 739
Date: 1990s
Title: Down in the valley
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Down in the valley where grows the green grass,
Down came a teddy bear sliding on his..
Don't be mistaken, don't be misled,
This little teddy bear came sliding on his head.

Down in the valley the greener grows the grass,

Down came the elephant sliding on his..
Don't be mistaken, don't be mislead,
Down came the elephant sliding on his head.

(NZ ex South Africa, 1990s)

--

Keywords: predictive
Location: NZ ex Zimbabwe
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 743
Date: 2000
Title: Dingle, angle, I'm in a tangle.
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Dingle dangle,
I'm in a tangle.

(Temuka, 2000)

--

Keywords: nonsense
Location: Temuka
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 744
Date: 1998
Title: Diddle, diddle, dumpty
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Diddle, diddle, dumpty,
The cat ran up the gum tree,
The firemen came to get her down,
Diddle, diddle dumpty.

(Nelson, 1998)

--

Keywords: nonsense
Location: Nelson
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 745
Date: 1990s-2002
Title: Lick a day
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Do you lick a dick a day? (Said very fast to disguise words)
Say "What " if you are gay.

(Blenheim. 2002)

--

Lick a day, lick a day.

(Glentunnel, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Repeated as a tongue twister.

--

Keywords: guile, bawdy, word play, homophobia
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 746
Date: 2002
Title: A doggie stole a sausage
Gender: Female
Classification: Circular rhyme
Rhyme:

A doggie stole a sausage,
When he was under-fed.
The butcher saw him take it,

And now the poor dog's dead.
And all the little doggies,
They gathered there that night,
They built a little tombstone,
And on it they did write.
A doggie stole a sausage,
When he was under-fed.
(and continue on..circular rhyme)

(Auckland, 2002)

--

Background Info: Similar to version in Turner, 1978:135:

A doggie stole a sausage,
Cause he was under-fed,
The butcher saw him take it,
And now the doggie's dead.
All the little doggies
Were very sad that night,
They built a little tombstone,
And on it they did write
A doggie...(continued)

(Victoria, c. 1948)

--

Keywords: circular, never ending rhyme
Location: Auckland
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 747
Date: 2001
Title: Deck the halls
Gender: Male
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Deck the halls with kerosene,
Light a match and watch it clean.
Watch the school go down in ashes,
Aren't you glad you played with matches.

(Methven, 2001)

--

Keywords: authority, school
Location: Methven
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 750
Date: 1990s-2003
Title: Down baby down
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Down, baby down, roller coaster.
Sweet, sweet baby I'm never gonna let you go.
Shimmey, shimmey coco pops,
Shimmey, shimmey POW!
Call the doctor quick, quick, quick,
Cos I'm feeling sick,sick,sick.
Doctor, doctor, will I die?
Count to 5 and you're alive.
1,2,3,4,5
Doctor, doctor am I dead?
No, because you did what I said.

(Rotorua, 2002)

--

Down, baby down, roller coaster.
Sweet, sweet baby, don't let me go.
Shimmy, shimmy cocoa pops,
Shimmy shimmy ra.
Shimmy, shimmy, cocoa pops,
Shimmy, shimmy ra.
I got a boyfriend, a biscuit.
He's got a spunky biscuit.
Ice cream soda with a cherry on the top,
Ice cream soda with a cherry on the top,
Incy wincy lollipop,
Incy wincy woo,
Incy wincy lollipop, the boys love you,
And that's not true.
Ladies and gentlemen, children too.
This old lady's gonna boogie for you.
She's gonna turn around,
She's gonna touch the ground.

She's gonna boogie, boogie, boogie,
Till her pants fall down.

(Whakatane, 1990s)

--

Down, down, baby, down the rollercoaster,
Sweet, sweet baby, no place to go.
Jumped out the window, crazy, crazy.
Didn't do the dishes, lazy, lazy.
Ate a lot of junk food, yummy, yummy.
Didn't clean up, naughty, naughty.
(Fucked my boyfriend, yummy, yummy.
Tried on a condom, naughty, naughty)
Eeny meeny disapeeny,
Ooh wah sha walla, walla,
Education, operation,
Cool, no school.

(Masterton, 2000)

--

Down, baby down, roller coaster.
Sleep, sleep, baby, I don't want to let you go.
Mamma, Mamma, I feel sick,
Called the doctor, the doctor said,
Let's get the rhythm of the head, ding, dong, x 2
Let's get the rhythm of the hands, feet, hot dog,
Put it all together and what do you get? Ding, dong, clap, clap, stamp, stamp, hot
dog, hot dog.
Put it all backwards and what do you get?
Dog, hot, stamp, stamp, clap, clap, dong, ding, dong, ding.

(Auckland, 2001)

--

Oh shoo shoo,
Walla, walla, biscuits
I've got a boyfriend, maybe,
He's so spunky,
Like a monkey.
Ice cream soda with a cherry on the top,
Ice cream soda with a cherry in the middle,
Ice cream soda with a cherry on the bottom.
Let's get the rhyme of the ding, dong,
Let's get the rhythm of the hands, clap, clap.. (continues on as above)

(Rotorua, 2002)

--

Down, baby, down, roller coaster.
Sweet, sweet baby, I'm never gonna let you go.
Shimney, shimney coco pop,
Shimney, shimney ra.
Shimney, shimney coco pop,
Shimney, shimney ra.
I met a boyfriend, a biscuit.
He was a sweet one, a biscuit.
Apples on the table,
Peaches on the floor.
Step out baby.
I don't love you any more.
To the front, to the back, to the side.
To the front, to the back, to the side.

(Timaru, 2003)

--

Ice cream soda with a cherry on the top,
Ice cream soda with a cherry on the bottom,
Down, down, baby, down by the road,
Sweet, sweet baby, never let me go.
Shimmer, shimmer, cocoa pop, (x 2)
Shimmer, shimmer pow! (x 2)

(Northland, 2000)

--

Background Info: Details from Marsh, 2001:91-93.
Popular African-American singing game, especially in early 1990s. Appeared on "Sesame Street" at that time in Australia (ABC), NZ and around the world. Also reported in Ghana. Media influence can account for the spread of this rhyme. The Sesame Street version is:

Down baby down,
Down, down the roller coaster,
Sweet, sweet baby, I never let you go.
Chimmy chimmy coco pop
Chimmy chimmy pow
Chimmy chimmy coco pop
Chimmy chimmy pow.
Granma, Granma, sick in bed,
She called the doctor and the doctor said,
Let's get the rhythm of the head, ding, dong..

The Dutch version begins:

Daun daun lady, down daun ole ole..

The French version begins:

Dam dam bebe, dam dam dolika...

--

Similar version in Turner, 1978:41.

--

See also rhyme beginning "Grandma, Grandma, stuck in bed" and "Ronald McDonald".

--

Opie, 2000:70 records a version as a skipping rhyme and predictor of the number of carriages in a funeral procession:

Mother, Mother, I am ill!
Send for the doctor! Yes I will.
Doctor, Doctor, shall I die?
Yes, my child, and so shall I.
When I die pray tell to me,
How many coaches will there be?
1,2,3,4..
Then we're respectable.

--

Keywords: media influence, death, funerals

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 4

Incidence: 7

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 751

Date: 2000

Title: Red hot chilli peppers

Gender: Female

Classification: Skipping

Rhyme:

Red hot chilli peppers.

(Tauranga, 2000)

--

Background Info: Rope speeds up, rhyme continuous till skipper trips.

--

Location: Tauranga

Group size: 8

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 752

Date: 1983-2005

Title: Down the Mississippi

Gender: Female

Classification: Skipping, counting-out

Rhyme:

Down the Mississippi,
Where the girls play baseball.
One o'clock, two o'clock, three o'clock,
You're out!

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Down the Mississippi,
If you give a shout,
You're out.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Down the Mississippi,
Where girls play baseball.
Strike, strike 2, strike 3,
You're out.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Down the Mississippi,
If you miss the rope you're out!
You're in. (new skipper runs in)

(Tauranga, 2000)

--

Down the Mississippi,
Where the girls play baseball
One o'clock, two o'clock, three o'clock,
You're out. (counting-out)

(Porirua, 2000)

--

Down the river, Mississippi,
Miss the loop, you're out, out, out.

(Springston, 1990s; Auckland, 1994; Opotiki, 2002; NZ ex UK, 1983; Wairoa, 2005)

--

Background Info: Can also be extended to other actions, such as hop to Mississippi,
clap to Mississippi, twist to Mississippi.

--

See also Turner, 1978:15:

Down the Mississippi,
if you miss a loop you're out.
Down the Mississippi,
If you miss the boat,
You swim.

(Victoria, 1958-1973)

--

Bauer, 2002, Sect.68:2, recorded versions of this skipping game in Kaitaia x 2,
Whangarei, Auckland x 2, Thames, Hamilton, x 2, Hawkes Bay, with the explanation of
the use of a long rope and a lot of onlookers chanting the rhyme and watching the
skipper waiting for a trip (miss a loop).

Hey Mississippi, if you miss a loop, you're out.
Hey Mississippi, if you miss the beat, you are out.
Round the Mississippi, one slip, and you're out, get out.

--

Keywords: American,
Location: Various NZ

Group size: 4
Incidence: 10

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 753
Date: 1970s-2006
Title: Down in the valley
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Down in the valley where the green grass grows,
Along came [Mary] as sweet as a rose.
She sang and she sang and she sang so sweet,
Along came [Tom] and kissed her on the cheek.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Down in yonder meadow
Where the green grass grows,
Where [X] washes all her clothes.
And she sang and she sang
And she sang so sweet.
That she sang [Y] across the street.
Linda baked a dumpling,
She baked it awful nice.
Then she cut it into pieces,
And gave us all a slice.
Saying, "Taste it, taste it, don't say no.
For tomorrow is my wedding day and I must go."

(Auckland, 1970s)

--

Down in the meadow where the green grass grows,
There sat little [Mary] as sweet as a rose.
Along came a boy and kissed her on the cheek.
Shame little [Mary], who's your little boyfriend?
A,B,C..

(Ashburton, 1990)

--

Down in the valley where the green grass grows,
There's that [X] as pretty as a rose.

She sings, she sings, she sings so sweet,
Along comes [Y] and kissed her on the cheek,
Oh [Y] you should be ashamed,
You're kissing a girl and you don't know her name.
Asked her to a party, sat her on his knee,
Asked her a question, will you marry me?
So go pitch, go patch, go peppers,
Yes, no, maybe so.

(NZ ex Canada, 2000)

--

Down in the valley where the green grass grows,
There sat [X] pretty as a rose,
Along came [Y], and kissed her on the nose.
How many kisses do you know?
1,2,3..

(Rotorua, 2000)

--

Down in the valley
Where the green grass grows,
There sits [X], picking her nose.

(Rotorua, 1970s)

--

Background Info: Originally a skipping game recorded by Gomme,1894.

--

Opie, 1997:266-268 records variants developed from the original singing game:

Down in the valley where the green grass grows,
There's a pretty maiden, she grows like a rose.
She grows, she grows, she grows so sweet,
She calls for her lover at the end of the street.
[X], [X], will you marry me?
Yes, love, yes, love, half-past three.
Ice cakes, spice cakes, all for tea,
And we'll have wedding cake at half-past three.

--

Bawdy version recorded by Abrahams, 1969:43:

Down in the valley where the green grass grows,
There sat little [X] without any clothes.
Along came [Y], swinging a chain,
Down went a zipper and out it came.
Three months later she began to swell,
Six months later, you could really tell.
Nine months later, out they came,
Two little boys swinging on a chain.

--

Similarly in Knapp, 1976:186:

Down by the river where nobody goes,
Along came [X] without any clothes.
Along came [Y], swinging a chain,
Down went the zipper and out it came.
Six months swelling, nine months later,
Out it came, a bald-headed monster,
Swinging on a chain.

--

Onwuchekwa, 2003:143 records this version from urban black America:

Down by the river where nobody goes
There lies Betty without any clothes.
Along came Freddy swingin' from his chain
Down came the zipper and out it came.
Three months later all was well,
Six months later she began to swell.
Nine months later out it came
Little Freddy Junior, swingin' his chain.

--

Lowenstein, 1974:18 recorded:

Down in the valley where nobody goes,
Lives a fair lady without any clothes.
Up came a swaggie all tattered and torn,
Off with his pants and out with his prawn.
Three months later all went well.
Six months later she started to swell.
Nine months later she gave a grunt
And three little buggers jumped out of her c..
One was big and one was small,
And the other little bugger had only one ball.

(Newcastle, 1955)

Down in the valley where nobody goes
Lives Marilyn Munroe without any clothes.
Along came Roy Rogers clippity-clop,
Off with his pants and out with his cock.
Three months later..

(Newcastle, 1955)

--

Schwartz, 1992:168 records this 1880s variation:

Down by the river where the green grass grows,
There sat [X] as pretty as a rose.
She sang, she sang, she sang herself to sleep,
And up came [Y] and kissed her on the cheek.

--

Keywords: pregnancy, bawdy, divination, movie culture, marriage
Location: Various NZ, Canada
Group size: 8
Incidence: 6

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 754
Date: 1995
Title: Down by the river
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Down by the river,
Carved in a rock,
Three little words,
Forget-me-not.

(Te Aroha, 1995)

--

Keywords: friendship, remembrance
Location: Te Aroha
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 755

Date: 1960-1980s

Title: Ding,dong,dell

Gender: Female

Classification: Parody

Rhyme:

Ding, dong, dell,
Pussy's in the well,
Throw some disinfectant in,
'Cos she's begun to smell.

(Northland, 1960s)

--

Ding, dong, dell,
Pussy's in the well,
If you don't believe it
Go and have a smell.

(Christchurch, 1980s)

--

Background Info: Turner, 1978:139:

Ding, dong, dell,
Pussy's in the well,
If you don't believe it,
Go and have a smell.

(Victoria, 1964-1973)

--

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 2

Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 759

Date: 1950s

Title: Down in the jungle

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: bawdy

Rhyme:

Down in the jungle, with a belly ache,

Want to go to the lavatory. Plop, too late!

(NZ ex UK, 1950s)

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: NZ (ex UK)
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 761
Date: 2002
Title: Down in the forest where nobody goes
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Down in the forest where nobody goes,
There's a boogie woogie washer woman
Washing her clothes,
She's washing them here,
She's washing them there,
It's the boogie woogie washer woman, Everywhere.
Boop, boop diddum waddum
Boddum doo, boddum doo, boddum doo.
It's the boogie woogie washer woman Everywhere.

(Christchurch, 2002)

--

Keywords: Girl Guides song
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 30
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 902
Date: 2000
Title: The pup popped
Gender: Male
Classification: Tongue twister
Rhyme:

The pup popped into the pulpit,
Pooped and popped out.

(Ashburton, 2000)

--

Keywords: scatological, tongue twister
Location: Ashburton
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 768
Date: 1998
Title: Do you like me or do you not?
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Do you like me or do you not?
You told me once but I forgot.
I like you, I like you, I like you so well,
If I had a peanut I'd give you the shell.

(Christchurch, 1998)

--

Keywords: friendship,
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 769
Date: 2000-2002
Title: Do you want a lolly?
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Tease
Rhyme:

Do you want a lolly?
Go upstairs and kiss a dolly.
Come back down and say you're sorry.

(Lawrence, 2000)

--

Want a lolly?
Kiss a dolly!

(Auckland, 2002)

--

Keywords: retort, taunt
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 771
Date: 1937
Title: The thunder roared
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

The thunder roared,
The lightning flashed,
The heaven and earth were shaken.
The little pig curled up his tail,
And ran to save his bacon.

(Lawrence, 1937)

--

Background Info: Turner, 1978:131 records this version:

The butcher roared,
His knife flashed,
The heavens were forsaken.
The little pig
Stuck up his tail
And ran to save his bacon.

(Victoria, 1967-1973)

--

Location: Lawrence
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 772
Date: 1938
Title: When you are married
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

When you are married and your hubby gets cross,
Just pick up the broom and yell, "I'm boss!"

(NZ, 1938)

--

Keywords: gender stereotype,
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 774
Date: 1937
Title: Men only
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Men only (turned down page corner, when lifted revealing)
Aren't women inquisitive!

(Roxburgh, 1937)

--

Keywords: guile
Location: Roxburgh
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 775
Date: 1938
Title: It's hard
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

It's hard to lose the girl you love,

(It is hard to find the boy you want)
When your heart is full of hope.
But it's harder still to find the towel,
When your eyes are full of soap.

(NZ, 1938)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 4

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 776
Date: 1938
Title: 'Tis sweet to be remembered
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

'Tis sweet to be remembered
And a pleasant thing to find,
That thou' you may be absent,
You still are kept in mind.

(Miller's Flat, 1938)

--

Keywords: friendship
Location: Miller's Flat
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 777
Date: 1938
Title: Woman is happy
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Woman is happy before a glass,
A man - after three or four.

(Roxburgh, 1938)

--

Location: Roxburgh
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 778
Date: 1938
Title: All a rolling stone gathers
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

All a rolling stone gathers is speed.

(Roxburgh, 1938)

--

Keywords: proverb
Location: Roxburgh
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 779
Date: 1990
Title: True friendship
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

True friendship is like phosphorus,
And shows plainest when all around is dark.

(NZ, 1990)

--

Keywords: friendship
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 780

Date: 1938
Title: Never trouble
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Never trouble trouble,
Till trouble troubles you,
And if you never trouble trouble,
Trouble will never trouble you.

(NZ, 1938)

--

Background Info: Never trouble trouble,
Till trouble troubles you,
For if you trouble trouble,
When trouble troubles you,
You only double trouble
And trouble others too.

("Play and Folklore", Issue 5, 1983:3)

--

Keywords: word play, tongue twister
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 781
Date: 1937-1960s
Title: Tulips
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Tulips and two lips, which love I the best,
The latter the sweetest, I must confess.
Tulips are nice and bright to the eye,
But two lips when pressed ELECTRIFY!

(NZ, 1937)

--

Tulips in the garden,

Tulips in the park,
But the tulips that I like best,
Are two lips in the dark.

(Christchurch, 1960s)

--

Keywords: word play, love, romance
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 782
Date: 1938
Title: Woman was created
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Woman was created after man,
And has been after him ever since.

(NZ, 1938)

--

Keywords: word play
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 783
Date: 1938
Title: Definition
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

This is a definition of a lap-up.
The anatomical juxtaposition
Of two orbicularis oris muscles in a state of contraction.

(NZ, 1938)

--

Keywords: word play
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 784
Date: 1938
Title: Happiness
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

The three main essentials
For happiness are:
Something to do,
Something to love,
Something to hope for.

(Roxburgh, 1938)

--

Keywords: happiness
Location: Roxburgh
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 785
Date: 1939
Title: If this book
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

If this book should go astray,
And if by chance you find it.
Remember [June] is my name,
And [Steele] comes behind it.

(Lawrence, 1939)

--

Location: Lawrence
Group size: 1

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 786

Date: 1937

Title: You auto smile

Gender: Female

Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

You auto smile,
You auto laugh,
But in this book
Your autograph.

(Roxburgh, 1937)

--

Keywords: word play, word play

Location: Roxburgh

Group size: 1

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 787

Date: 1937

Title: Ba' gum

Gender: Male

Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

Ba' gum (pic of a stamp) I'm stuck.

(Dunedin, 1937)

--

Keywords: word play

Location: Dunedin

Group size: 1

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 788

Date: 1937

Title: X ate cake

Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

[X] ate cake, [X] ate jelly,
[X] went to bed with a pain in her___
Don't be misled,
For what [X] had was a pain in her head.

(NZ, 1937)

--

Keywords: word play
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 789
Date: 1937
Title: Let our lives,
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Let our lives be as pure as the snowfields,
Where our footsteps leave a mark, not a stain.

(Dunedin, 1937)

--

Keywords: advice
Location: Dunedin
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 790
Date: 1937
Title: The ladder of life
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

The ladder of life is full of splinters,
And hurts most when sliding down.

(NZ, 1937)

--

Keywords: advice

Location: NZ

Group size: 1

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 791

Date: 1938

Title: There are many ways

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

There are many ways of working,
As everyone supposes,
Some boys turn up their sleeves to work,
And some turn up their noses.

(NZ, 1938)

--

Location: NZ

Group size: 1

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 792

Date: 1930s-1960s

Title: Patience is a virtue

Gender: Female

Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

Patience is a virtue,
Possess it if you can,
Seldom (always) in a woman,
But never in a man.

(Auckland, 1930s; Auckland, 1960s)

--

Patience is a virtue,
Virtue is a grace,
Grace is a little girl,
Who wouldn't wash her face.

(NZ ex UK, 1950s)

--

Background Info: Opie, 1967:48, records the following versions:

Patience is a virtue, virtue is a grace,
Both put together make a very pretty face.

Patience is a virtue, virtue is a grace,
Grace is a little girl, who doesn't wash her face.

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 795
Date: 1938
Title: June has a harmen skirt
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

[June] has a harmen skirt,
Divided right in half.
No one wished to see her lamb,
When they could see her calf.

(Roxburgh, 1938)

--

Keywords: clothing
Location: Roxburgh
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 796
Date: 1937

Title: If you would walk
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

If you would walk in wisdom's ways
Five things observe with care.
Of whom you speak, to whom you speak,
And how and when and where.

(NZ, 1937)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 797
Date: 1937
Title: My pen is bad,
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

My pen is bad, my ink is pale.
But my love for you will never fail.

(Roxburgh, 1937)

--

Keywords: love
Location: Roxburgh
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 798
Date: 1937
Title: A hundred years ago
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

A hundred years ago today,
A wilderness was here.

A man with powder in his gun,
Went forth to hunt a deer.
But now the times have changed somewhat
Along a different plan.
A dear with powder on her nose
Goes forth to hunt a man.

(Dunedin, 1937)

--

Keywords: word play, gender differences, stereotype
Location: Dunedin
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 799
Date: 1938
Title: Miss you like the dickens
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Miss you like the dickens
This is on the level.
If it wasn't naughty,
I'd miss you like the devil.

(Dunedin, 1938)

--

Location: Dunedin
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 800
Date: 1941
Title: He tried her on the sofa
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

He tried her on the sofa,
He tried her on the chair,
He tried her on the window sill

And by the parlour door,
He tried her this and every way,
It really made me laugh,
To see the different ways he tried,
To get her autograph.

(NZ, 1941)

--

Background Info: Lowenstein, 1974: 23 records:

I tried him on the sofa,
I tried him on the grass,
Oh to think I tried so hard,
To get his autograph.

(Melbourne, 1967)

--

Keywords: word play, bawdy
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 801
Date: 1937
Title: God made the roosters
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

God made the little roosters,
He made them in a day.
He made them in a hurry
And forgot to make them lay.

(NZ, 1937)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 802
Date: 1937
Title: It's easy
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

It's easy enough to be happy
When life is a bright, rosy wreath.
But the man worthwhile
Is the man who can smile
When the dentist is filling his teeth.

(NZ, 1937)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 803
Date: 1962
Title: God made
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

God made the English,
God made the Dutch.
Whoever made [X] didn't make much.

(NZ, 1962)

--

Background Info: Similar to rhyme in Turner, 1969, 113:

God made [X],
He made her on a fence,
He made her in a hurry,
And forgot to give her sense.

(Brisbane c. 1940)

--

Keywords: tease

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 804
Date: 1938
Title: I wish
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

I wish I were a little fish,
Beneath a block of ice,
And all the girls stood up on the top,
Wouldn't that be nice.

(NZ, 1938)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 805
Date: 1938
Title: Many a true heart
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Many a true heart beats beneath a dirty shirt.

(NZ, 1938)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 806
Date: 1938
Title: As the old terrier

Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

As the old mother terrier said to her pup,
Through all life's adventures,
Keep your tail up.

(NZ, 1938)

--

Keywords: animals, advice
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 807
Date: 1937
Title: A smart man
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

A smart man is one that hasn't let a girl pin anything on him since he was a baby.

(NZ, 1937)

--

Keywords: sexist, gender issues, stereotype
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 808
Date: 1938
Title: A friend
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

A friend is one who knows all about you,
But loves you just the same.

(Roxburgh, 1938)

--

Keywords: friendship
Location: Roxburgh
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 809
Date: 1939
Title: Keep smiling
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Keep smiling,
Happy days fly fast.
Use them while they last.

(NZ, 1939)

--

Keywords: happiness
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 810
Date: 1937
Title: Little bees
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Little bees make honey,
Little flies can sing,
But all that little flies can do,
Is...on everything.

(NZ, 1937)

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: NZ

Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 811
Date: 1937
Title: Little dabs of powder
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Little dabs of powder,
Little dabs of paint,
Make a girl look like,
What she really ain't.

(NZ, 1937)

--

Keywords: sexist, stereotype, body image
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 812
Date: 1937
Title: An autograph book
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

An autograph book is like a garden patch,
Where every goose must have a scratch,
And so must I.

(NZ, 1937)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 813

Date: 1940
Title: When this war is over
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

When this bally war is over,
And you're feeling blue,
Think of Sandy Robertson,
Just like you used to do.

(NZ, 1940)

--

Keywords: WWII
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 814
Date: 1938
Title: The devil sends
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

The devil sends naughty winds,
To blow girls' dresses high,
But God is just,
And sends some dust,
To blind the bad man's eye.

(NZ, c. 1938)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 815
Date: 1937
Title: Love is like
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

Love is like a mutton shop,
Sometimes cold and sometimes hot.

(Roxburgh, 1937)

--

Keywords: NZ culture
Location: Roxburgh
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 816
Date: 1944
Title: A ripple follows a ship
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

A ripple follows a ship at sea,
So may happiness follow thee.

(Alexandra, 1944)

--

Keywords: happiness
Location: Alexandra
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 817
Date: 1940
Title: When you are married
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

When you are married and at the tub,
Remember me with every rub,
Though the suds be boiling hot,
Lather away and forget me not.

(NZ, 1940)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 818
Date: 1937
Title: Never wear 2 faces
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Never wear two faces under one hat.

(NZ, 1937)

--

Keywords: advice
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 903
Date: 1920s-2000
Title: Early one morning
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Early one morning at half past eight,
I hear the postman knocking at the gate.
Up jumps [X] to open the door,
How many letters fell on the floor?
1,2,3..

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Early one morning about half past eight,
What should I hear but the postman's knock.
Up jumps [Mary] to open the door,
See how many letters on the floor,

1,2,3..

Who is it from? Boy, girl, boy, girl ..

What is their first name? A, B, C..

What is their last name? A, B, C..

(NZ, 1920-1950 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:80))

--

Background Info: Reported by Gomme, 1898:202, as a skipping rhyme.

--

Variations recorded by Turner, 1969:25 include:

Early in the morning at half past four,
I hear the postman knocking at the door.

In comes Sally, late for school,
How many smacks does she deserve?

1,2,3..

What shall she be smacked with?

Hand, rope, hand, rope..

(Adelaide, 1957)

--

Keywords: corporal punishment, divination, violence

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 4

Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 819

Date: 1937

Title: The rain pours

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

The rain pours down upon the just,
And on the unjust feller,
But more upon the just because,
The unjust has the just's umbrella.

(Roxburgh, 1937)

--

Location: Roxburgh
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 820
Date: 1939
Title: Office Boy's Diary
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Office Boy's Diary
1st day hired out,
2nd day tired out
3rd day fired out.

(Roxburgh, 1939)

--

Location: Roxburgh
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 821
Date: 1937
Title: Beneath this stone
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Beneath this silent stone is laid,
A noisy antiquated maid,
Who from her cradle talk'd to death,
And n'er before was out of breath.

(NZ, 1937)

--

Keywords: stereotype, sexist, archaic language
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 822
Date: 1937
Title: When I am dead
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

When I am dead and in my grave,
And all my bones are rotten,
Pick up this book and think of me,
When I am quite forgotten.

(NZ, 1937)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 823
Date: 1937
Title: Man wants
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Man wants but little here below,
And is not hard to please,
But woman, bless her little heart,
Wants everything she sees.

(NZ, 1937)

--

Keywords: sexist, gender differences
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 824
Date: 1942
Title: My mother
Gender: Female

Classification: Autogrpah
Rhyme:

My mother took me from my warm, warm, cot,
And put me on the cold, cold pot,
Whether I wanted to or not,
My mother.

(NZ, 1942)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 825
Date: 1940
Title: Here's may we thrive
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Here's may we thrive,
Like bees in a hive,
And never sting each other.

(NZ, 1940)

--

Keywords: advice
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 826
Date: 1937
Title: The happiest moments
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

The happiest moments of my life,
Were spent in the arms of another man's wife -
My mother.

(NZ, 1937)

--

Keywords: word play, guile

Location: NZ

Group size: 1

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 827

Date: 1937

Title: When I'm dead

Gender: Male

Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

When I'm dead and in my grave,
No more whiskey shall I crave.
But on my tombstone shall be wrote,
That many a gallon went down my throat.

(NZ, 1937)

--

Keywords: alcohol

Location: NZ

Group size: 1

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 828

Date: 1938

Title: The boy stood

Gender: Male

Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

The boy stood on the tramline,
The conductor rang the bell,
The tram went to Normandy,
The boy went on to Hell.

(NZ, 1938)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 829
Date: 1938
Title: A tablespoon
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

A tablespoon is a clumsy spoon,
A teaspoon is the neatest,
But of all the spoons that I have known,
A moonlight spoon's the sweetest.

(NZ, 1938)

--

Keywords: love, courtship, archaic language
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 830
Date: 1938
Title: X and Y
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

[X] and [Y] in a hammock attempting to kiss,
All of a sudden they ended like (this) (written upside down)

(NZ, 1938)

--

Keywords: word play, romance
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 831
Date: 1943
Title: Long in the legs
Gender: Male
Classification: Autogrpah
Rhyme:

NZ born, NZ bred,
Long in the legs,
Thick in the head.
Awfully funny, terribly rude,
Beastly familiar, confoundedly shrewd.

(NZ, 1943)

--

Keywords: stereotype, NZ culture
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 832
Date: 1938
Title: Here's to the wings of love
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Here's to the wings of love,
May they never moult a feather,
Till his big boots and your wee shoes,
Stand under the bed together.

(NZ, 1938)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 833
Date: 1940
Title: Be noble in every thought

Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Be noble in every thought
And in every deed.
Let not the illusion of thy senses,
Betray thee to deadly offences.
Be strong! Be good! Be pure!
The right only shall endure,
All things else are but false pretences.

(NZ, 1940)

--

Keywords: purity, didactic, archaic
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 835
Date: 1938
Title: What shall I write
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

What shall I write?
What shall I be?
Just these two words,
Remember me!

(NZ, 1938)

--

Keywords: friendship
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 904
Date: 2000
Title: Extra, extra
Gender: Female

Classification: Partisan
Rhyme:

Extra, extra, read all about it,
Westbrook's gonna win
And there's no doubt about it.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Background Info: Heard at a hockey match.

--

Keywords: partisan
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 8
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1018
Date: 1970s
Title: I'm a little robot
Gender: Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

I'm a little robot,
Short and square,
I have no toenails,
I have no hair,
When you want the answer,
To your sums,
Just press my button
And out it comes.

(Gore, 1970s)

--

Background Info: Sung to tune of "I'm a Little Teapot".

--

Location: Gore
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1019
Date: 2001
Title: I watched a car wash
Gender: Male
Classification: Tongue twister
Rhyme:

I watched a car wash wash a car.
I wish I was washed like a car wash washes cars.

(Tauranga, 2001)

--

Keywords: word play, tongue twister
Location: Tauranga
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1020
Date: 2001
Title: I am Jesus' little lamb
Gender: Male
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

I am Jesus' little lamb,
Yes,
By Jesus Christ
I AM!

(Gisborne, 2001)

--

Background Info: Shock reaction expected.

--

Keywords: religion
Location: Gisborne
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1021
Date: 1970s
Title: I think
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

I think, I think,
I smell a stink,
That comes from
Y. O. U.

(Wellington, 1970s)

--

Keywords: scatological, fart lore
Location: Wellington
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1023
Date: 1990s
Title: I must increase my bust
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

I must, I must increase my bust,
'Cos then, cos then,
I can attract men,
And get a job, a job,
Working as a blob,
At Jenny Craig, Jenny Craig,
So they can all catch my plague,
And get fat, get fat,
So what do you think of that?

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

I must, I must,
Increase my bust,
The bigger, the better,
The tighter the sweater,
The boys depend on us.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Comment on this rhyme in Knapp, 1976:84-85:

We can, we can, we know we can,
We can, we can, we must.
We can, we can, we know we can,
Increase the bust. (1975)

We must, we must,
Increase our bust,
The bigger the better,
The tighter the sweater,
The boys like you better,
And so we must. (1975, Knapp)

"The girls' tone is militant, although there is a strong note of mockery, too."

--

Keywords: modern culture, stereotype, body image

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 2

Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1024

Date: 2002

Title: I'm a terrible man

Gender: Male

Classification: Political,

Rhyme:

I'm a terrible man,
From Afghanistan,
And my name is,
Osama Banana.

(Auckland, 2002)

--

Keywords: topical rhyme

Location: Auckland

Group size: 5

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1025
Date: 1970s-2001
Title: God made
Gender: Male
Classification: Tease
Rhyme:

God made rivers,
God made lakes,
God made [X],
What a mistake!

(Christchurch, 2001)
(We all make mistakes - Dannevirke, 1970s)

--

God made the rivers,
God made the lakes,
God made you,
We all make mistakes.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Keywords: tease
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 1
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1026
Date: 1990-2001
Title: When God was
Gender: Male
Classification: Tease
Rhyme:

When God was giving out brains,
You thought he said, 'trains',
And asked for a slow one.

(Christchurch, 1990; Christchurch,2001)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1027
Date: 1960s -1980s
Title: Guess what?
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Retort
Rhyme:

Guess what?
You're mad and I'm not.

(Christchurch, 1960s; Auckland, 1980s)

--

Keywords: taunt
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1029
Date: 1996
Title: God made man
Gender: Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

God made man,
Man made plastic,
Whoever made dope,
Is fucking fantastic.

(Christchurch, 1996)

--

Keywords: drugs,
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1030
Date: 1970s-2000
Title: G'day Jack
Gender: Male
Classification: Guile
Rhyme:

G'day Jack. (Hello Jack)
How's your back. (Slap on back)
Haven't seen ya for 'ears and 'ears. (Pull ears)
But I still knows ya. (Pull nose)

(Christchurch, 1980s)

--

How's ya cheeky sister? (Pinch cheek)
How's ya nosy brother? (Pull nose)
(Has he still got his 'stamp' collection. (Stamp on foot)

(Gisborne, 1976; Christchurch, 2000)

--

Keywords: word play
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1031
Date: 1970s-2006
Title: Mamma Mamma
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Mama, Mama, I feel sick,
Call the doctor,
Quick, quick, quick. (Christchurch, 1970s)
Doctor, doctor, will I survive?
Count to five and you'll survive.
1, 2, 3, 4, 5.
I'm alive.
6, 7, 8, 9, 10
I'm dead again.

(Taupo, 2000)

--

Granny, granny, call the doctor,
I feel sick,
Doctor, doctor, will I die?
1, 2, 3, 4, 5,
I'm alive.
6, 7, 8, 9, 10,
Then I'm dead again.

(Northland, 1990s)

--

Ona wana tana,
I said an ace, a wace,
I bought my brother to the candy store,
Mamma, mamma, I feel sick,
Call the doctor, quick, quick, quick,
The doctor said, "Count to five.
Then you will feel alive."
1, 2, 3, 4, 5,
I'm alive!

(Sheffield, 2006)

--

Background Info: Opie, 1997:302, recorded versions as ball bouncing or clapping games:

Mother, mother, I am ill,
Send for the doctor over the hill.
Doctor, doctor, will I die?
I don't know, but do not cry.

(From early 1900s)

Oh dear mother, what a cold I've got,
Give me tea and a toddy hot.
Roll me up in a big black shawl,
And take me to the doctor's hall.
Doctor, doctor, shall I die?
Yes, pretty maid, and so will I.
Take this medicine twice a day,
And that will cure your cold away.

(Lancashire, c.1990)

--

Keywords: death,
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1032
Date: 2000
Title: Goosey, goosey gander,
Gender: Male
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Goosey, goosey gander,
Where shall I wander?
Upstairs and downstairs,
And in my lady's chamber,
I went downstairs and saw an old man,
Playing with his dick.
I took him by his left leg,
And gave his arse a kick.

(Wellington, 2000)

--

Location: Wellington
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1033
Date: 1920s
Title: The flies crawled
Gender: Male
Classification: Scout song
Rhyme:

The flies crawled up the window,
That's all they had to do.
They went up in the hundreds,
And came down two by two.

(Christchurch, 1920s)

--

Background Info: Sung when troughs of kerosene were put at the bottoms of windows to trap flies - scout camps. (Personal informant)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1034
Date: 2000
Title: Father Christmas
Gender: Male
Classification: Counting-out
Rhyme:

Father Christmas lost his whiskers.
How many whiskers did he lose?
1, 2, 3, 4, (Up to a pre-determined number)

(Napier, 2002)

--

Father Christmas lost his whiskers,
And he began to cry.
How many whiskers did he lose?
1, 2, 3..

(NZ, 2000)

--

Background Info: A counting-out ritual using closed fists. The leader uses his chin as his second fist as he counts around the circle. (Personal informant)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 6
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1035
Date: 2000
Title: Fiddle-diddle-de
Gender: Male

Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Fiddle diddle dee,
I am a little flea,
I ran up the teacher's leg,
And bit her on the knee. (fanny)

(Nelson, 2000)

--

Location: Nelson
Group size: 3
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1036
Date: 1960s-2003
Title: Finders Keepers
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Gaining Possession
Rhyme:

Finders keepers
Losers weepers.

(Kerikeri, 1960s; Christchurch, 1970s; Nelson, 1990s; Timaru, 2000; Tauranga, 2000;
Whangarei, 2000, Fairlie, 2003)

--

Background Info: Sometimes chanted as a tease or taunt.

--

Origins in 1856. Opie, 1967:136-7:

No halfers,
Findee, keepee,
Lossee, seekee.

--

Keywords: gaining possession, code of oral legislation
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 7

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1037
Date: 2000
Title: Father Christmas
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Father Christmas sat on a pin.
How many inches did it go in? 1, 2, 3..

(Ashburton, 2000)

--

Location: Ashburton
Group size: 5
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1038
Date: 1980s
Title: Fanta, Fanta
Gender: Female
Classification: Elastics
Rhyme:

Fanta, Fanta,
My friend Fanta.

(Awanui, 1980s)

--

Fanta, Fanta,
My friend Fanta.
Is the nicest one of them all
My friend Fanta.

(Auckland, 1980s)

--

Keywords: commercial product, NZ culture
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 3
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1039
Date: 1990s
Title: Father Christmas
Gender: Female
Classification: Handstand
Rhyme:

Father Christmas, ho, ho, ho,
Red light, orange light, green light, go!

(Auckland, 1990s; Ashburton, 1996)

--

Father Christmas, ho, ho, ho,
Red light, orange light, green light, go!
Up your arse and round the corner,
Hope you get to California.

(Auckland, 1990s)

--

Background Info: In preparation for a handstand competition to see who can stay up the longest.

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1040
Date: 1970s-2006
Title: Mickey Mouse
Gender: Female
Classification: Handstand
Rhyme:

Mickey Mouse in his house,
Pulling down his britches,
Quick, Mum, smack his bum,
And that's the end of that one

(Christchurch, 1970s; .Ashburton, 1980s; Nelson, 1990s; Porirua, 1990s;
Christchurch, 1990s; Ashburton, 2006)

On your marks, get set, go.
(Ashburton, 1996)

--

Mickey Mouse in his house,
Pulling down his britches, (undies)
Quick, Mum, smack his bum,
And that's the end of Chapter One.
Pop, bang, go!

(Oamaru, 1980s; Auckland, 1990s x 4; Thames, 1990s; Hawarden, 1990s; Palmerston, 1990s)

--

Mickey Rat in his hat,
Pulling down his breeches.
Quick, Mum, smack his bum,
And that's the end of chapter one.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Background Info: In preparation for a handstand competition to see who can stay up the longest.

--

Opie, 1967:111, notes many Mickey Mouse rhymes. The character of Mickey Mouse was created by Walt Disney in 1928.

Mickey Mouse, in his house,
Taking off his trousers,
Quick, Mum, smack his bum,
And chase him round the houses.

(UK, 1950s)

--

Keywords: bawdy, topical rhyme, media culture
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 15

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1041

Date: 1980s
Title: Fire, fire
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Word Play
Rhyme:

"Fire, fire," said Mrs McGuire,
"Where, where?" said Mrs Hare,
"Down town," said Mrs Brown,
"Heaven save us," said Mrs Davis.

(Auckland, 1980s)

--

Background Info: Often quoted in face of a minor crisis at home. (Personal informant)

--

Similarly from the USA, 1940s, Botkin, 1944:790:

"Fire. Fire," said Mrs McGuire.
"Where, where?" said Mrs Ware.
"Down town," said Mrs Brown.
"Oh, Lord, save us!" said Mrs Davis.

--

Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1042
Date: 1970s-2006
Title: Fuzzy Wuzzy
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Word Play
Rhyme:

Fuzzy Wuzzy was a bear,
Fuzzy Wuzzy had no hair,
If Fuzzy Wuzzy had no hair,
He wasn't Fuzzy Wuzzy?

(Christchurch, 1970s; NZ. 1995; Wellington, 2000; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Fuzzy Wuzzy was a bear,
Fuzzy Wuzzy had no hair,
Fuzzy Wuzzy learnt to swim,
On a crooked safety pin.

(Christchurch, 1970s)

--

Fuzzy Wuzzy was a bear,
Fuzzy Wuzzy had no hair,
So how could Fuzzy Wuzzy be a bear?

(NZ, 1970s)

--

Background Info: Fuzzy Wuzzy was the term used by British colonial soldiers for the Hadendoa warriors supporting the Sudanese Mahdi.

Possible ninetieth century Sudanese origins. The first line translates as "The Hadendoa warriors gave us (British) a great deal of trouble." The second line is a pun based on the word 'bear': if the Fuzzies are bears, where is all their fur?
www.en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fuzzy_Wuzzy (Accessed 15 January, 2007)

--

Keywords: word play
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 6
Incidence: 6

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1043
Date: 1990s-2000
Title: Fill the halls
Gender: Male
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Fill the halls with gasoline,
Fa la, la ,la, la, la, la, la, la.
Strike the match and burn it clean,
Fa la, la ,la, la, la, la, la, la.
Watch the school burn down to ashes,
Fa la, la ,la, la, la, la, la, la.
Aren't we glad we play with matches?
Fa la, la ,la, la, la, la, la, la.

(Kerikeri, 1999; Auckland, 2000)

--

Deck the halls with gasoline,
Fa la, la ,la, la, la, la, la, la.
Light a match and watch it gleam,
Fa la, la ,la, la, la, la, la, la.
Now you've burnt the school to ashes,
Fa la, la ,la, la, la, la, la, la.
Aren't you glad you played with matches?
Fa la, la ,la, la, la, la, la, la.

(Northland, 1990s; Christchurch, 2000; Auckland, 2000)

--

Fill the halls with gasoline,
Fa-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la.
Light a match and watch it gleam,
Fa-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la.
Watch the school burn down to ashes.
Fa-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la.
Aren't you glad you play with matches?
Fa-la-la-la-la-la-la-la-la.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Background Info: Sung to the tune of "Deck the Halls", a Christmas carol.

--

Keywords: authority, violence
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 5
Incidence: 6

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1044
Date: 2001
Title: First to smell
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

First to smell it,
Dropped the pellet.

First to rhyme
Did the crime.

(Nelson, 2001)

--

Background Info: In response to someone passing wind.

--

Keywords: scatological, fart lore
Location: Nelson
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1045
Date: 2002
Title: Flick the shoe
Gender: Male
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Flick the shoe,
For being a poo.

(Wellington, 2002)

--

Background Info: Said to an unpopular child, accompanied by a kick to the shoe.

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Wellington
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1046
Date: 2000
Title: Fishy, fishy
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Fishy, fishy, in the brook,
Daddy caught him with a hook,
Mummy fried him in a pan,
And baby ate him like a man.

(Wellington, 2000)

--

Keywords: Pacific culture, Samoan
Location: Wellington
Group size: 3
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1047
Date: 2000
Title: Fish, fish
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Fish, fish, jump into my dish
Fish, fish, turn around in my dish,
Fish, fish, jump out of my dish.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 483
Date: 1970s-2002
Title: A bodgie's occupation
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: bawdy
Rhyme:

A bodgie's occupation
Is to stick his cockulation,
Up a woman's ventilation,
To increase the population,
Of the coming generation.

(Wellington, 1970s)

--

It's a man's occupation,
To stick his copulation,
In a woman's ventilation,
To improve the population,
Of the younger generation.
I got this information
From the Board of Education,
If you want a demonstration,
Lie down!

(Hastings, 2002)

--

Sex is when a guy's communication,
Enters a girl's information,
To increase the population,
For a younger generation,
Do you get the information?
Or do you need a demonstration?

(NZ, 1990)

--

Background Info: Comment on this rhyme in Factor, 1988:165, relates to "the appearance of 'knowing'" and the pleasure of the form being sufficient for the material to continue in the chain of transmission from child to child.

--

When asked if the teller understood what this rhyme was about the response was, "No, not really, but it sounded rude." (Personal informant)

--

Variations, Turner, 1978:130 &135:

A man's occupation is to stick his doodle-ation (cock-u-lation)
Into a woman's ventilation,
To increase the population,
Of the younger generation,
Of the world.

(Newcastle, 1950s)

--

Variations from Turner, 1978:130 and 135:

A bodgie's occupation
Is to stick his cockulation,
Up a widgie's ventilation,
To increase the population,

--

From Lowenstein, 1974:26:

It's only human nature after all
To get your favourite girl against the wall,
And let your accumulation
Meet her accommodation
And increase the population
Of the coming generation.

(Geelong, 1938)

--

Keywords: bawdy, sex,
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 484
Date: 1990s-2000
Title: Inside stamp
Gender: Female
Classification: Elastics
Rhyme:

Inside stamp, inside outside,
Inside, outside,
Twist, twist,
OUT!

(Christchurch, 1990s; Auckland, 2000)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4

Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 485
Date: 2000
Title: The bell
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

The bell, the bell,
The B-E-L-L,
If you're late, climb the gate,
Or get here by half past eight.

(Rotorua, 2000)

--

Background Info: From the Scottish website,
www.glesga.ukpals.com/MemoryLane%20Songs.htm, (accessed 15 January, 2007) comes an
alternative version:

The bell, the bell, the B.I.L.
Tell the teacher I'm no' well.
If I'm late, shut the gate.
The bell, the bell, the B.I.L.
(Accompanying comment: "Spelling was not up to scratch due to the fact he/she was
always dogging off school.")

--

Location: Rotorua
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 486
Date: 1999
Title: Ben Smarting
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Ben Smarting, sit down farting,
Stand up blinking, walk away stinking.

(Napier, 1999)

--

Keywords: scatological, fart lore
Location: Napier
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 496
Date: 1968 -2006
Title: Under the apple tree
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Under the apple tree,
My boyfriend said to me,
Kiss me, hug me,
Tell me that you love me,
Under the apple tree
My boyfriend (girlfriend) said to me,
Get lost!

(Christchurch, 1990s; Auckland, 1998; Porirua, 2000; Awarua, 2000; Blenheim, 2002 x
2; Ashburton, 2006; Christchurch, 2006)

--

Under the apple tree,
My boyfriend said to me,
Kiss me, hug me,
Tell me that you love me,
Under the apple tree,
My boyfriend said to me,
Don't kiss me,
Don't hug me,
Don't tell me that you love me,
Under the apple tree my boyfriend said to me,
Get lost!

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Under the apple tree,
My boyfriend said to me,
Hate me, push me,
Kiss me, hug me,

Tell me that you love me,
Tell me that you hate me.
Under the apple tree my boyfriend said to me,
Get lost!

(Auckland, 2001)

--

Under the apple tree,
My boyfriend said to me,
Kiss me, hug me,
Tell me that you love me,
Under the apple tree,
My boyfriend said to me,
Boys got the best shirts,
Teachers got the brains,
Girls got the sexy legs,
And that's ok,
Under the apple tree,
I said to my boyfriend,
Get lost!

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Under the apple tree,
My boyfriend said to me,
Kiss me, hug me,
Tell me that you love me, (Christchurch, 1968)
1,2,3,4
Freeze, freeze, freeze, like this!

(Lower Hutt, 2002)

--

Under the apple tree,
My true love said to me,
Kiss me, hug me,
Tell me that you love me,
Under the apple tree,
My true love said to me,
Get lost!

(Auckland, 1993)

--

Keywords: love, revenge
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 14

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 502
Date: 2001
Title: Up high
Gender: Male
Classification: Tease
Rhyme:

Up high,
Down low,
Too slow!

(Gisborne, 2001)

--

Background Info: Hand game played for fun, similar to "High Five".

--

Location: Gisbourne
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 503
Date: 1980s
Title: Under the old apple tree
Gender: Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Under the old apple tree,
A hole in her pants I did see.
And oh, it was there, all covered in hair,
And it kept pulling faces at me,
So I pulled out my pride of New York,
And it fitted in just like a cork,
And she cried out with glee,
Take it out while I pee,
Under the old apple tree.

(Rotorua, 1980s)

--

Location: Rotorua
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 504
Date: 2000
Title: U-G-L-Y
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

U-G-L-Y
You don't need no alibi,
You ugly.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 506
Date: 2002
Title: Bomb shukka lukka
Gender: Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Bomb shukka lukka,
Does your bum smell like khuka?
Give's a smell (sniff,sniff)
Bloody hell.

(Rotorua, 2002)

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Rotorua
Group size: 5
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 508
Date: 2001
Title: Bum, tit, tit
Gender: Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Bum, tit, tit,
Bum, tit, tit,
Play the hairy banjo.

(Gisborne, 2001)

--

Background Info: Actions to accompany the verse.

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Gisborne
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 905
Date: 1998
Title: Eevy ivy over
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Eevy ivy over,
The kettle's boiling over.

(Tolaga Bay, 1998)

--

Background Info: Skipping rhyme where the rope is swung from side to side and then turned on the second 'over'.

--

Location: Tolaga Bay
Group size: 6

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 906

Date: 1970s-2000

Title: Everybody knows

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Taunt

Rhyme:

Everybody knows that [X] picks his nose,
Rubs it in the dirt and eats it for dessert!

(Pukekohe, 1970s; Belfast, 1990s; Auckland, 2000 - directed at teachers; Blenheim, 2000)

--

Background Info: Comment from Belfast, Christchurch, "You say it to your enemies (sic)."

--

Keywords: scatological

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 2

Incidence: 4

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 514

Date: 1980s,1995

Title: There once was a man

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Bawdy

Rhyme:

There once was a man
And his name was Jed,
Grew a lot of hair,
But it wasn't on his head.
Then one day he was shooting for some food.
Up from the ground jumped a prossie in the nude.
Next things you know, old Jed's in bed,
Fucking away till his balls,
Six weeks later, snap, crackle, pop,
Out jumps a baby with a 6 inch cock.
Some time later old Jed was in a truck,
Pants down, dick out ready for a fuck.

Along came Granny with a 303
And blew his balls off to Beverley..
Hills that is.

(Christchurch, 1990)

--

There once was a man and his name was Jed,
Wasn't a wealthy man, but he kept his family fed.
One day he was out, shooting for his food,
Up from the ground came a lady in the nude.
Next thing you know Jed's in the truck,
Balls hanging out, ready for a fuck,
Along comes Granny with a 303,
And shot those balls right up a tree.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

There once was a man his name was Jed,
Pissed on his cabbages, now they are dead.
When he got hungry
He went looking for some food.
Out jumped a lady in the nude.
But naked, that is, no clothes on,
The next thing you know old Jed was in bed.
Rooting and tooting til his balls turned red.
In came Granny, she's got nothing else to do.
Don't worry granny, I'll screw you too.

(Christchurch, 1980s)

--

There once was a man, his name was Jed,
He had a lot of hairs, but they weren't on his head,
Then one day he was shooting up some food,
When along came a lady in the nude.
Next thing you know Old Jed's in the shed,
Pumping up his balls, getting ready for bed.
In came a Granny with a 303,
Blew his balls right out of Beverley,
Hills that is..swimming pools and movie stars.

(Thames, 1990)

--

"The Hillbilly One"

Now listen to a story about a man named Jed,
A poor mountaineer,
Barely kept his family fed,
Then one day he was shooting up some food,
And up from the ground came a girl in the nude,
Naked that is,
Well the next thing you know
Old Jed's in the truck,
With his pants down getting ready for a fuck.
Along came Granny with a 742,
Shot off his balls right out of the roof,
Roof that is - keeps the rain out.

(Dunedin, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Parody of the theme song of the television programme "The Beverley Hillbillies" (1960s).

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 519
Date: 1960s
Title: Be I Bankshire?
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Be I Bankshire? Be I buggery?
My old girl wears calico drawers,
And I knows how to tear 'em.

(NZ ex England, 1960s)

--

Keywords: bawdy, archaic language
Location: NZ (ex UK)
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 520
Date: 1936-1968
Title: Remember me
Gender: Male
Classification: autograph
Rhyme:

Remember me on the river,
Remember me on the lake,
Remember me on your wedding day,
And send me a piece of cake.

(NZ, 1936; Ashburton, 1963; Christchurch, 1968)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 521
Date: 1947
Title: Ah, make the most
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Ah, make the most of what we yet may spend,
Before we too, into the dust descend.
Dust into dust, and under dust to lie,
Sans wine, sans song, sans singer, and - sans end. (Omar Khayyam)

(NZ, 1947)

--

Keywords: advice, quote
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 522
Date: 1943
Title: If you can fill
Gender: Female

Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

If you can fill your sail with gentle kindness,
And hold your faith no matter what will come.
Let neither greed nor pride
Blight you with blindness,
No self love your finer motives numb.
If you can love and hope with rare believing,
Can shun the dross and never seek the worth,
Then you will find life's fabric you are wearing,
Means womanhood - God's greatest gift to earth.

(NZ, 1943)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1048
Date: 1990s-2000
Title: Hop on your horses
Gender: Female
Classification: Handstands
Rhyme:

Hop on your horses,
Stick out your guns.
A boomerang, a boomerang,
A pop, bang, go!

(Christchurch, 1990s; NZ, 2000)

--

Background Info: Chanted by a group of girls in preparation for doing handstands.

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 523

Date: 1940
Title: The friends thou hast
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

The friends thou hast,
And their adaptation tried -
Grapple them to thy soul,
With hooks of steel. - Shakespeare

(NZ, 1940)

--

Keywords: quote, archaic language
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 524
Date: 1940s
Title: In nature
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

In nature there's no blemish
But the mind;
None can be called deformed
But the unkind.

(NZ, 1940s)

--

Keywords: advice
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 525
Date: 1940s
Title: To write on a page of pink,
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

To write on a page of pink,
Is just a waste of ink.
To write on a page of blue,
Shows that I love you.

(NZ, 1940s)

--

Keywords: love
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 526
Date: 1936
Title: I wish I were
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

I wish I were a china cup,
From which you drink your tea.
For then I'd know at every sip,
You'd give a kiss to me.

(NZ, 1936)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 528
Date: 1940s
Title: Love all, trust a few
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Love all, trust a few,
Do wrong to none;
Be able to thine enemy.

Rather in power than use; and keep thy friend.
Under thus own life's key: be cheek'd for silence,
But never tas'd for speech.

(NZ, 1940s)

--

Keywords: advice, archaic language
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 529
Date: 1940
Title: In your golden chain
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

In your golden chain of friendship,
Regard me as a link.

(NZ, 1940s)

--

Keywords: friendship
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 530
Date: 1941
Title: Though clouds
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Though clouds be dark around us,
It's only for a while.
For many joys await us,
If we have faith meanwhile.

(NZ, 1941)

--

Keywords: faith, advice
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 531
Date: 1964
Title: The moon shone
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

The moon shone bright on the lavatory door,
The night man walked within.
I heard a crash!
I heard a splash!
By gosh!
He's fallen in.

(NZ, 1964)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 532
Date: 1964-1990s
Title: X took a boy home
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

[X] took a boy home for tea,
Her heart was in a flutter,
She fainted at the table,
And her nose fell in the butter.

(NZ, 1964)

--

[Emma] asked a boy to tea,

Her heart was in a flutter.
She bent a little too far,
And her nose stuck in the butter.

(Te Aroha, 1990s)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 533
Date: 1963
Title: X on the tennis court
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

[X] on the tennis courts,
The sky was blue above.
Her boy was at the other end,
And of course the score was LOVE.

(NZ, 1963)

--

Keywords: romance
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 534
Date: 1963
Title: When this you see
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

When this you see, remember me,
Though far we separated be.

(NZ, 1963)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 535
Date: 1963
Title: The night was dark and stormy
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

The night was dark and stormy,
The billy goat was blind.
He backed into a barbed wire fence.
And scratched his never you mind.

(NZ, 1963)

--

Keywords: NZ culture
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 536
Date: 1964
Title: I want a thousand bricks
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

I want a thousand bricks
To build my chimney higher,
To stop the next door's cat,
From putting out my fire.

(NZ, 1964)

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 537
Date: 1963
Title: The baker
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

The baker and his customer,
A kindred nature show.
The latter needs the staff of life,
The former kneads his dough.

(NZ, 1963)

--

Keywords: word play
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 538
Date: 1963
Title: Anyone wanting a partner
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Anyone wanting a partner for life,
[X] would make a good wife.
She's witty and pretty and not too thin.
For further particulars apply within.
[Address of X]

(NZ, 1963; Ashburton, 1965)

--

Keywords: marriage
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 539
Date: 1963
Title: I'm so happy
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

I'm so happy to have my name in this book,
So all you sticky beaks can have a good look.

(NZ, 1963)

--

Keywords: humour
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 540
Date: 1937-1964
Title: Fall from a haystack
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Fall from a haystack,
Fall from above.
But for heavens sake, [X],
Don't fall in love.

(NZ, 1937)

--

Fall from a house top,
Fall from above,
Fall from anywhere,
But don't fall in love (you did)

(NZ, 1964)

--

Keywords: advice
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 541
Date: 1960s
Title: Ringo, ringo
Gender: Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Ringo, Ringo little star,
How I wonder where you are.
Underneath that mop of hair,
Ringo, Ringo little star,
How I wonder where you are.

(Ashburton, 1960s)

--

Keywords: media culture,
Location: Ashburton
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 543
Date: 1968
Title: Just a few lines
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Just a few lines from a shy author

(Ashburton, 1968)

--

Keywords: word play
Location: Ashburton
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 544

Date: 1964-2006
Title: I love you
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

I love you with all my heart,
I love you with all my liver,
I'd love to take you in my arms,
And chuck you in the river.

(Ashburton, 1964; Nelson, 1980s; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 545
Date: 1964
Title: X had a motor car
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

[X] had a motor car,
And it was painted red.
Everywhere that [X] went,
The cops picked up the dead.

(NZ, 1964)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 546
Date: 1968
Title: Two bits of board
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Two bits of board,
Two bits of tin,
Four pram wheels ,
And there you have a Ford.

(NZ, 1968)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 547
Date: 1963
Title: Tommy Steele
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Tommy Steele is dead,
And to Heaven he did go,
But the Lord said Oh no!
You go down below.
There's only room for Elvis,
And his old banjo.

(Ashburton, 1963)

--

Keywords: pop culture, media,
Location: Ashburton
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 548
Date: 1911
Title: It is good
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

It is good to begin well.
But better to end well.
Have a place for everything,

And everything in its place.

(NZ, 1911)

--

Keywords: advice
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 549
Date: 1914
Title: Find your niche
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Find your niche and fill it,
Be it ever so small,
If it is only to be hewer of wood,
Or a drawer of water.
Do something in this great battle
For God or Truth.

(Rangiora, 1914)

--

Keywords: advice,
Location: Rangiora
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 550
Date: 1911
Title: God hath not promised
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

God hath not promised skies ever blue,
Flower strewn pathways, always for you.
God has not promised sun without rain;
But he has promised strength,
From unfailing sympathy, above, undying love.

(Wakefield, 1911)

--

Keywords: archaic language,
Location: Wakefield
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 551
Date: 1962
Title: For colours
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

For colours in the food we eat,
For sweets that smell so sweet.
For things to taste and for things to see,
We all, Oh Lord, give thanks to Thee.

(NZ, 1962)

--

Keywords: grace
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 552
Date: 1914
Title: Life is but a pleasure
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Life is but a pleasure,
If you go the proper way.
Do not worry over little items every day,
Keep it in your memory,
Life is but a span,
While we are here,
Let's make our lives worth living, if we can.

(NZ, 1914)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 553
Date: 1914
Title: Life is an echo
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Life is an echo, all comes back.
The good, the false, the true.
Then give to the world, the best you have.
And the best will return to you.

(NZ, 1914)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 554
Date: 1911
Title: I know a maiden
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

I know a maiden fair to see, take care.
She can both false and friendly be, beware, beware.
So long as you are innocent, fear nothing.
No one can harm you.

(NZ, 1911)

--

Keywords: friendship, warning.
Location: NZ

Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 555
Date: 1911
Title: Be kind
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Be kind to thy sister,
Not many may know
The depth of true sisterly love.
The wealth of the ocean,
Lies fathoms below,
The surface that sparkles above.

(Albury, 1911)

--

Keywords: advice, family, archaic language
Location: Albury
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 557
Date: 1911
Title: By land or by sea
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

By land or by sea,
You'll understand this scribble,
And sometimes think of me.

(NZ, 1911)

--

Keywords: friendship, remembrance
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 558
Date: 1911
Title: Life is earnest
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Life is earnest passing by,
Death is earnest drawing nigh,
Then live your life that death may be,
Only just a gentle sleep.

(NZ, 1911)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 908
Date: 1950s
Title: Eh!
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Retort
Rhyme:

Eh?
Horses eat hay.

(Auckland, 1950s)

--

Keywords: word play
Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 559
Date: 1911
Title: A little word in kindness spoken
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

A little word in kindness spoken,
An emotion or a tear,
Has often healed a heart that's broken.
And made a friend sincere.

(NZ, 1911)

--

Keywords: friendship
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 560
Date: 1911
Title: Do not put your trust in money
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Do not put your trust in money,
Put your money in trust.

(NZ, 1911)

--

Keywords: advice
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 561
Date: 1912
Title: Build a little fence of trust around today,
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Build a little fence of trust around today,
Fill the space with loving deeds and therein stay.
Look not through the sheltering bars upon tomorrow,
God will help you bear what comes, of joy or sorrow.

(New Lynn, 1912)

--

Keywords: future
Location: New Lynn
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 562
Date: 1912
Title: When need is furtherest
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

When need is furtherest,
Help is nearest.

(NZ, 1912)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 563
Date: 1912
Title: Written by a loving hand
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Written by a loving hand,
Sealed with a kiss.
Please remember me
When you read this.

(NZ, 1912)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 564

Date: 1914

Title: If a man

Gender: Female

Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

If a man were as little as he is good,
A pea shell would make him a suit and a hood.

(NZ, 1914)

--

Location: NZ

Group size: 1

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 565

Date: 1911

Title: When climbing the hill of prosperity

Gender: Female

Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

When climbing the Hill of Prosperity,
May you never meet a friend on the road.

(NZ, 1911)

--

Location: NZ

Group size: 1

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 566

Date: 1911

Title: Think of the joys of summer,

Gender: Female

Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

Think of the joys of summer,
And the pleasure the seasons bring.
And think when you sit on the point of a tack,
It's the sign of an early spring.

(NZ, 1911)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 567
Date: 1912
Title: B strong
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

B strong,
B good,
B pure
The right only shall endure.

(NZ, 1912)

--

Keywords: advice, courage
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 568
Date: 1914
Title: Remember me
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Remember me when this you see,
And do not be unkind,
For though your face I cannot see,
You are constant in my mind.

(NZ, 1914)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 569
Date: 1914
Title: A place for my name
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

A place for my name in your album,
A place for myself in your heart.
A place for us both in Heaven,
Where the best of friends never part.

(NZ, 1914)

--

Keywords: love, friendship
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 570
Date: 1914
Title: Do you see?
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

An artist went to sea to see
What he could see at sea to draw,
He only saw what all may see,
The sea was all he saw.
And when he saw he'd seen the sea,
Proceeded he the scene to draw.
And since his scene I've often seen,
I've seen the sea the art I saw.

(NZ, 1914)

--

Keywords: tongue twister, word play

Location: NZ

Group size: 1

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 571

Date: 1914

Title: Be independent

Gender: Female

Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

Be independent,
Do not lean on others to do your thinking,
Or to conquer your difficulties.

(NZ, 1914)

--

Keywords: advice

Location: NZ

Group size: 1

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 572

Date: 1914

Title: I strengthen

Gender: Female

Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

I strengthen the weak,
I cross the wide sea,
I frighten the thief,
I grow on a tree. (bark)

(NZ, 1914)

--

Keywords: riddle

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 573
Date: 1970s-1990s
Title: 2 Ys U R
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

2 Ys U R
2 Ys U B
I C U R
2 Ys 4 me.

(NZ ex Australia, 1970s; NZ, 1990s)

--

YY U R
YY U B
I C U R
YY 4 me.

(Christchurch, 1990; Auckland, 1990)

--

Background Info: Too wise you are,
Too wise you be,
I see you are
Too wise for me.

--

Keywords: word play
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 4

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 574
Date: 1911
Title: Japanese Proverb
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

He who knows not, and knows not that he knows not, is a fool - shun him.
He who knows not, and knows that he know not, is humble - teach him.
He that knows and knows not, is asleep - wake him.
He who knows and know that he knows is a wise man - follow him.

(NZ, 1911)

--

Keywords: advice
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 575
Date: 1911
Title: A tender spot
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

A tender spot forms a part of every woman born.
It may be in her aching heart,
Or in her aching corn.

(Timaru, 1911)

--

Location: Timaru
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 576
Date: 1911
Title: Wives of great men
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Wives of great men all remind us,
We can make our lives sublime,
And proceeding leave behind us,
All the rest for dinner time.

(NZ, 1911)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 578
Date: 1913
Title: Her voice was ever soft
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Her voice was ever soft, gentle and low,
An excellent thing in woman.

(NZ, 1913)

--

Keywords: gender, sexism, stereotype
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1049
Date: 1970s-2002
Title: Hello, hello, sir,
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Hello, hello, hello, sir,
Meet me at the grocer.
No, sir,
Why, sir?
Because I have a cold, sir,
Where did you get the cold, sir?
From the North Pole, sir,
What were you doing there?
Counting polar bears, sir,
Let me hear you sneeze, sir,
Kachoo, kachoo, kachoo, sir.

(Christchurch, 2002)

--

Hello, hello, hello, sir,
Meet you at the corner sir.
Can't sir,
Why, sir?
Got a bad cold, sir,
Where did you get the cold, sir?
From the North Pole, sir,
What were you doing there, sir?
Counting polar bears, sir,
How many did you catch sir?
One, sir, two, sir, three, sir.

(Ball bouncing game - Timaru, 1970s)

--

Hello, hello, hello, sir,
Meet you at the show, sir.
No sir,
Why, sir?
Got a bad cold, sir,
Where did you get the cold, sir?
From the North Pole, sir,
What were you doing there, sir?
Counting polar bears, sir,
What was in the bear, sir?
A big fat pie, sir.
What was in the pie, sir?
A big fat fly, sir.
What was in the fly, sir?
A big fat germ, sir?
What was in the germ, sir?
A big fat you sir!

(Christchurch, 1990)

--

Background Info: Butler, 1989:161-162, describes these rhymes as 'confrontation rhymes', involving a question-answer response sequence.
From Turkey (1988) comes the version:

Neighbour, neighbour,
Has your son come?
Yes, he has.

What did he bring?
Baubles.
To whom, to whom?
To you, to me.
To whom else?
To the black cat.
Where is the cat?
She climbed up the tree.
Where is the tree?
The axe chopped it..(and so on)
Where is the mountain?
It erupted in ashes.

Butler records similar rhymes from Argentina, Switzerland, Moscow, Kenya, France, Italy.

--

Also recorded by Turner as a ball-bouncing rhyme (Turner,1978:46-7). Turner, 1969:49, mentions variations of polar bears, including koala bear, and kola beer, and the line "Are you going to golf, sir?"

--

Darian-Smith, 2005:94, notes in the Dorothy Howard collection of ball-bouncing games from a 1925 Australian informant:

Hello, hello, hello, sir,
How do you do, sir?
I've gone and caught a cold, sir,
Up at the North Pole, sir.
What were you doing there, sir?
Catching a polar bear, sir.
How many did you catch, sir?
One, sir, two, sir, three, sir..(until the ball bouncer misses)

--

Butler, 1989:162 -163 records from personal childhood memory:

What are you doing here, Sir?
Drinking up the beer, Sir.
Where did you get the beer, Sir?
It wasn't far nor near, Sir.
Yes, Sir, no, Sir
I must be on my way, Sir.
Where did you leave your cane, Sir?
Down in lover's lane, Sir.
What were you doing there, Sir?
None of your affair, Sir.

Yes, Sir, no, Sir
I must be on my way, Sir.
Why do you speak so bold, Sir?
Because I have a cold, Sir.
Where did you get your cold, Sir?
Up at the North Pole, Sir.
Yes, Sir, no, Sir
I must be on my way, Sir. (Continues on for 4 more verses.)

--

Keywords: international
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 6
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 579
Date: 1911
Title: Have you had a kindness shown
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Have you had a kindness shown?
Pass it on.
'Twas not given for you alone.
Pass it on.
Let it travel down the years,
Let it wipe another's tears.
Till in heaven the deed appears,
Pass it on.

(Albury, 1911)

--

Keywords: advice
Location: Albury
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 580
Date: 1911
Title: Love
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

Love they say is like the measles,
The older you get, the worse they are.

(NZ, 1911)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 581
Date: 1911
Title: 'Tis all very well
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

'Tis all very well to smile,
When life flows along like a song.
But the girl worthwhile, is the girl who will smile,
When every thing else goes wrong.

(NZ, 1911)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 582
Date: 1912-1920
Title: All good sisters
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

All good sisters (girls) should love their brothers,
But I too (so) good have grown.
For I love other sisters' (girls') brothers
Far better than my own.

(NZ, 1912; NZ, 1920)

--

Keywords: love, family
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 583
Date: 1912
Title: Better late than never
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Better late than never,
'Tis a promising refrain.
Save when you reach the station,
Just in time to miss the train.

(Rangiora, 1912)

--

Keywords: advice
Location: Rangiora
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 584
Date: 1912
Title: Who so findeth a wife
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Who so findeth a wife, findeth a good thing.
And obtaineth favour of the Lord.

(Rakaia, 1912)

--

Keywords: gender, sexism
Location: Rakaia
Group size: 1

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 585

Date: 1911

Title: Take what gold can never buy

Gender: Female

Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

Take what gold can never buy,
My friendship and esteem.

(Albury, 1911)

--

Keywords: friendship

Location: Albury

Group size: 1

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 586

Date: 1912

Title: In the storms of life,

Gender: Female

Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

In the storms of life
Should you need an umbrella,
May you have to uphold it,
A handsome young fellow.

(Greendale, 1912)

--

Keywords: advice

Location: Greendale

Group size: 1

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 587

Date: 1914

Title: Smile, smile
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Smile, smile, smile.
For life's worth while.
For when one smiles, another smiles,
And then there's miles and miles of smiles,
And life's worthwhile,
When one smiles, smiles, smiles.

(Rangiora, 1914)

--

Location: Rangiora
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 588
Date: 1914
Title: Don't look for flaws
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Don't look for flaws as you go through life,
And even if you find them,
'Tis wise and kind to be somewhat blind,
And look for the virtues behind them.

(Albury, 1914)

--

Keywords: advice
Location: Albury
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 589
Date: 1911
Title: Mary had a little skirt
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

Mary had a little skirt,
Tied tightly in a bow,
And everywhere that Mary went,
She simply couldn't go.

(Albury, 1911)

--

Location: Albury
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 590
Date: 1911
Title: What write in you book?
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

What! Write in your autograph book,
For the learned to laugh at,
And critics to spy,
No Not I!

(Timaru, 1911)

--

Location: Timaru
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 591
Date: 1912
Title: Live for those
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Live for those who love you,
For those who know you true.
For the Heaven that smiles above you,
And awaits your spirit too.

For the cause that lacks assistance,
For the wrong that needs resistance,
For the future in the distance and the good that you can do.

(NZ, 1912)

--

Keywords: advice
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 592
Date: 1911
Title: May a link
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Many a link hath friendship's chain.
To make the past live o'er again.

(Albury, 1911)

--

Location: Albury
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 593
Date: 1960s
Title: Women, women
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Women, women what a blessing,
They can pee without undressing.
Us poor men, us sons of bitches,
Have to undress or pee our britches.

(Christchurch, 1960s)

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 594
Date: 1942
Title: A merry heart
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

A merry heart goes all the way.

(Methven, 1942)

--

Keywords: joy
Location: Methven
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 595
Date: 1945
Title: Down the trail
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Down the trail that is worn with love's good cheer,
May your path wind on for many a year.
And all that is friendly, glad and gay,
Be yours at the end of each perfect day.

(Ashburton, 1945)

--

Keywords: happiness
Location: Ashburton
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 596
Date: 1946
Title: Think of me
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Think of me now
Think of me ever,
Think of the good times,
We oft had together.

(Hokitika, 1946)

--

Keywords: remembrance
Location: Hokitika
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 597
Date: 1947
Title: Life
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Life is like a path of snow,
All your footsteps it will show.

(Geraldine, 1947)

--

Location: Geraldine
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 598
Date: 1947
Title: Little bits
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Little bits of moonlight.
Little hugs and kisses,
Makes a little maiden,
Change her name to Mrs.

(Timaru, 1947)

--

Keywords: marriage
Location: Timaru
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 599
Date: 1945
Title: Do your best
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Do your best for one another,
Making life a pleasant dream.
Help a weary worn-out brother,
Pulling hard against the stream.

(Southland, 1945)

--

Keywords: friendship
Location: Southland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 600
Date: 1942
Title: Do the work
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Do the work that's nearest,
Though it's dull at whiles,
Helping as you meet them,

Lame dogs over stiles. (Charles Kingsley)

(Methven, 1942)

--

Keywords: advice, quote

Location: Methven

Group size: 1

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 601

Date: 1946

Title: The girl who wins

Gender: Female

Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

The girl who wins is the girl who works,
Who neither trouble nor danger shirks.
Who uses her hands, her head, her eyes,
The girl who wins, is the girl who tries.

(Hororata, 1946)

--

Keywords: advice

Location: Hororata

Group size: 1

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 603

Date: 1945

Title: When years and months

Gender: Female

Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

When years and months have glided by,
And on this page you cast your eye.
Remember 'twas a friend sincere.
Who left this kind remembrance here.

(Palmerston North, 1945)

--

Location: Palmerston North

Group size: 1

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 604

Date: 1946

Title: When your days

Gender: Female

Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

When your days on earth are ended,
And your pathway here is trod,
May your name in Gold be written,
In the autograph of God.

(Southland, 1946)

--

Keywords: memories

Location: Southland

Group size: 1

Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 836

Date: 1941

Title: So nigh to grandeur

Gender: Female

Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

So nigh to grandeur is our dust,
So near to God is man,
When duty whispers low, "Thou must!"
The youth replies, "I can."

(NZ, 1941)

--

Location: NZ

Group size: 1

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 837
Date: 1939
Title: I chose this page
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

I chose this page because it's pink,
And pink, I know, makes some guys wink.

(NZ, 1939)

--

Background Info: Turner, 1969:114 recorded:

I chose this page because it's pink,
Darn it, I've gone and spilt the ink.

(Melbourne, 1967)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 838
Date: 1960s
Title: When you are married
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

When you are married,
And have three kids,
Happy shall you be.
One to wash the dishes,
One to scrub the floor,
One to rock the cradle.
In case there's any more.

(NZ, 1969)

--

Long may you live,
Happy may you be.
Bless the little children,
1, 2, 3.
One to wash the dishes,
One to sweep the floor,
And one to push the go-cart,
In case there's any more.

(Porirua, 1960s)

--

Keywords: marriage, children
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 839
Date: 1939
Title: Although we're not together
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Although we're not together,
It's possible to be
United in our thinking
As we drink a cup of tea.
So let's put the kettle on
And make ourselves a brew,
And as you drink, think of me,
And I'll drink and think of you.

(NZ, 1939)

--

Keywords: friendship, memories
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 840
Date: 1918-1939

Title: When the golden sun
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

When the golden sun is sinking,
And from care your heart is free.
When of others you are thinking,
Will you sometimes think of me?

(NZ, 1918; NZ, 1939)

--

Keywords: friendship
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 841
Date: 1938
Title: Hark the herald angels sing
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Hark the herald angels sing,
Mrs Simpson pinched our King.
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
Wasn't Stanley Baldwin wild.
Hark the herald angels sing,
Mrs Simpson pinched our King.

(Christchurch, 1970s - relates to 1930s)

--

Background Info: Opie, 1967: 89 reports the version, sung by a church congregation in 1952, in return for a supply of hymn books as an advertising stunt:

Hark the herald-angels sing
Beecham's pills are just the thing,
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
Two for man and one for child.

--

Turner, 1969: 91 records:

Hark the herald angels sing,
Beecham's pills are just the thing.
Peace on earth and mercy mild,
Two for man and one for child.

(Victoria c. 1920)

--

"Play and Folklore", Issue 12, 1987: 2 records this version from 1936:
Hear them coming down the street,
Mrs Simpson's stinking feet,
She's been married twice before,
Now she's knocking on Teddy's door.

--

Keywords: political, commercial product,
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 842
Date: 1919
Title: When Eve
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

When Eve brought woe to all mankind,
Old Adam called her woe-man.
But when she wooed with love so kind,
He then pronounced it woo-man.
But now with folly and with pride, their husband's pockets trimming,
The ladies are so full of whim, that people call them whim-men!

(NZ,1919)

--

Keywords: word play, sex roles
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 843
Date: 1918
Title: The boy lay on the railroad track
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

The boy lay on the railroad track,
The engine gave two squeals,
The driver calmly got off his seat,
And scraped him off the wheels.

(NZ, 1918)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 844
Date: 1918
Title: The lightning flashed
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

The lightning flashed,
The thunder rolled,
And all the earth was shaken,
The little piggy rolled up its tail,
And ran to save its bacon.

(NZ, 1918)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 846
Date: 1918
Title: Two - stars
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

Two - stars,
No - witnesses
One - Press
Many - times as you like.

(NZ, 1918)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 847
Date: 1918
Title: Fall off a horse
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Fall off a horse and break your neck,
Fall from the rigging, to the deck,
Fall from the lighted lights above,
But never be so silly as to fall in love!

(NZ, 1918)

--

Keywords: love, advice
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 848
Date: 1918
Title: This England
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

This England never did and never will,
Lie at the proud foot of a conqueror.

(NZ, 1918)

--

Keywords: patriotism
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 849
Date: 1918
Title: Above is a picture
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Above is a picture of an aeroplane,
Out of sight (blank page)

(NZ, 1918)

--

Keywords: fun, word play
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 850
Date: 1918
Title: Think of me
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Think of me when you are happy,
Love for me one little spot,
Plant in the garden of your heart,
One sweet forget-me-not.

(NZ, 1918)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 851

Date: 1918

Title: Many a ship

Gender: Female

Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

Many a ship is lost at sea,
Through the want of wheel and rudder,
And many a boy has lost his girl,
Through talking to another.

(NZ, 1918)

--

Location: NZ

Group size: 1

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 852

Date: 1918

Title: For men only

Gender: Male

Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

For men only (lift flap)
Aren't ladies inquisitive?

(NZ, 1918)

--

Location: NZ

Group size: 1

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 853

Date: 1918

Title: If on my theme

Gender: Male

Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

If on my theme I rightly think,
There are five reasons why men drink.
A friend, good wine, because I'm dry,
Or else maybe by and by,
Or any other reason why.

(NZ, 1918)

--

Keywords: alcohol
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 854
Date: 1918
Title: May you love
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

May you love as long as you want,
And want as long as you love.

(NZ, 1918)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 855
Date: 1918
Title: The boy stood in the midnight air
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

The boy stood in the midnight air,
His head was in a whirl,
His mouth and coat were full of hair,

His arms were full of girl.

(NZ, 1918)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 856
Date: 1918
Title: Do what you can,
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Do what you can, being what you are,
Shine like a glow worm if you cannot like a star,
Work like a pulley, if you cannot like a crane,
Be a wheel greaser, if you cannot drive the train.

(NZ, 1918)

--

Keywords: advice
Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 857
Date: 1919
Title: May she to whom this book belongs,
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

May she to whom this book belongs,
Light trials have, if any,
Her hours of woe, may they be few,
Her sunny moments many.

(NZ, 1919)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 858
Date: 1923
Title: I dreamt that I died.
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

I dream'nt that I died and to heaven did go.
"Where did you come from?"
They wanted to know.
"From Invercargill," said I,
And didn't they stare,
"Come right inside," said they,
"You're the first one from there."

(NZ, 1923)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 860
Date: 1960s-2006
Title: Little Miss Muffett
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Little Miss Muffett, sat on her tuffet,
Eating her breakfast away.
Along came down a spider
And sat down beside her,
And said, "Bug off, hairy legs."

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Little Miss Muffett, sat on her tuffet,
Eating her curds and whey,

Along came a spider,
And sat down beside her,
And said, 'What's a tuffet?'

(Gore, 1980s)

--

Little Miss Muffett, sat on her tuffet,
Eating her curds and whey,
Along came a spider,
And sat down beside her,
And she said, "Piss off, (buzz off) hairy legs!"

(Gore, 1980s; Christchurch, 1980s; Nelson, 1990s; Auckland, 2000; Hamilton, 2000;
Kawerau, 2002)

--

Little Miss Muffett, sat on her tuffet,
Eating her curds and whey,
Along came a spider,
And sat down beside her,
And said, "What's in the bowl, bitch?"

(Gore, 1980s)

--

Little Miss Muffett, sat on her tuffet,
Eating her Irish stew,
Along came a spider,
And sat down beside her,
And so she ate him up too.

(Hamilton, 1990s; Dannevirke, 2000)

--

Little Miss Muffett, sat on her tuffet,
Her clothes all tattered and torn,
It wasn't the spider,
That crept up beside her,
But Little Boy Blue,
With his horn.

(Auckland, 1970s)

--

Little Miss Muffett, sat on her tuffet,
Eating her carrots and corn.
It wasn't the spider,
That crept up beside her,
But Little Boy Blue,
With his horn.

(Rotorua, 1980s)

--

Little Miss Muffett, sat on her tuffet,
Eating her fish and chips.
Her evil sitter,
Grabbed one helping,
And ran off licking her lips.

(Hamilton, 1990s; Napier, 2000)

--

Little Miss Muffett,
Sat in a tree,
Eating hamburgers and chips.
Along came some ghosties,
Eating hot buttered toasties.
And frightened Miss Muffett to bits.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Little Miss Muffett,
Sat in a tree,
Eating her curds and whey.
Along came a ghost.
Eating hot buttered toast.
And frightened Miss Muffett away.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Little Miss Muffett, sat on her tuffet,
Eating her curds and whey,
Along came a spider
And sat down beside her,
And beat her to death with a spoon.

(Hamilton, 1990s)

--

Little Miss Muffett, sat on her tuffet,
And hurled her curds and whey at her sister,
She yelled through her tears,
It's gone on for years!
Why can't I just once, have a pizza!

(Auckland, 1990s)

--

Little Miss Muffett, sat on her tuffet,
Eating her ice cream cone.
Along came a spider,
And sat down beside her,
She said, " Go get your own."

(Nelson, 1990s)

--

Little Miss Muffett, sat on her tuffet,
Don't know why she was eating curds and whey.
Along came Jenny Craig,
And gave her a weigh,
And said, "You need to diet today."

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Little Miss Tucket, sat on a bucket,
Eating some peaches and cream.
There came a grass hopper,
Who tried hard to stop her.
But she said, "Go away or I'll scream."

(Gisborne, 2001)

--

Background Info: Variations, see, Turner, 1978:147, include the following related to nuclear concerns of the 1970s:

Little Miss Muffett, sat on her tuffet,
Collecting her shell-shocked wits.
They dropped from a glider,
An H-bomb beside her,

Which frightened Miss Muffett to bits.

(Melbourne, 1973)

Little Miss Muffett, fell off her tuffet,
From eating a sword-fish fillet.
There came a spider, who sat down beside her,
And said, "Was there mercury in it?"

(Melbourne, 1973)

--

Keywords: bawdy, modern culture, body image, NZ culture
Location: Various NZ, UK
Group size: 2
Incidence: 22

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 861
Date: 1950s -2006
Title: Stand on a crack
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

If you step on a crack, marry a rat.

(Whangarei, 1950s; NZ ex UK, 1983; Howick, 1989; Napier, 1990s; Waiuku, 1990s;
Taupo, 1990s; Nelson, 1990s; Christchurch, 2000; Dannevirke, 2000; Mt Maunganui,
2004)

--

Stand on a crack,
Marry a rat.
The bigger the crack,
The bigger the rat.

(Nelson, 1970s)

--

Stand on a crack,
Break your mother's back.

(Awanui, 1990s)

--

Stand on a berry,
Marry Mr Terry. (a teacher)

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Stand on a crack,
Get your money back.

(Napier, 2000)

--

Stand on a line,
Marry a swine.

(Thames, 1990s)

--

Step on a square,
Marry a bear.

(Nelson, 2002; Christchurch, 2002)

--

Step out the door
And piss on the floor.

(Upper Hutt, 1990s)

--

Stand on the grass,
Marry the king's arse.

(Blenheim, 2002)

--

Don't step on a crack,
Or you'll break your back.

(Christchurch, 1990s; Dannevirke, 2000)

--

Step on a crack,
Marry a rat,
Step on a line,
Break your spine.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Step in a hole,
You marry a mole.

(Christchurch, 1990s; Rangiora, 1999; Christchurch, 2000; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Step on a crack, marry a rat.
Fall in a hole, marry a mole.
Go to the beach, do a speech.
Hug a giant, do an assignment.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Step on a crack, marry a rat.
Step on the road, marry a toad.
Step on a log, marry a frog.
Step on a rake, marry a snake.
Go in the house, marry a mouse.

(Owaka, 1960s)

--

Stand on a crack,
Marry a rat.
Stand on a white line,
Marry a porcupine.

(Christchurch, 1970s; Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Stand on a leaf,
Marry a thief.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Stand on a feather,
You marry the weather,
Stand on a stone,
You marry a drone.

(Rangiora, 2000)

--

Stand on paint,
You will faint.

(Nelson, 1990s)

--

Don't stand on a crack,
It's Friday 13th and you'll get bad luck.

(Dunedin, 2003)

--

Stand on a crack,
Break your mother's back.

(Napier, 2000; Mt Maunganui, 2004)

--

Step on a crack,
And you'll marry a rat,
And break your back,
And that is that.

(Auckland, 1970s)

--

Background Info: Opie, 1967:220-222, records origins and variations of this saying. To stand on a crack in a stone is considered to be unlucky, with the following possible catastrophes:

Your hair will fall out.
You will fall down stairs the next day.
You will get your sums wrong.
You will break your spine.

This can also restrict matrimonial prospects:

Stand on a line, and you'll marry a darkie.
Tread on a nick and you'll marry a brick, and a beetle will come to your wedding.
If you stand on a line, you will marry a swine. If you stand on a square you will marry a bear.
Tread on lines, your mother's kind.
Tread on squares, your mother swears.
If you tread on a crack, or tread on a spout, it's a sure thing your mother will turn you out.

--

More uniformity is evident in USA than in Britain, with the lines: Stand on a crack, you'll break your mother's back.

--

Keywords: warning, half belief, racist
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 37

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 862
Date: 2005 -2006
Title: Batman
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Game, clapping
Rhyme:

Batman, Batman
Karate chop,
Batman, batman,
Wash your body,
Batman, batman,
Freeze,
Freeze like this.

(Timaru, 2005)

--

Batman, Batman, I can do karate,
Batman, Batman, I can wash my body,
Batman, Batman, oops so sorry,
Batman, Batman, turn around, touch the ground,
Click, click, freeze!

(Christchurch, 2006)

--

Background Info: A game-starting ritual.

--

Keywords: media culture,
Location: Timaru
Group size: 5
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 864
Date: 2001-2006
Title: That's the way,
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

A, B, C, hit it,
That's the way, ah ha, I like it,
Ah, ah, ah I like it,
Ah, ah, ah I like it,
You've got the grooves,
I've got the moves,
Peace, love, hit it.

(Timaru, 2006; Ashburton, 2006)

--

That's the way, aha aha,
I like it aha aha.
That's the way aha aha,
I like it, aha aha,
You've got the grooves,
Peace, love, hit it dudes.

(Ashburton, 2005)

--

1, 2, 3, 4,
Hit it,
That's the way, aha aha,
I like it aha aha
That's the way aha aha,
I like it, aha aha,

I've got you,
You've got me.
Best friends forever!

(Auckland, 2001)

--

Keywords: modern culture
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 4

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 865
Date: 1900-2006
Title: I'm the King of the castle
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Game
Rhyme:

I'm the king of the castle,
You're the dirty rascal.

(Nelson, 1970s; Dunedin, 1990s; Stoke, 1990s; Auckland, 1990s x 2; Greymouth, 1990s; Christchurch, 1998 x 2; NZ ex Canada, 1998; Templeton, 1999; Rangiora, 2000; Te Awamutu, 2000; Christchurch, 2000; Gisborne, 2001; Napier, 2002; Dunedin, 2003; Fairlie, 2003; Timaru, 2004; Christchurch, 2006)

--

Background Info: Originally a game and challenge in which a player of greater height than the others, dares all comers to pull him/her down. Once the 'king' has been pulled down, the one who causes the downfall takes the royal position.

--

Universal rhyme, 1900-2006. Goome, 1894:300-301.
Possibly dates back to Roman times 20BC (Horace).

--

Sutton-Smith, 1959:147. Comparison with the rough and tumble game of "No Man Standing." A cry of defiance with which the king challenges the rabble. Description of "an extremely dangerous game and after many had been bruised and broken and an eye nearly gorged out, the authorities stepped in and stopped the game". (Nelson, 1890)

--

Opie, 1992:254 records the name of "Keep the Castle", and in Scotland, "Haud the Bowerique".

A seventeenth century Scottish version:

I William of the Wastle,
Am now in my Castle,
And awe the Dogs in the Town,
Shan't gar me gang down.

--

Keywords: power
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 19

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 866
Date: 2005
Title: Walking through the jungle
Gender: Female
Classification: Action game
Rhyme:

Walking through the jungle,
Someone grabs you,
Someone stabs you,
Blood running down your back,
Spider crawling up your spine,
Cool breeze, tight squeeze, egg crack,
Blood running down your back,
Straight fence, wriggly fence, pointy fence electric.

(Timaru, 2005)

--

Background Info: Actions accompany rhyme aimed to create 'horror.' Similar to "Spider crawling down your spine" in this collection.

--

Location: Timaru
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 867
Date: 2005
Title: Boys are cheats and liars
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Boys are cheats and liars,
They are a big disgrace,
They will tell you anything
To get to second base.
Ball, baseball, he thinks he's gonna score,
If you let him go all the way
Then you are a whore..
Ticulturalist studies flowers,
Geologist studies rocks,
The only thing a boy wants
Is a place to put his cock..
Roaches, beetles, bees and bugs,
(Nothing makes him happier than a giant pair of jug
Jugglers and acrobats and a dancing bear named Chuck,)
All guys really want to do is,
Forget it, no social luck.

(Auckland, 2005)

--

Background Info: Rhyme based on a cheerleaders' chant in the movie "The Hot Chick".'

--

Keywords: predictive, impropriety, bawdy
Location: Auckland
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 868
Date: 2002-2006
Title: I believe I can fly
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

I believe I can fly,
I got shot by the FBI.
All I wanted was a packet of chips,
But I ended up doing the splits.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

I believe I can fly,
I got shot by the FBI,
All I want is some chicken wings,
So I shot him in the Burger King.

(Whangarei, 2000)

--

I believe I can fly,
I believe I got hit by an ice cream guy,
All I wanted was a popsicle,
But I ended up in hospital.

(NZ, 2002)

--

I believe I can fly,
I believe I got shot by the FBI,
All I wanted was a chicken wing,
But I got shot in the ding-a-ling.
I believe I got SARS from an Asian guy,
All I wanted was some fried rice,
But I got pork instead of rice.

(Auckland, 2005)

--

Background Info: Sung to the tune "I Believe I can Fly", by R Kelly;

I believe I can fly,
I believe I can touch the sky.
I think about it every night and day
Spread my wings and fly away..

--

Rowan, 2005 records:

I believe I can fly,
I got shot by the FBI,
All I wanted was a chicken wing,
And I got shot in the ding-a-ling.

(East London, 2005)

--

Keywords: modern culture, SARS, Asian, commercial product,
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 4

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 873
Date: 1960s
Title: Would you rather
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Guile
Rhyme:

Would you rather run a mile,
Jump a stile,
Or eat a sunburnt pancake?

(Dunedin, 1960s)

--

Location: Dunedin
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 875
Date: 1970s-2000
Title: Not last night
Gender: Female
Classification: Tangle talk, skipping
Rhyme:

Not last night, but the night before,
Three tom cats came knocking at the door,
One had a fiddle,
One had a drum,
One had a trumpet (pancake)
Stuck up his bum!

(Christchurch, 1960s; Blenheim, 1990s)

--

Not last night, but the night before,
Three tom cats came knocking at the door,
One had a pistol,
One had a gun,
One had a frying pan stuck to his bum!

(Napier, 1970s)

--

Not last night, but the night before,
Three little beggars came knocking on my door,
One had a fiddle,
One had a drum,
One had a pancake sticking to his bum!
How many songs did they play?
1, 2, 3..

(Palmerston North, 1970s)

--

Not last night, but the night before,
Bloody Homer Simpson came knocking at my door.
Went upstairs to make his bed,
And a pile of shit fell on his head.

(Hamilton, 2000)

--

Not last night but the night before,
Twenty four robbers came knocking at my door,
As I went out to let them in
This is what they said to me,
Spanish lady turn around
Spanish lady touch the ground,
Spanish lady do the high kicks,
Spanish lady do the splits.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Not last night but the night before,
Twenty four robbers came knocking at my door,
I ran out, they ran in,
Hit me on the head with a rolling pin.
This is what they said to me,
Spanish lady give high kicks

Spanish lady turn around
Spanish lady get out of town.

(NZ ex USA, 1990s)

--

Not last night but the night before
Three Spanish men came knocking at my door,
As I ran out they came in
And this is what they said,
Spanish lady turn around
Spanish lady climb the stairs
Spanish lady say your prayers
Spanish lady turn out the light,
Spanish lady say goodnight.
G. O. O. D. N. I. G. H. T.

(Christchurch, 1970s; Ashburton, 2005)

--

Background Info: Variations in Turner, 1978:149:

Not last night but the night before,
Two tom cats came knocking at the door,
The black cat said, "By God, you'll die."
Because the white cat piddled
In the black cat's eye.

(Melbourne, 1973)

--

Opie, 1967:23 -24.for variations. Also details of Lewis Carroll writing to Agnes Hughes in 1866 with a story based on this rhyme.."a very curious thing happened to me at half-past four yesterday. Three visitors came knocking at my door, begging me to let them in. And when I opened the door, who do you think they were? You'll never guess. Why, they were three cats! Wasn't it curious? However, they all looked so cross and disagreeable that I took up the first thing I could lay my hand on (which happened to be a rolling pin) and knocked them all down as flat as pan-cakes!"

--

From the Scottish website www.glesga.ukpals.com/MemoryLane%20Songs.htm (accessed 15 January, 2007) comes:

No' last night but the night before,
Three wee monkeys came tae ma door.
One wi' a trumpet, and one wi' a drum,

And one wi' a pancake stuck tae its bum.

--

Lowenstein, 1974:33 records:

Not last night but the night before
Three tom cats came aknocking at the door,
One had a pistol, one had a gun,
The other dirty bugger had a spear up his bum.

(Melbourne, 1967)

--

"Play and Folklore", Issue 7, 1984:10:

Not last night but the night before,
Twenty four robbers came knocking at the door.
I went downstairs to let them in,
They knocked me down with a rolling pin.
Now the rolling pin was made of glass,
It fell down and cut my arse.
I went upstairs to fix it later,
I burnt my dick on a radiator.
I went downstairs to cool it off,
Some little bastard shot it off.

(1984, Australia)

--

Butler, 1989:106 records from USA:

Last night, the night before,
A lemon and a pickle came
A knockin' at my door.
When I went down to let them in
They hit me over the head
With a roller pin

(Virginia, USA, 1949)

--

Keywords: tangle talk, media culture
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 3
Incidence: 9

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 878

Date: 1990s-2005

Title: Old MacDonald

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Parody

Rhyme:

Old MacDonald sitting on a fence,
Picking his balls with a monkey wrench.
Wrench got hot, burned his balls,
(And pissed all over his overalls.)
Went to the doctor,
The doctor said, "Crikey mate your balls are red."
When I die bury me,
Hang my balls on a cherry tree,
When they're ripe take a bite.
Don't blame me if you fart all night.

(Ashburton, 2005)

--

Old MacDonald sitting on a fence,
Picking his balls with a monkey wrench.
Wrench got hot, burned his balls,
Pissing all over his overalls. (Gore, 2003; Hamilton, 2000)
Went inside to cool them off.
God dam dog, bit them off.
Went to the doctor and the doctor said,
"Sorry mate, your balls are dead."
"When I die, bury me,
Hang my balls from a cherry tree.
When they're ripe, take a bite,
Don't blame me if you die that night."

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Old MacDonald sitting on a fence,
Scratching his balls with a monkey wrench,
Wrench got hot, burnt his balls.
Went to the doctor, and the doctor said,
Sorry but your balls are dead.
When I die bury me,
Hang my balls from a cherry tree,
When they're ripe, take a bite,
Don't blame me if you fart all night.

(Thames, 2000; Timaru, 2006)

--

Old MacDonald sitting on a fence, Hit his knees with a monkey wrench,
Missed his hands, and hit his balls,
Dead all over his overalls.

(Dunedin, 1990s)

--

Keywords: bawdy, fart lore
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1050
Date: 1940s-1990s
Title: Hitler has only
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Hitler has only got one ball,
Goering has two, but very small,
Himmler has got two sim'lar,
But Goebbels has no balls at all!

(Timaru, 1940s; Rotorua, 1960s)

--

Hitler had two enormous balls,
Goering's were very, very small,
Himmler has something sim'lar,
But Goebbels has no balls at all!

(Auckland, 1990s)

--

Hitler had only one brass ball,
Himmler had two, but very small,
Whereas Goebbels,
Had no balls,
At all.

(Auckland, 1940s)

--

Hitler has only got one ball.
The other's in the royal hall.
His mother, the dirty bugger,
Chopped it off when he was small.

(Rotorua, 1970s)

--

Hitler has only got one ball.
The other is in Albert Hall.
His mother, is his big brother,
And Goebbels has no balls at all.

(Wellington, 1960s)

--

Background Info: Sung to the tune of "Colonel Bogey", often in school assemblies.

--

Alternative versions in Turner,1978:116:

Hitler had only one brass ball,
The other was half way up the wall.
His mother, the dirty bugger,
Cut it off when he was small.

(Melbourne, 1973)

--

Other Hitler-based rhymes in Opie, 1967:103.

--

Keywords: political, bawdy
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 6

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1051

Date: 1950s-1990s
Title: Good night
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Good night, sleep tight,
Don't let the bed bugs bite.

(Tauranga, 1950s; Auckland, 1960s; Nelson, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Opie, 2000:131 records the version:

Good night, sleep tight,
Don't let the bugs bite;
If they do, don't squall,
Take a spoon and eat them all.

And:

Good night sweet repose;
Half the bed and all the clothes.

And:

Good night and sweet repose,
I hope the fleas will bite your nose;
And every bug as big as a bee
And then you'll have good company.

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 909
Date: 1996
Title: Every time I think of you
Gender: Female
Classification: Valentine
Rhyme:

Every time I think of you,
My heart begins to shiver,
I see you at the bus stop

And my legs begin to quiver.
You're just a special friend I know,
But after all this time,
I know that I would dearly love,
To be your Valentine.

(Christchurch, 1996)

--

Keywords: Occasional rhyme, calendar
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 911
Date: 1999
Title: Eggs and bacon
Gender: Female
Classification: Counting-out
Rhyme:

Eggs
Bacon
Fish
Chips
You are not it!

(Auckland, 1999)

--

Keywords: NZ culture
Location: Auckland
Group size: 7
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 912
Date: 2003
Title: Eevy, ivy over
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Eevy ivy over,
I saw you,

Kissing in the loo,
How many kisses did you do?
1,2,3,4,5..

(Porirua, 2003)

--

Keywords: divination
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 914
Date: 1998
Title: Eena,meena
Gender: Female
Classification: bawdy
Counting-out
Rhyme:

Eena meena mina mo,
Pick a booga from your nose,
If it's yellow, let it go,
Eena, meena mina, mo.

(Christchurch, 1998)

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 917
Date: 1975-1990s
Title: First the worst
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Oral legislation
Rhyme:

First the worst,
Second the best,
Third the golden princess.

(Gisborne, 1975; Gisborne, 1980s; Christchurch, 1990s; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Children commented that they 'made up' the following lines:

Fourth the dwarf,
Fifth the myth,
Sixth came with a bunch of sticks,
Seven came from heaven,
Eight was too late,
Nine was a pine,
Ten was the end.

--

Background Info: Bauer, 2002, Sect.21:1-17, noted the different versions from a large number of school playgrounds, the most common being "First the worst, second the best". However, from then on many different variations were noted, including (incidence recorded in brackets):

Third the golden eagle (71)
Third the golden princess (64)
Third the nerd (35)
Third the man (one) with the hairy chest (11)
Third the turd (3).

Fourth the dwarf was the most common variant.
Fourth the dwarf who fell/sat/stood in the sauce.(29)
Fourth the horse who/ fell/sat/ got covered in tomato sauce.(8)

Fifth the witch, eating chips, half-way up the footy pitch.
Fifth the myth.
Fifth the gift.

Sixth the bitch.
Sixth the dirty dyke.

Bauer's discussion is extensive and includes details of regional differences. Similarly Bauer, 2003:112, records "Last one is a rotten egg and the first one has to eat it."

--

Botkin, 1944:778, records this from USA, 1940s, as a consolation to the child who comes in last:

First's the worst,
Second's the same,
Last's the best of all the game.

--

From Withers, 1948:169:

First is worst
Second's the same,
Last is best
In every game.

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 5
Incidence: 4

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 918
Date: 2004
Title: First the worst
Gender: Female
Classification: Oral legislation
Rhyme:

First the worst,
Second the weapon,
Third the nerd,
Zero the hero.

(Wellington, 2004)

--

Location: Wellington
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 919
Date: 2002
Title: Feet
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Feet have very smelly toes,
So never put them near your nose.
Smelly socks will drive you mad,

Athlete's foot is just as bad.
If your toenails grow too long,
Cut them off before they pong,
If your toenails get too curly,
They will think you are a girly.

(Christchurch, 2002)

--

Location: Christchurch

Group size: 6

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 920

Date: 2000-2004

Title: Fishes in the water

Gender: Female

Classification: Skipping, game

Rhyme:

Fishes in the water,
Fishes in the sea,
We all jump in with a 1,2,3.

(Wellington, 2000)

--

Fishy in the water,
Fishy in the sea,
We all go down,
With a 1, 2, 3.

(Hamilton, 2004)

--

Fishy in the water,
Fishy in the sea,
We all jump up,
With a 1,2,3.

(Hamilton, 2004)

--

Fishes in the water,

Fishes in the sea,
How many fishes can you see?

(Dannevirke, 2000)

--

Background Info: As well as a skipping game, played also as a simple circle game where children jump up or down on command. Sometimes used as a second verse in the rhyme "Ring a rosie".

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 6
Incidence: 4

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 921
Date: 1990
Title: Fill the school
Gender: Male
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Fill the school with kerosene,
Tra la la, la la la la.
Light the match and watch it clean.
Tra la la, la la la la
Now the school is burnt to ashes.
Tra la la, la la la la
Aren't you glad you played with matches.

(Kerikeri, 1990)

--

Keywords: authority, school
Location: Kerikeri
Group size: 3
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 922
Date: 1970s-2000
Title: Those who know me
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Taunt

Rhyme:

Those who know me ,
Know me well,
Those who don't,
Can go to hell!

(Christchurch, 1990s x2)

--

I was here, but now I'm gone,
I've left my name to turn you on.
Those who know me,
Know me well.
Those who don't,
Can go to Hell.

(Christchurch, 1998; Northland, 2000)

--

I have been and gone,
But left my name,
To turn you on.
Those who knew me knew me well,
Those who don't can go to hell.

(Toilet graffiti - Wellington, 1970s)

--

I was here, but now I'm gone,
I've left my name to turn you on.

(Mt Roskill, 1977-84; Christchurch, 1980s)

--

Keywords: graffiti
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 7

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 923
Date: 1970s
Title: For what we are
Gender: Male

Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

For what we are about to receive,
The pigs have just refused.

(Auckland, 1970s)

--

Background Info: Said as a grace at boarding school. (Personal informant)

--

Keywords: grace
Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 925
Date: 1995
Title: A flea and a fly
Gender: Male
Classification: Tongue twister
Rhyme:

A flea and a fly in a flue,
Were imprisoned, so what could they do?
Said the fly, "Let us flee",
Said the flea, "Let us fly",
So they flew through a flaw in the flue.

(Auckland, 1995)

--

Background Info: Played as a challenge between students to see who makes the first, or most, errors.

--

Keywords: word play, tongue twister
Location: Auckland
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 881
Date: 2005
Title: Poos and wees
Gender: Male
Classification: bawdy
Rhyme:

Poos and wees,
Chocolate cheese.

(Ashburton, 2005)

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Ashburton
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 884
Date: 1980s
Title: Boys from Paekakariki
Gender: Male
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

The boys from Paekakariki are cheeky,
But the girls from Wainuiomata are smarter.

(Wellington, 1980s)

--

Keywords: Regional, NZ, partisan
Location: Wellington
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 885
Date: 1960s
Title: If, if's and and's
Gender: Female
Classification: Proverb
Rhyme:

If ifs and ands were pots and pans,

Where in the world would we be?

(Wellington, 1960s)

--

Location: Wellington

Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 886

Date: 1970s

Title: Aileen bomb bay-leen,
Aileen

Gender: Female

Classification: Nickname

Rhyme:

Aileen from bay-leen,
Stick-a-leen from fay-leen,
From fay-leen, stick-a-leen,
That's how you spell Aileen.

(Wellington, 1970s)

--

Keywords: nonsense, family saying, nickname, tease

Location: Wellington

Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 887

Date: 1960s

Title: Little bird

Gender: Female

Classification: Tease

Rhyme:

Little bird, yellow bill,
Sits upon my window sill,
Coaxed him in with bits of bread,
And smashed him in his bloody head!

(Wellington, 1960s)

--

One day when I was dreaming,
A robin perched on my sill,
To herald the coming day.
Although it was a gentle bird,
And it paused a-lull,
So quickly I pulled the window down,
And crushed its flimsy skull.

(Timaru, 1960s)

--

Keywords: violence, guile
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 888
Date: 1960s
Title: Spring has sprung
Gender: Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Spring has sprung,
The grass has riz,
I wonder where them birdies is.

(Wellington, 1960s)

--

Location: Wellington
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 889
Date: 1995
Title: We hate X
Gender: Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

We hate Rodney,

Yes we do,
He's a fart and he's a poo.

(Wellington, 2005)

--

Background Info: Directed at a teacher they disliked.

--

Keywords: authority, fart lore
Location: Wellington
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 891
Date: 2005
Title: I met this chick
Gender: Male
Classification: bawdy
Rhyme:

I met this chick in Hollywood,
She has green hair
But damn she looked good.
Took her to my crib
And she looked fine.
But she popped out her dick
That was bigger than mine.

(Wellington, 2005)

--

Keywords: homophobia, bawdy, modern culture
Location: Wellington
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 893
Date: 2005
Title: Go hop carrot top
Gender: Male
Classification: Tease
Rhyme:

Go hop, carrot top,
Drop dead, potato head,
Get real, banana peel,
See ya soon, ya big baboon,
If you wins, jelly fins.

(Motueka, 2005)

--

Keywords: word play, nicknames
Location: Motueka
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 896
Date: 2005
Title: Incy wincy spider
Gender: Male
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Incy wincy spider
Climbing down the spout.
When the wind blows,
It all comes out.

(NZ, 2005)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1052
Date: 1970s-2006
Title: Georgie Porgie
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Tease
Rhyme:

Georgie, Porgie, pudding and pie,
Kissed the girls and made them cry.
When the boys came out to play,

He kissed them too,
'Cos he was gay.
(He's funny that way.)

(Te Aroha, 1970s; Rotorua, 1970s; Christchurch, 1980s; Hamilton, 1990s; Auckland, 1990s x 4; Tauranga, 1990s; Wellington, 1990; Christchurch, 1999; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Georgie, Porgie, pudding and pie,
Kissed the girls and made them cry.
When the boys came out,
It was Georgie's turn to shout.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Georgie, Porgie, Pudding and pie,
Kissed the girls and made them cry.
Georgie Porgie ran away,
And came back another day.

(Auckland, 1970s)

--

Angie, Pangy, Puddin' and Pie,
Kissed the boys and made them cry,
When the girls came out to play,
She kissed them too,
'Cos she was gay.

(Christchurch, 1970s)

--

Georgie, Porgie, pudding and pie,
Fucked the girls and made them cry.
When the boys came out to play,
He fucked them too,
Cos he was gay.

(Manurewa, 1981)

--

Georgie, Porgie, pudding and pie,
Kissed the girls and made them cry.
When the boys came out to play,

Georgie Porgie turned out gay.

(Auckland, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Turner, 1978:141 variations include:

Georgie Porgie kissed the girls,
Georgie Porgie loved the girls.
Georgie Porgie took their clothes off,
Georgie Porgie pinched their tits.
Georgie Porgie, bad boy.

(Melbourne, 1973)

--

Keywords: gender issues, homophobia
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 17

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 943
Date: 1950s
Title: Fatty Clark
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Fatty Clark did a fart,
And ended up in Pollard Park.

(Blenheim, 1950s)

--

Background Info: Taunt against the headmaster of the time.

--

Keywords: authority, school, fart lore
Location: Blenheim
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 948

Date: 1940 -2006

Title: Fatty and Skinny

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Bawdy

Rhyme:

Fatty and Skinny were in bed,
Fatty rolled over and now Skinny's dead.

(Ashburton, 1970s; Hokianga, 1990s; Kumeu, 2003, NZ 1990s; Hawarden, 1990s; Dunedin, 1990s; Twizel, 1990s; Christchurch, 1990s; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Fatty was in the toilet,
Skinny was in the bath.
Fatty let off an atom bomb,
And made Skinny laugh.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Fatty and Skinny climbed a tree,
Fatty did a fart and Skinny did a wee.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Fatty and Skinny were picking the grass,
Fatty blew off, and skinned his arse.

(Timaru, 2006)

--

Fatty and Skinny were having a bath,
Fatty blew off and made Skinny laugh.

(Christchurch, 1960s x 4; Auckland, 1960s; Nelson, 1960s; Hawarden, 1990s; Timaru, 1990s; Christchurch, 1990s x 3; Hamilton, 1990s; Tapanui, 1990s; Ashburton, 1990s; Awanui, 1990s; Kaiapoi, 2003; Kumeu, 2003)

--

Fatty and Skinny were having a bath,
Fatty blew off,
Hey presto - bubble bath!

(Christchurch, 1960s; Christchurch, 1990s x 5; Dunedin, 1990s; Ashburton, 1990s)

--

Fatty and Skinny were sitting in the bath,
When Fatty turned on the hot tap,
And burned Skinny's arse.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Fatty and Skinny, sitting in a truck,
Warming up his pants, getting ready for a fuck.

(Methven, 2000)

--

Fatty and Skinny were on the loo,
Fatty blew off and shot Skinny through.

(Timaru, 2006)

--

Fatty in the teapot, Skinny in the spout,
Fatty blew off and blew Skinny out.

(Christchurch, 1960s x 2)

--

Fatty and Skinny were painting the walls,
Fatty fell over and painted his balls.

(Tapanui, 2003)

--

Fatty and Skinny were in the shower,
Fatty blew off and made neutral power.

(NZ, 1980s)

--

Fatty and Skinny were making pastry,
Fatty blew off and made it tasty.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Fatty and Skinny were in the shower,
Fatty farted and turned off (cut off) the power.

(Christchurch, 1960s; Christchurch, 1990s x 2; Dunedin, 1990s; Ashburton, 1990s;
Tapanui, 2003)

--

Fatty and Skinny went to war,
Fatty got shot by an apple core.

(Ashburton, 1990s)

--

Fatty and Skinny were in the sea,
Fatty blew off and Skinny went wee!

(Ashburton, 1990s)

--

Fatty and Skinny were in a tree,
Fatty fell down the lavatory,
Skinny jumped up and pulled the chain,
And Fatty was never seen again.

(Auckland, 1960s; Whangarei, 1990s; Thames, 1990s; Hawarden, 1990s; Kumeu, 2003)

--

Fatty and Skinny were in the diner,
Fatty blew off and blew Skinny to China.

(Dunedin, 1990s)

--

Fatty and Skinny were having a race,
Up and down the pencil case, (pillow case)
Fatty said it wasn't fair,
Because he (lost his) had no underwear.

(Hastings, 1960s; Gisborne, 1966; Wairoa, 1970s; Awanui, 1990s; Nelson, 1990s;
Ashburton, 1990s)

--

Fatty and Skinny were having a race,
Fatty blew off in Skinny's face.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Fatty and Skinny were having a race,
Fatty tripped over and squashed Skinny's face.

(Twizel, 1990s)

--

Fatty and Skinny were having a race,
Up and down the fireplace, (Auckland, 1967)
Fatty stopped to feed his face,
Who do you think won the race?

(Hawarden 1990s)

--

Fatty and Skinny were having a fight,
Fatty fell down the lavatory pipe.

(Otahuhu, 1950s)

--

Fatty and Skinny were having a fuck,
Fatty blew off and it tasted like muck.

(NZ, 2000)

--

Fatty and Skinny were fighting for nuts,
Fatty gave Skinny a punch in the guts.

(Christchurch, 1960s)

--

Fatty and Skinny up in a tree,
K.I.S.S.I.N.G.

(Hawarden, 1990s; Blackball, 1970s)

--

Fatty and Skinny went to the cricket,
Fatty blew off and broke the wicket.

(Dunedin, 1990s; Timaru, 1990s)

--

Fatty and Skinny went to the zoo,
Fatty skidded over in an elephant poo.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Fatty in the teapot,
Skinny in the spout.
Fatty blew off,
And blew Skinny out.

(NZ, c1940s (Sutton-Smith, 1959:96))

--

Background Info: Comment on this rhyme in Factor, 1988:160, and the possible relationship to the duo of Laurel and Hardy.

--

Also versions in Turner, 1978:113- 114.

Laurel and Hardy movies were known as the 'Fatty and Skinny' flicks. Also possible associations with Abbott and Costello. Turner, 1969:90.

--

Onwuchekwa, 2003:140, recorded variations from urban black America:

Fat and Skinny had a race,
Fat fell down and broke his face.

Fat and Skinny layin' in bed.
Fat laid a fart and Skinny dropped dead.

Fat and Skinny layin' in a ditch,
Fat called Skinny a dirty son-of-a-bitch.

--

Keywords: scatological, taunt, name calling, body image, fart lore
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 79

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1053
Date: 1960s
Title: Good on ya mum
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Good on ya mum,
Dad's up ya bum.

(Christchurch, 1960s)

--

Background Info: Said to 'wind mum up' without really realising the implications, only that it got the reaction intended. (Personal informant)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 954
Date: 1990s-2006
Title: My name is Elvis Presley
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Elvis Presley,
Girls are sexy,
Sitting in the bathtub,
Drinking Pepsi.

(Christchurch, 1998)

--

My name is

Elvis Presley,
Girls are sexy,
Sitting in the bathtub,
Drinking Pepsi.
Go to the movies,
Suck my boobies,
Have a baby,
Name it Daisy,
Do me a favour,
Get lost!

(Ashburton, 1998; Ashburton, 2006)

--

My name is Elvis Presley,
Girls are sexy,
Sitting in the backseat
Drinking Pepsi.
Watching movies,
Sucking boobies
That's what it's all about,
Boom, boom!

(Auckland, 1990s)

--

Elvis Presley,
Girls are sexy,
Sitting in the bathtub,
Drinking Pepsi.
Going to the movies,
Pinching boobies,
La, la la, bumba,
Squashed banana,
Stick it up your bumba,
Show it to your mumba.

(Northland, 2000)

--

Elvis Presley,
Girls are sexy,
Sitting in the bathtub,
Drinking Pepsi
Do me a favour,
Drop down dead.

(Christchurch, 1990s; Ashburton, 1997)

--

(My name is) Elvis Presley,
Girls are sexy,
Sitting in the bathtub,
Drinking Pepsi,
Watching the time go,
Tick, tock, tick, tock, tick, tock,
A, B, C, D, E, F, G,
Wash those scrubs right off my knees.
Coconut, coconut, coconut, freeze.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

My name is Elvis Presley,
Girls are sexy,
Sitting in the background,
Drinking Pepsi.

(Auckland, 2004)

--

Elvis Presley,
Girls are sexy,
Sitting in the back seat,
Drinking Pepsi.

(NZ ex International school, China, 2000)

--

My name is Elvis Presley
Girls are sexy,
Sitting in the back seat,
Drinking Pepsi.
Watching movies,
Playing with their boobies.
We're all sexy.
Girls are sexy, made out of Pepsi,
Boys are rotten, made out of cotton.
Incy wincy lollipop,
Boys love me.

(Ashburton, 1998)

--

My name is Elvis Presley
Girls are sexy,
Sitting in the back seat,
Drinking Pepsi.
Went to the movies.
To see big boobies,
Talking on the phone,
All on a Saturday night,
Boom, Boom!

(Kaiapoi, 2002)

--

Background Info: Bauer, 2002, Sect.70:25, recorded in the Auckland area this variation:

My name is Elvis Presley,
Girl friend Leslie,
Sitting in the backseat drinking Pepsi
Watching all the movies,
Kissing all the boobies,
That's what it's all about.

(Auckland, c. 2002)

--

Keywords: commercial product, media culture,
Location: Various NZ, International school China
Group size: 2
Incidence: 12

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 955
Date: 1995
Title: Elli I
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Elli I, elli I,
Chickali, chickali,
Went to California,
Jumped in a lake,
Swallowed a snake,
Then came out with a belly ache.

(Ashburton, 1995)

--

Location: Ashburton

Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 956

Date: 1995

Title: Eazy-peezy Japanezy

Gender: Female

Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

Eazy peezy Japanezy,
Eazy peezy.

(Christchurch, 1995)

--

Background Info: Used as a confidence builder. Often said to oneself. (Personal informant)

--

Location: Christchurch

Group size: 1

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 960

Date: 2000-2002

Title: Eezy peezy

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

Eezy, peezy
Lemon (banana)squeezy!

(Rununga, 2002)

--

Pimp squeaks!

(Wellington, 2000)

--

Background Info: Comment made when success has been achieved, be it for a simple or more complex task.

--

See also "Easy peasy" in this collection.

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 961
Date: 2000
Title: Eezy peezy
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Eezy peezy,
My name's Sneezzy.

(Wellington, 2000)

--

Location: Wellington
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 964
Date: 1930s
Title: Father oh father
Gender: Male
Classification: Partisan
Rhyme:

Father, oh Father, I killed a cat,
Well my boy, you'll be punished for that.

But Father. oh Father, it was a Protestant cat,
Oh well, my boy, you'll be rewarded for that.

(Rotorua, 1930s)

--

Background Info: Speaking in confession to the Holy Father, mentioned in Turner, 1969:50, as originating in Belfast:

Holy father, what'll I do?
I've come to confess my sins to you.
Holy Father, I killed a cat.
You'll have to suffer, my child for that.
Holy Father, what'll it be?
Forty days without any tea.
Father, dear, it's far too long.
You've done, my child, a very great wrong.
But Father, dear, t'was a Protestant cat.
Good, my girl, you did right to do that.

(Melbourne, c. 1925)

--

From "Lark Rise to Candleford" by Flora Thompson, 1939:214, comes the version:

Oh Dear Father, I've come to confess.
Well my child, what have you done?
Oh Dear Father, I've killed the cat.
Well my child, what about that?
Oh Dear Father, what shall I do?
You kiss me and I'll kiss you.

--

Keywords: religion, partisan, Catholic
Location: Rotorua
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 965
Date: 1950s-2002
Title: Engine, engine
Gender: Female
Classification: Counting-out
Rhyme:

Engine, engine number nine,
(Train, train, number 9)
Going down the Chicago Line,
If the train should jump the track,
Do you want your money back?
Y-E-S spells yes, N-O spells no,
You are not it.

(NZ ex USA, 1980s; Whakatane, 2002)

--

Engine, engine on the line,
Wasting water all the time,
How many gallons does it waste?

(NZ (Sutton-Smith, 1959:69))

--

Background Info: A counting-out rhyme with players standing in a circle, with one foot forward. The counter taps on the feet and the player on whom the word 'back' falls answers Y- E -S or N - O. The person on whom the last letter falls is eliminated. This is repeated until only one player remains. (Personal informant)

--

Turner, 1978:3, describes how players stand in a circle with one foot forward with counter tapping on feet. When the word 'back' falls on a player s/he must answer yes or no and the counter continues spelling out the selected word. The player on whom the final letter lands is then eliminated. This continues until one player is left, who becomes 'he.'

--

Location: NZ, USA
Group size: 5
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 966
Date: 1960s
Title: Elvis Presley
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Elvis Presley is a star,
S-T-A-R

He can do the go go,
He can do the twist,
He can do the twirly whirl,
And he can do the splits.

(Christchurch, 1960s)

--

Keywords: media culture,
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1054
Date: 1995-2003
Title: Grow up
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Grow up, grow up,
Every time I look at you,
I throw up.

(NZ, 1995; Auckland, 2003)

--

Keywords: taunt
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1055
Date: 2000
Title: I am a gold lock
Gender: Female
Classification: Guile
Rhyme:

I am a gold lock,
I am a gold key,
I am a silver lock,
I am a silver key,
I am a purple lock,

I am a purple key,
I am a monk lock,
I am a monk key.

(Timaru, 2000)

--

Background Info: A interchange between two children, where the second child follows the lead of the first.

"I say I'm a gold lock and you have to say I am a gold key, and whatever kind of lock I say, you say the same, only it's a key." (Personal informant)

--

Collected by Halliwell, 1844:103:

I am a gold lock,
I am a gold key,
I am a silver lock,
I am a silver key,
I am a brass lock,
I am a brass key,
I am a monk lock,
I am a monk key.

--

Location: Timaru
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1056
Date: 1950s-2006
Title: I saw a cow pat
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Guile
Rhyme:

I saw a dead hedgehog, lying on the road.
I one it,
I two it,
I three it,
I four it,
I five it,
I six it,
I seven it,
You ate it.

(Christchurch, 1960s; Ashburton, 2006)

--

I saw a dead hedgehog,
Squashed on the ground.
I one it,
You two it,
I three it,
You four it,
I five it,
You six it,
I seven it,
You eight it!

(Tauranga, 1990s)

--

I saw a dead possum, lying in a pile of dog poo.
I one it,
You two it,
I three it,
You four it,
I five it,
You six it,
I seven it,
You ate it.

(Tauranga, 2000)

--

I one a rat
I two a rat..
I..
I eight a rat.
Ugh, you ate a rat!

(NZ ex UK, 1950s)

--

I one you,
I two you..
I
I eight you!

(Oxford, 1979)

--

I saw a cow pat,
I one it,
I two it,
I ate it.

(Timaru, 2001)

--

Background Info: Discussion on similar rhymes see Opie, 1967:66.
Version from Glasgow beginning:

As I was walking down scabb't lane,
I met a scabb'y horse.
I one it,
I two it,
I ate it.

--

Opie, 2000:75 records from c. 1820:

I one my mother,
I two my mother..
I ate my mother.

--

Variations include: "I saw a dead dog", " There was a bad apple in the field".

--

Keywords: scatological, word play,
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 7

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1599
Date: 2006
Title: You're so dumb
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

You're so dumb,

You got locked in Countdown,
And died of starvation.

You're so dumb,
You try to drown a fish.

You're so dumb,
You sat on the TV
And watched the couch.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Keywords: commercial product,
Location: Ashburton
Group size: 4
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1600
Date: 1930-2006
Title: Algy
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Algy met a bear,
The bear met Algy.
The bear was bulgy,
The bulge was Algy.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Algy met a bear,
The bear was bulgy,
The bulge was Algy.

(NZ, 1930; Christchurch, 2002)

--

Keywords: word play
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1601
Date: 2006
Title: Loola
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Loola, loola, loola, loola lay,
Loola, loola, loola, loola lay,
Loola, loola, loola, loola lay,
Loola, loola, loola, loola lay,
Hooray!

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Background Info: Sung as a circular hand-clapping game by a group of girls at a Brownie meeting. The claps are passed around the circle.

--

Keywords: nonsense
Location: Ashburton
Group size: 8
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1602
Date: 1900s-2002
Title: Tic, tac, toe
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Game
Rhyme:

Tic, tac, toe,
My first go,
Three jolly nigger boys,
All in a row.
(Nelson, 1940s)

Rick, rick, toe,
Here I go,
If I miss,
I come to this.
(Tairei, 1940s)

Tip, tap, toe,

Here I go,
And if I miss
I come to this.
(Tairei, 1940s)

Tit, tat, toe,
My first go,
Three jolly butcher boys,
All in a row.
Stick one up,
Stick one down,
Stick one in the Ole Man's crown.
(Hampden, 1940s)

These four versions were part of a ritual known as 'slate games' in which a circle target was marked on a child's slate and while blindfolded the child had to take a stab to get near to the target, while chanting the rhyme. Points were then allocated. (Sutton-Smith, 1972:150)

--

Tic, tac, toe,
Up high, down low,
Turn around, touch the ground,
Tic, tac, toe.

(Clapping, Christchurch, 1990s x 2)

--

Tic, tac, toe,
Tick up, tick down,
Tic, tac, toe.

(Seddon, 2000)

--

Tic tac toe,
We're going up,
We're going down,
We're going criss cross, lollipop, turn around,
Touch the ground,
Pull the chain,
Start again.

(Auckland, 1990s; Auckland, 2002; Gore, 2002; Wellington, 2002)

--

Background Info: Details of the 'slate' game from Sutton-Smith, 1972:150. See rhyme text for further information.

--

Keywords: racist,
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 11

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1603
Date: Pre 1900
Title: Tara-koekoea
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Counting-out
Rhyme:

Ka haere, ka haere a Paora
Ki te wero kuku, ki te wero kaka
Ke tangi te tara koekoea.
(Paora goes, goes to spear pigeons, to spear parrots, the cuckoo sings.)

(NZ, pre 1900)

--

Background Info: An elimination game, where children form a group with hands on top of each other with fingers and thumb clenched, forefinger only protruding. The aim is to withdraw hands quickly and place them behind your back without being tagged by another player. Any child who is touched is out of the game. (Best, 1925:175-176)

--

Keywords: traditional Maori
Location: NZ
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1605
Date: 2006
Title: Sha booya
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Sha booya,

Sha sha sha booya,
Roll call, My name is India,
I'll give you three wishes,
If you call me bolicious!

(Christchurch, 2006)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1606
Date: 2006
Title: Apple on a stick
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Apple on a stick,
Break my heart,
Make me dizzy, feel very good,
Here comes someone with an apple on a stick,
With a hat on, on his head,
Close your eyes and count to ten,
If you mess up start again.
Go, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10,
That's the way you do,
Apple on a stick,
Yeah!

(Christchurch, 2006)

--

Background Info: A hand clapping game 'invented' by two Asian girls at Riccarton Primary School.

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1607

Date: 2006
Title: Ronald McDonald
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Ronald McDonald, a bissca,
She, she, walla, walla a bissca,
I know someone from Brisbane,
She's so funky like a monkey.
Ice cream soda with a cherry on the top,
Ice cream soda with a cherry in the middle,
Ice cream soda with a cherry on the bottom.
Up, up baby, up up the super tuba,
Down, down, baby down, down the roller coaster.
Sweet, sweet baby, I'll never let you go.
Ping..and freeze.

(Christchurch, 2006)

--

Keywords: commercial product
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1608
Date: 2006
Title: Jersey Channel Islands
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Tune sung by young girl from Ilam School in Paya? language from Jersey Channel Islands to the tune of Frere Jacques.

--

Gorsha geesha, gorsha geesha,
Gorba goo, gorba goo,
Goba goba geesha,
Goba goba geesha,
Gorba goo, gorba goo.
Geeba gooka, sheeka goo
Goba goba geesha
Goba goba geesha
Gorba goo, gorba goo.

(Christchurch, 2006)

--

Location: Christchurch

Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1609

Date: 2006

Title: Cor millie

Gender: Female

Classification: Clapping

Rhyme:

Cor millie, do the haka,
You smell like peanut butter.
Cor millie, do the haka,
You smell like peanut butter,
Freeze.

(Christchurch, 2006)

--

Keywords: Maori, NZ culture

Location: Christchurch

Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1610

Date: 2006

Title: Ella, ella oohla

Gender: Female

Classification: Clapping

Rhyme:

Ella, ella, oohla,
Clap, clap, clap.
Say es chicka, chicka,
Chicka, chicka, chum.
Say es chicka, chicka,
Blow, blow, blow your dirty nose,
Say, 1, 2, 3, 4..

(Christchurch, 2006)

--

Background Info: Based on the circle hand-clapping rhyme game named "Stella Ella Ola" of possible Hispanic origins. Commonly played in North and Latin America. In this game players form a circle and place their left palm on top of the next player's right palm. The leader begins by slapping her left palm on her right-hand neighbour's left palm. This action is repeated around the circle with the aim of not getting your hand slapped at the end of the verse.

Stella ella ola, clap, clap, clap,
Say yes, chicko, chicko, chicko, chicko, chak.
Say yes, chicko, chicko, allo, allo,
Allo, allo, allo.
Say 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.

Information from www.cocojams.com discussion forum. (Accessed 15 January, 2007)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1611
Date: 1920s
Title: Here are mother's knives and forks
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Finger play
Rhyme:

Here are mother's knives and forks,
Here is mother's table,
Here is mother's looking glass,
Here is baby's cradle.

(Wellington, 1920s)

--

Location: Wellington
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1612

Date: 2006
Title: Miss Mary Mack
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Miss Mary Mack, (Mack, Mack,)
All dressed all in black, (black, black,)
With silver buttons, (buttons, buttons,)
All down her back, (back, back,)
She cannot read, (read, read,)
She cannot write, (write, write,)
But she can smoke, (smoke, smoke,)
Her father's pipe, (pipe, pipe.)
She asked her mother, (mother, mother,)
For fifty cents, (cents, cents,)
To see an elephant, (elephant, elephant,)
Climb up the fence, (fence, fence,)
She climbed so high, (high, high,)
And reached the sky, (sky, sky,)
And didn't come back, (back, back,)
Till the fourth of July, (ly ly.)
She went down stairs, (stairs, stairs,)
And bumped her head, (head, head.)

(Christchurch, 2006)

--

Background Info: A pair clapping game where one of the pair chants the main part of the rhyme and the other acts as an echo.

--

Group size: 0
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1613
Date: 2006
Title: Dashing through the snow
Gender: Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Dashing through the snow,
On a pair of broken skis,
Flying over crowds,
Bashing into trees, ho, ho.

The snow is turning red,
I think I'm nearly dead.
Somebody call the ambulance,
I think I've lost my head, hey!

(Christchurch, 2006)

--

Background Info: Sung to the tune of "Jingle Bells".

--

Group size: 0
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1614
Date: 1990s-2006
Title: God of Nations (rugby)
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

God of Nations,
In the scrum,
Kick the Aussies up the bum.
If you do it wrong or right,
Blow them up with dynamite. (Vegemite)

(Christchurch, 2000; Christchurch, 2002 Geraldine, 2002)

--

God of Nations,
In the scrum,
Kick the Aussies up the bum.
If they like it,
Give them more.
If they don't
Don't let them score.

(Ashburton, 1990s)

--

God of Nations,
In the scrum,
Kick the Aussies in the bum,

If it hurts,
Serves them right,
Blow them up with dynamite.

(Oamaru, 2004; Christchurch, 2000)

--

God of Nations,
In the scrum,
Kick the Aussies up the bum.
If it doesn't serve them right,
Blow them up with dynamite.

(Fill their pants with dynamite - New Plymouth, 2001)
(Ashburton, 2002; Sheffield, 2006)

--

God of Nations,
In the scrum,
Kick the Aussies up the bum.
If they like it,
Give them more.
God defend our rugby score.

(Napier, 2000)

--

God of Nations, soccer sucks,
Kick the Aussies up their butts.
If they like it give them more,
God defend our farts in war.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Sung to the tune of New Zealand's national anthem, God of Nations.

--

Group size: 0
Incidence: 11

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1615
Date: 2003

Title: I thought
Gender: Male
Classification: Tongue twister
Rhyme:

I thought a thought,
But the thought I thought
Was not the thought I thought I thought.
If I thought the thought I thought I thought
I wouldn't have thought so much.

(Christchurch, 2003)

--

Keywords: tongue twister
Group size: 0
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1616
Date: 2000
Title: The window
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

The window, the window,
The second storey window.
Make up a rhyme,
And sing it in time,
And throw it out the window.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Group size: 0
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1617
Date: 1968
Title: Around the corner
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Around the corner and under the tree,
The sergeant-major,
Yes, he kissed me.
He kissed me once,
He kissed me twice,
And oh, and oh, and oh,
It was so very nice.

(Christchurch, 1968)

--

Group size: 0
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1618
Date: 2006
Title: Boom chukka
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Boom chukka lukka lukka,
Boom chukka lukka lukka,
Boom chukka lukka lukka,
Bang!

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Keywords: nonsense
Group size: 0
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1619
Date: 2006
Title: Bad Jack Horner
Gender: Male
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Bad Jack Horner,
Sat in the corner,
Pulling the wings off a fly.
He swore at his mum,

Kicked his dad up the bum,
And said, "What a bad boy am I."

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Group size: 0
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1620
Date: 2006
Title: Yankee doodle
Gender: Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Yankee Doodle went to town,
In his Mini Minor,
Couldn't find his flippin' brakes,
And ended up in China.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Group size: 0
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1621
Date: 1890-1920
Title: Mrs McKenzie's dead
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Game
Rhyme:

Mrs McKenzie's dead.
How did she die?
With her right eye.
Le kai, le kai,
With her right eye,
Le kai, le kai.
Mrs McKenzie's dead.

(Taieri, Otago, 1920s)

--

Background Info: Played as a parlour game in which the actions varied in the description of the death, with often hilarious results ("With one shut eye", "Standing on one leg", "With one finger up").

Variations included:

Mother Mumby's Dead. (Canterbury, 1890)

Queen Anne's Dead. (Wanganui, 1900)

--

Group size: 0

Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1059

Date: 2002

Title: Inky binky

Gender: Female

Classification: Elastics

Rhyme:

Inky binky bonky boo,
Inside, outside,
Monkey's loo.

(Christchurch, 2002)

--

Location: Christchurch

Group size: 4

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1060

Date: 1900s-2005

Title: Ink Pink

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Taunt - counting-out

Rhyme:

Ink,
Pink,
You
Stink.

(Wairoa, 1970s; Gore, 1970s; Auckland, 1980s; Rangiora, 2000; Whangarei, 2000;

Timaru, 2002)

--

Ink pink you stink,
How old are you?

(Manurewa, 1990s - counting-out related to the age of the child selected and that person is then 'it.')

--

Ink, pink,
Someone stinks,
It comes from,
Y, O, U.

(Christchurch, 1970s; NZ ex UK 1970s; Awanui, 1990s)

--

Ink pink penny wink
I smell a big stink,
I think it comes from
Y O U.

(NZ, 1980s)

--

Ink pink you stink,
Your teacher eats poos.
In the dark so nobody knows.
(So you eat guts?)

(Motueka, 2005)

--

Ink pink, pen and ink,
I smell a great, big stink.
I think it comes from
Y. O. U.

(Kaitaia, 1990s)

--

Ink pink, you stink,
You are not it.

(Whangarei, 1990s - counting-out rhyme)

--

Inky binky bonky boo,
Inside, outside,
Monkey's loo.

(Christchurch, 1970s)

--

Background Info: From Sutton Smith, 1959:66 "Then there were the other slightly obscene counting-out rhymes which nice young girls will repeat for you only with a blush even today. There was the truncated and respectable version:

Inky pinky penny wink
Out goes she.

(Nelson, 1895)

and its source:

Ink pink,
I smell a big stink,
And it comes from
Y.O.U. (1900s)

--

Variations, Turner, 1978:4 for school taunt:

Ink pink
Grammar stink.

(Victoria, 1973)

Ink pink,
You stink,
Like a monkey in a sink.

(Melbourne 1973)

--

Keywords: scatological, fart lore

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 2

Incidence: 15

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1061

Date: 1950s-2004

Title: I'm a little angel

Gender: Female

Classification: Bawdy

Rhyme:

I'm a little angel,
I don't swear,
Bugger, bugger, bull shit,
I don't care.

(Christchurch, 1998)

--

I'm a little fairy,
I don't swear,
Bugger, bugger, bull shit,
I don't care.

(Oxford, 1955)

--

I'm a little policeman
I don't swear,
Bugger, bugger, bull shit,
I don't care.

(Blenheim, 2004)

--

My mother told me not to swear,
Bugger, bugger, bum, bitch,
I don't care.

(Gisborne, 2001)

--

My mother told me not to swear,
Bugger, bugger, bull shit,
I don't care.

(Christchurch, 2000; Carew, 2000)

--

Background Info: Lowenstein, 1974:23 records similar versions beginning:
"I'm a little Dutch girl, I don't swear." (Melbourne, 1967)
"I'm a little Chinese girl, I don't swear.." (Melbourne, 1973)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 6

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1062
Date: 2000-2001
Title: I love you
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

I love you, you love me,
Let's get together as a big family,
With a great big hug,
And a kiss from me to you,
Won't you say you love me too.

(Northland, 2000; Auckland, 2001)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1063
Date: 2002
Title: I'm a little flea
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

I'm a little flea,
I ran up Daddy's trouser leg,
And bit him on the knee.

(Christchurch, 2002)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1064
Date: 2000
Title: I'm a nut
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

I'm a nut,
In a hut,
I used to live in Hamill Street,
But now we're here,
Let's eat.

(Rotorua, 2000)

--

Location: Rotorua
Group size: 3
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1065
Date: 2000
Title: I'm a lollipop
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

I am a lollipop,
I am a lollipop,
You can lick me well,
How many licks will I last?
1, 2, 3..

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Location: Christchurch

Group size: 10
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1066
Date: 1960s
Title: I'm from Bluff
Gender: Male
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

I'm from Bluff,
And I'm rough and tough,
The girls from Puki (Orepuki)
They're all sukey.

(Gore, 1960s)

--

Keywords: NZ culture
Location: Gore
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1067
Date: 2001
Title: I had a bubble gum
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

I had a bubble gum,
And I stuck it up my bum,
I gave it to my teacher,
And my teacher said, "Yum!"

(Auckland, 2001)

--

Location: Auckland
Group size: 10
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1069
Date: 2000
Title: I'm going round the twist
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

I'm going slightly round the twist,
I'm going round the bend,
I'm going round in circles,
I've fallen down,
The end!

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1070
Date: 1963-1983
Title: I lost my arm
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

I lost my arm in the army,
I lost my leg in the navy,
I lost my cock (dick) in the butcher's shop,
And found it in the gravy.

(Christchurch, 1970s; NZ, 1963; Tuahiwi School, 1983)

--

Alternative:

(I lost my balls on Niagara Falls)

--

Background Info: Sound recording www.immortalia.com (accessed 15 January, 2007)

--

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 5
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1071
Date: 2000
Title: I'm a bitch
Gender: Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

I'm a bitch, I'm a lover,
I love to fuck my mother,
Every night and every day,
And every single way,
Standing up, sitting down,
And even on the ground,
And no, I wouldn't do it any other way.

(Rangiora, 2000)

--

I'm a dip, I'm a spinner,
I'm a bimbo out to dinner,
I'm not a gal of desire,
My best friend's my hair drier.
I will spew up, I will die,
Then tell another lie,
And I wouldn't have it any other way.

(Rangiora, 2000)

--

Background Info: Based on the popular song by Alanis Morrissette.

--

Keywords: media culture, eating disorders. teenage culture,
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1072
Date: 2001-2006
Title: I'm sexy

Gender: Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

I'm sexy, I'm cute,
I'm popular to boot,
Great looking, great hair,
The boys will love to stare,
Go, go, Torros. (name of team)

(Mangakino, 2001)

--

We're sexy, we're cute,
We're popular to boot.
We're groovy, great hair,
The boys all like to stare.
We're winners, we rock,
We're everything you're not.
What are we? Don't say,
We're the green and yellows,
Whooop!

(Christchurch, 2006)

--

Background Info: Based on the lyrics of a cheerleading song featuring in the movie
"Bring It On'"(2000)

--

From www.warrenfahey.com (Accessed 15 January, 2007) Australian Folklore Unit:

I'm sexy, I'm cute,
I'm popular to boot,
I'm bitchin', great hair,
The boys all like to stare.
I'm pretty, I'm cool,
I dominate the school.
Who am I?
Just guess.
Guys wanna touch my chest.
Yeah.

(Sydney, Australia, 2005)

--

Keywords: NZ culture
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 5
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1073
Date: 1990s-2000
Title: I left my wife
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

I left my wife in New Orleans,
With 45 cents and a can of beans,
I thought it was right, right, right,
For my country,
Whoop de do,
Left, left left,
I left my wife..

(Christchurch, 1990s; Wellington, 1990s)

--

Left, left, left my wife,
45 cents and a can of beer,
Thought it was right, right, right,
Right, right on the table,
Whoopsie do.

(Putaruru, 2000)

--

Background Info: Circular rhyme, sometimes sung as a round.

--

Keywords: continuous
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1074
Date: 1970s-2006
Title: I had a little brother

Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

I had a little brother
His name was Tiny Tim
I put him in the bathtub,
To see if he could swim,
He drank up all the water,
He ate up all the soap,
He died last night with
A bubble in his throat.
In came the doctor,
In came the nurse,
In came the lady with the alligator purse.
Dead, said the doctor,
Dead, said the nurse,
Dead, said the lady with the alligator purse.
Out went the doctor,
Out went the nurse,
Out went the lady with the alligator purse.

(Gisborne, 1990s; Ashburton, 2006)

--

I had a little monkey
I called him Sonny Jim
I put him in the bathtub,
To see if he could swim,
He drank up all the water,
He ate up all the soap,
He lay down on the bath mat,
Blowing bubbles from his throat.
Mummy. Mummy, I feel ill,
Call for the doctor from the hill,
In came the doctor, in came the nurse,
In came the lady with the alligator purse.
"He's naughty," said the doctor,
"He's wicked!" said the nurse,
"Hiccups," said the lady with the alligator purse.
Out went the doctor, out went the nurse,
Out went the lady with the alligator purse.

(Christchurch, 1990s; Taupo, 2000)

--

ALTERNATIVE ENDINGS:

..bubble in his throat,
Miss Johnson phoned the doctor,
The doctor phoned the nurse.
The nurse phoned the lady with the yellow mini skirt.
"Operation" said the doctor,
"Operation" said the nurse,
"Needle" said the lady in the yellow mini-skirt.
I don't want the doctor, I don't want the nurse.
I only want the lady in the yellow mini-skirt, skirt, skirt.

--

I had a little brother
His name was Tiny Tim
I put him in the bathtub,
To see if he could swim,
He drank up all the water,
He ate up all the soap,
He died last night with
A bubble in his throat.

(NZ ex South Africa, 1990s)

--

Miss Johnson had a baby,
The baby's name was Tim,
She put him in some water,
To see if he could swim,
He drank up all the water,
Miss Johnson thought the baby
Had a bubble in his throat.
Miss Johnson phoned the doctor,
The doctor phoned the nurse,
The nurse phoned the lady in the yellow mini- skirt.
"Operation," said the doctor,
"Operation," said the nurse,
"Needle," said the lady in the yellow mini-skirt.
I do not want the doctor,
I do not want the nurse,
I only want the lady in the yellow mini-skirt, skirt, skirt.

(Christchurch, 2003)

--

Mummy. Mummy, I feel ill,
Call for the doctor from the hill,
In came the doctor, in came the nurse,
In came the lady with the alligator purse.

"Mumps," said the doctor,
"Measles," said the nurse,
"Nothing," said the lady with the alligator purse.

(Palmerston North, 1970s)

--

There was a little turtle,
His name was Tiny Tim,
I put him in the bathtub,
To see if he could swim,
He drank up all the water,
He ate up all the soap,
And now he's in the bathtub,
With a bubble in his throat.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Opie, 1988:472-3 recorded history of the rhyme dating back to 1938, New York. Includes details of bawdy adult versions. In particular a version about a whore called Lulu, who had a baby, which was an "awful shock, she couldn't call it Lulu 'cos the bastard had a cock!". This led to a version sung to the "Soldiers' Chorus", in "Faust":

Lulu had a baby, she called it Sunny Jim,
She took it to the bathroom to see if it could swim.
It swam to the bottom, it swam to the top,
Lulu got excited and grabbed it by the..
Cocktails, ginger ale, two and six a glass.

--

The version including the doctor and the lady with the alligator purse was heard in Mass., USA, 1920, as a jump roperhyme.

--

Variations, Turner, 1978:143;

I had a little doggie and his name was Tim,
I put him in the bath-tub to see if he could swim.
He drank up all the water; he ate up all the soap;
I took him to the doctor, and the doctor said, "No hope."

(Victoria c. 1912, 1973)

Sung to the same tune as "I am a pretty little Dutch girl".

--

Knapp, 1976:113 mentions version beginning:

I had a little sister,
Her name was Bobby Sue.
I put her in the bath tub
To see what she could do..

--

Knapp, 1976:114 also describes other bath tub rhymes including:

Alice, tall and slender,
Just like a giraffe,
Went one day to take her bath;
Billy Sunday, save her soul,
'Cause Alice is slipping down the hole.

(Indiana, 1939)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 10
Incidence: 8

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1075
Date: 2003
Title: Itchy Withchy Lollipop
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Itchy witchy lollipop,
Itchy witch woo,
Itchy witchy lollipop,
The boys like you,
And that is true.

(Wellington, 2003)

--

Location: Wellington
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1076
Date: 1990
Title: Ipsy Gypsy
Gender: Female
Classification: Ball bouncing
Rhyme:

Ipsy Gypsy lived in a tent,
Couldn't afford to pay the rent.
The rent man came the very next day,
So Ipsy Gypsy ran away.
Over the hills and far away.
To where the gypsies used to play.
2, 4, 6, 8, eating cherries off a plate,
2, 4, 6, 8.

(Auckland, 1990)

--

Background Info: Opie, 1997:297 records:

Gipsy, gipsy living in a tent,
She has no money to pay the rent;
The rent man came and threw her out,
Now she's living on a roundabout.

Hipsy Gipsy lived in a tent,
Couldn't afford to pay the rent.
When the rent man came next day
Hipsy Gipsy ran away,
Over the fields and far away.

Possibly derived from a chant (1905) used as a taunt of Romany gypsies.

--

Keywords: taunt, racist,
Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1077
Date: 1997
Title: I think

Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

I (point to self)
Think (point to head)
You (point to other person)
Are nuts (point to head again, or if teacher isn't looking, to genitals)

(Christchurch, 1997)

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1078
Date: 2000
Title: I wish I was a glow worm
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

I wish I was a glow worm,
Glow worms are never glum.
It's hard to be all grumpy,
When the sun shines
From your bum.

(Te Awamutu, 2000)

--

Location: Te Awamutu
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1079
Date: 1995
Title: I walk around town
Gender: Male
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

I walk around town,
What's over there?
It's a bald guy,
With no hair,
Left, right,
Even the mane,
So I bought the guy,
Some "Regaine." (Rogainne?)

(Dunedin,1995)

--

Background Info: Taunt used in reference to a particular teacher. "Regainne" a hair-restoring product.

--

Keywords: commercial product
Location: Dunedin
Group size: 5
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1080
Date: 2003
Title: It's a long way
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

It's a long way to the top,
If you want to rock 'n' roll,
It's a long way to the shop,
If you want a sausage roll.

(Lumsden, 2003)

--

Keywords: commercial product, media culture
Location: Lumsden
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1081
Date: 1970s

Title: I want my fish and chips
Gender: Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

I want my fish 'n' chips,
Puts more weight upon my hips.
Makes my tits hang to my toes.
Suck my nipples up my nose.
Sound off, 1, 2, 3, 4.

(Kaweau, 1970s)

--

Keywords: modern culture, NZ culture, body image, stereotype.
Location: Kawerau
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1082
Date: 2002
Title: I'm telling on you.
Gender: Female
Classification: Retort
Rhyme:

I'm telling on you.
Why?
Because you farted,
And you didn't say pardon.

(Greytown, 2002)

--

Keywords: scatological, fart lore
Location: Greytown
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1083
Date: 2002
Title: I'm Parker
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

I'm Parker, I'm Parker,
I live in Japan.
I thought I'd kissed a woman,
But I kissed a black man.

(Blenheim, 2002)

--

Location: Blenheim
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1084
Date: 2002
Title: I had a cup of tea
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

I had a cup of tea,
At half past three,
And did a wee,
On Channel three.

(Rotorua, 2002)

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Rotorua
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1085
Date: 2002
Title: In the ocean
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

In the ocean, there's an island,
On the island, there's a forest,
In the forest, there's a tree,

In the tree, there's a web,
On the web, there's a spider,
And in the spider, there's a fly.

(Gisborne, 2002)

--

Background Info: Compare with the traditional folktale/rhyme beginning;

In the dark, dark, wood there was a dark, dark path,
And up that dark, dark path there was a dark, dark house..

--

Keywords: Pacific culture
Location: Gisborne
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1086
Date: 1960s
Title: I love he
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

I love he,
And he loves she,
She loves me,
And we love he.

(NZ, 1960s)

--

Keywords: word play
Location: NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1087
Date: 1950s-2000
Title: I saw Esau
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Word Play

Rhyme:

I saw Esau
Sitting on a seesaw,
I saw Esau,
Esau me.

(Christchurch, 1970s; Wellington, 2000)

--

I saw Esau, sitting on a seesaw.
I saw Esau with my girl.
I saw Esau, sitting on a seesaw,
Giving her a merry twirl.
I saw Esau, 'e saw me,
I saw red and I got so sore,
I got a saw and I sawed out Esau,
Off that old seesaw.

(NZ ex UK, 1950s)

--

Background Info: Originally a riddle:

I saw Esau, sitting on a seesaw.
How many Esaus in that?
Answer = none.

Turner, 1969:80

--

Possibly a corruption of the rhyme:

I saw Esau kissing Kate,
The fact is that we all three saw;
For I saw him
And he saw me,
And she saw I saw Esau.

(Opie, 2000: 21)

--

From Butler, 1989:24:

I saw Esau
Sitting on a seesaw

And Esau saw I saw him
Though Esau saw I saw him saw
Still Esau went on sawing.
How many Esaus in that?
[The answer is "none."]

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1088
Date: 1998
Title: Have you heard about Harry?
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Have you heard about Harry?
He's just come back from the army.
Everyone knows,
He picks his nose,
And feeds it to the army.

(Whangarei, 1998)

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Whangarei
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1089
Date: 2000
Title: If you sprinkle
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

If you sprinkle when you tinkle,
Just leave it.

(Whangarei, 2000)

--

Background Info: From "Play and Folklore", Issue 40, 2001:11:

If you sprinkle when you tinkle,
Be a sweetie and wipe the seatie!

--

Keywords: scatological

Location: Whangarei

Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1090

Date: 1990

Title: If you can't

Gender: Male

Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

If you can't bedazzle them with your brilliance,
Baffle them with your bullshit.

(Christchurch, 1990)

--

Location: Christchurch

Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1091

Date: 2000

Title: it wasn't me

Gender: Female

Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

It wasn't me, it wasn't you,
I think it was my food.
It came up to say hello,
And then it went back down below.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Background Info: Reaction to accidentally passing wind.

--

Keywords: food,
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1092
Date: 2003
Title: I know a song
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

I know a song that gets on everybody's nerves,
Everybody's nerves, everybody's nerves,
I know a song that gets on everybody's nerves,
And this is how it goes...(repeat)

(Kaiapoi, 2003)

--

Location: Kaiapoi
Group size: 5
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1093
Date: 1960s
Title: I chased a bug
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

I chased a bug around a tree. (repeat many times)

(Wellington, 1960s)

--

Keywords: word play
Location: Wellington

Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1094
Date: 1960s
Title: If my cat had a face
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

If my cat had a face like yours,
I'd shave its bum
And teach it to walk backwards.

(Gisborne, 1960s)

--

Location: Gisborne
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1095
Date: 1940s-2006
Title: I know you are
Gender: Female
Classification: Tease
Rhyme:

I know you are,
I said you are,
But what am I?

(Whangarei, 1940s; Wellington, 1990s; Owaka, 2000; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Background Info: Used as a retort to a name-calling perpetrator.

--

Keywords: retort
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 4

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1096

Date: 1966 - 2003

Title: Jack and Jill

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Parody

Rhyme:

Jack and Jill went up the hill,
To fetch a pail of water.
Don't know what they did up there,
But they came back with a daughter.

(Christchurch, 1970s; Auckland, 1970s; Blackball, 1980s; Whangarei, 1980s; Nelson, 1980s; Christchurch, 1990s x 5; Hamilton, 1990s; Auckland, 1990s x 3; Ashburton, 1990; Porirua, 1990s; Ashburton, 1990s; Hastings, 1990s; Dunedin, 1990s; Northland, 1990s; Leeston, 1990s; Tauranga, 2000 x 2; Northland, 2000; Hamilton, 2000 x 2; Auckland, 2000; Rotorua, 2002 x 2; Tapanui, 2003)

--

Jack and Jill went up the hill,
To fetch a pail of water,
Jill came down with half a crown,
But not for carrying water.

(Rotorua, 1970s)

--

Jack and Jill went up the hill,
To have a quiet wander,
Jill lost the pill, had a spill,
And fell pregnant shortly after.

(Christchurch, 1970s)

--

Jack and Jill went up the hill,
To fetch a pail of water,
Jill came down with half a crown,
And then she had a daughter.

(Auckland, 1980s)

--

Jack and Jill went up the hill,

To do some hanky panky,
Jack went oohh and Jill went aahh!
And out came little Frankie.

(Whangarei, 1980s)

--

Jack and Jill went up the hill,
To fetch a pail of water.
Nine months to the very day,
The poor pair had a daughter.

(Christchurch, early 1980s)

--

Jack and Jill went up the hill,
To have a little fun,
Jill the dill, forgot her pill,
And now they have a son.

(Auckland, 1980s)

--

Jack and Jill went up the hill,
To fetch their ugly sister,
Jack fell down and broke his crown,
And his sister squished him after.

(Christchurch, 1990)

--

Jack and Jill went up the hill,
To have some hanky panky,
Jack had some, Jill had some,
Out came Baby Frankie.

(Waitakere City, 1990s)

--

Jack and Jill went up the hill,
To fetch a pail of water,
Jack got high, unzipped his fly,
And said, "Do you want to be naughty?"
Jill said, "Yes," pulled up her dress,
And they did the hanky panky,

Stupid Jill, forgot the pill,
And then came little Frankie.

(Runanga, 2000)

--

Jack and Jill went up the hill,
Each with a dollar quarter,
Jill came down with two dollars fifty,
Dirty hoe.

(NZ ex UK, 2000)

--

Jack and Jill went up the hill,
To pick a bunch of flowers.
Jack went home and gave them to his mother.
And Jill got very jealous.

(Geraldine, 2000)

--

Background Info: For discussion and variations see Turner,1978:119 including:

..Jill the dill forgot her pill,
And now they've got a daughter.

(Victoria, 1966-1973)

..Jill came down with half a crown,
But not for carrying water.

(Melbourne, 1970)

--

Keywords: modern culture, bawdy,
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 41

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1097
Date: 1990-2002
Title: Jack and Jill
Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Jack and Jill went to the dairy,
Jack pulled out his big and hairy,
Jill said, "Wow, what a whopper.
Lay me down and do me proper!"
Three months later doing well,
Six months later doing swell,
Nine months later, snap, crackle, pop.
Out came a baby with a six foot cock.
No, that's not all, that's not all,
The poor little bugger had only one ball.

(Palmerston, 2000)

--

John and Mary went to the dairy,
John pulled out his big and hairy,
Mary said, "What a whopper,
Let's go home and do it proper."
Three months later, going well,
Six months later, going swell,
Nine months later, crackle, bang, pop.
Out came a bay with a forty inch cock.
Ladies and gentlemen, that's not all,
The poor little bugger,
Had only one ball!

(Christchurch, 1990)

--

[X] and [Y] sitting behind a dairy,
[X] pulls out his great, big, hairy,
[Y] says, 'What a whopper!
Let's get down and do it proper.'

(Methven, 2002)

--

Keywords: pregnancy, sex
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1098

Date: 1930s

Title: Jesus loves me

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Parody

Rhyme:

Jesus loves me I don't think,
He took me in for a drink.
He drank whiskey, I drank rum.
And I went rolling on my bum.

(Auckland, 1930s)

--

Background Info: Alternative version in Opie, 1967:87:

Jesus loves me I don't think,
He took me to a skating rink.
He drank whiskey, I drank beer,
Jesus loves me - I'm a leer.

--

Keywords: religious, alcohol

Location: Auckland

Group size: 4

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1099

Date: 2000

Title: Jesus is a bonzer

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Parody

Rhyme:

Jesus is a bonzer, a bonzer, a bonzer,
Jesus is a bonzer,
There are no flies on him.
He walks upon the water, the water, the water,
He walks upon the water,
And makes us buggers swim!

(Te Aroha, 2000)

--

Background Info: 'Bonzer' is Australian slang for something that is excellent, very good - possibly related to 'bonanza.'

--

Keywords: religious

Location: Te Aroha

Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1100

Date: 1990s-2006

Title: Johnny on the ocean

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Clapping Skipping

Rhyme:

Johnny on the ocean,
Johnny on the sea.
Johnny broke a bottle,
And blamed it on me.
I told Ma,
Ma told Pa,
Johnny got a hiding, (spanking, hiddy, whipping, growling)
So ha ha ha.

(Methven, 1990s; Rotorua, 1990s x 3; Auckland, 1994; Whangarei, 1998; Tauranga, 2000; Dannevirke, 2000; Napier, 2000; Awanui, 2000; Kerikeri, 2000; Mangakino, 2001; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Johnny in the ocean,
Johnny in the sea.
Johnny broke a bottle,
And it landed on me.
I told Ma,
Ma told Pa,
Johnny got a hiding,
So ha, ha, ha.

(Northland, 2000)

--

Johnny on the ocean,
Johnny on the sea.
Johnny broke a bicycle

And blamed it on me.
I told Ma,
Ma told Pa,
Johnny got a hiding,
So ha, ha, ha.

(Upper Hutt, 2000)

--

Johnny in the ocean,
Johnny in the sea,
Johnny ate the cookie and blames it on me.
I told Ma,
Ma told Pa,
And Johnny got the blame,
So ha, ha, ha!

(Wellington, 2002)

--

Johnny broke a (milk) bottle,
And blamed it on me.
I told Ma, Ma told Pa,
Johnny got a spanking, (hiding)
Ha, ha, ha.

(Christchurch, 1990; Ashburton, 1996; Gisborne, 1999; Christchurch, 2000;
Wellington, 2006)

--

Johnny on the ocean,
Johnny on the sea,
Johnny broke Mum's bra,
And blamed it on me,
I told Ma, Ma told Pa,
Johnny had to wear it
With a ha, ha, ha.

(Masterton, 2000)

--

Background Info: Johnny on the ocean was originally Charlie over the water, Charlie over the sea.

Charlie referred to is said to be Bonnie Prince Charles Stuart, who tried and failed to claim the English throne in the eighteenth century, then spent his life 'over the sea,' roaming around Europe. (Schwartz, 1992:161)

--

Various 'Charlie' versions recorded by Dorothy Howard in Australia, 1950s as counting-out rhymes:

Charlie on the water,
Charlie on the sea,
Charlie on the ferry boat,
And out goes he.

Charlie over the water,
Charlie over the sea,
Charlie kissed a black girl,
And blamed it on me.

(Darian-Smith, 2005:135)

--

Bauer, 2002, Sect.70:4, recorded versions of this rhyme in Wanganui, Whangarei and Invercargill.

--

From Botkin, 1944:800:

Minnie and a Minnie and a ha ha ha,
Kissed her fellow in a trolley car,
I told Ma, Ma told Pa,
Minnie got a licking and a ha ha ha

·
(USA, 1944)

--

Opie, 1997:297-298 recorded variations as being popular in 1950s as a skipping game. For his behaviour Johnny received a spanking, a beating, a thrashing, a hiding, a whipping, a licking, a leathering, a skelping or a hammerin'.

--

Keywords: violence
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 22

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1101

Date: 1998
Title: X picks his nose
Gender: Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

[X] picks his nose and eats it,
Do-dah, do-dah,
[X] picks his nose and eats it,
Do-dah, do-dah, day.
[Y] taught him how to do it,
Do-dah, do-dah,
[Y] taught him how to do it,
Do-dah, do-dah, day.

(Blenheim, 1998)

--

Location: Blenheim
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1102
Date: 1983
Title: In jail
Gender: Male
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

In jail they give you coffee,
In jail they give you tea,
In jail they give you everything,
Except the bloody key.

(Christchurch, 1983)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1103
Date: 1990
Title: Jolly old St Nicholas

Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Jolly old St Nicholas,
Balls were made of brass,
Every time they clanged together,
Balls came out his arse.

(Auckland, 1990)

--

Keywords: occasional rhyme, scatological
Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1104
Date: 1990s
Title: Join on Girls
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Join on girls, kick out the boys.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Join on boys, keep away girls.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Often a group chasing session.

--

Keywords: gender differences
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 8
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1105
Date: 2002
Title: I went to the zoo
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

I went to the zoo,
At half past two.
And did a poo,
On Channel Two.

(Rotorua, 2002)

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Rotorua
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1106
Date: 2000
Title: I got a fuck
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

I got a fuck for a duck,
And a duck for a fuck,
And \$50 for a fucked up duck.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Keywords: tongue twister
Location: Auckland
Group size: 5
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1107
Date: 1944
Title: Eye nose
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Word Play

Rhyme:

Eye nose (I knows) cheeky, cheeky, chin,
Cheeky, cheeky, chin,
Cheeky, cheeky, chin.
Eye nose, cheeky, cheeky, chin
Cheeky, cheeky, chin,
Eye nose.

(NZ ex UK, 1944)

--

Background Info: Often played with a young child on knee, along with relevant actions.

--

Location: NZ (ex UK)
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1108
Date: 2000
Title: I didn't know how
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

I didn't know how, but I tried my best,
I began by placing my hands on her breast.
I remember my fear, my fast beating heart,
But slowly she spread her legs apart.
And when I did it, I felt no shame,
All at once the white stuff came,
At last it's finished, it's all over now.
My first time ever at milking a cow.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Keywords: guile, word play
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1109
Date: 2000
Title: Incy Wincy
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Incy wincy lollipop, lollipop, lollipop,
Incy wincy lollipop, lollipop, lollipop,
Boys love me.

(NZ, 1990)

--

Incy Pincy lollipop,
Incy Pincy boo,
Boys love,
And that's not true,
Shampoo.

(NZ, 2000)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1110
Date: 1970s
Title: I skip
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

I skip, you skip,
We all skip together.

(Dundee, 1970s)

--

Location: Dunedin
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1111
Date: 1998
Title: In the land of Na
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

In the Land of Na,
Where the ladies wear no bra,
And the men don't care,
'Cos they wear no underwear,
And the kids don't mind,
'Cos they're naked all the time.
Na,na.na.na, na, na, na, na.

(Auckland, 1998)

--

Location: Auckland
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1112
Date: 1994
Title: I went upstairs
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

I went upstairs to make my bed,
And a bucket of water fell on my head.
I went to the doctor, and the doctor said,
"Sorry mate, your grandmother's dead."

(Auckland, 1994)

--

Location: Auckland
Group size: 3
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1114

Date: 1997
Title: I see you
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

I see you in the ocean,
I see you in the sea,
I see you in the bathtub,
Oops, pardon me.

(NZ, 1997)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1115
Date: 1990s-2006
Title: I hate you
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

I hate you, you hate me,
Let's get together and kill Barney,
With a B-B gun, six shots in the head,
Sorry kids, but Barney's dead.
Lala cried, Dipsy died,
Po committed suicide,
With a B-B gun, six shots in the head,
Sorry kids, but they're all dead.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

I hate you, you hate me,
Tinky Winky shot Dipsy,
With a knife thrown
And a bullet to the head,
Dipsy is now surely dead.
Lala cried, Dipsy died,
Po committed suicide.
Tinky Winky crashed a plane,
Teletubbies are insane.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

I hate you, you hate me
Tinky Winky shot Dipsy,
With a great big shotgun,
He shot him in the head.
Sorry, Lala, Dipsy's dead.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

I love you, you love me,
Tinky Winky did a wee,
Fifty bullets in his head,
Sorry, La La, Po is dead
La La cried, then she died,
Po went down and suicide, (the waterside)
Tinky Winky did the same,
Teletubbies are insane.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

I hate you, you hate me,
Let's get together and kill Dipsey,
Lala cried, then she died,
Po committed suicide,
Twinky Winky did the same,
Teletubbies are insane.

(Timaru, 2006; Wellington, 2006)

--

Background Info: Parody of the Teletubbies theme song. Compare with Barney theme song in this collection.

--

Keywords: violence, media culture,
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 6

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1116
Date: 1990s
Title: I love you, you love me,
Gender: Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

I love you, you love me,
Hom-o-sex-u-al-ity,
Mummy thinks we're just good friends,
But really we are lesbians.

(Ashburton, 1990s)

--

I love you, you love me,
Hom-o-sex-u-al-ity,
Most people think that we're just friends,
In actual fact we're lesbians.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Sung to the tune of the often parodied "Barney, the purple dinosaur" theme song.

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1117
Date: 2000
Title: I love you divine
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

I love, I love you,
I love you divine,
Please give me your chewing gum,
You're sitting on mine.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1118
Date: 1940s - 2006
Title: I like coffee
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

I like coffee, I like tea,
I like sitting on my boyfriend's knee.

(Northland, 1970s; Springston, 1996; Christchurch, 2006)

--

Do you like coffee?
Do you like tea?
Do you like sitting on your boyfriend's knee?
Yes/ no, yes/ no.(maybe so)

(Rotorua, 1990s x 2; Northland, 1990s; Whangarei, 1990s; Timaru, 1990s; Springston.
1996; Auckland, 2000; Lumsden, 2003)

--

I like coffee, I like tea,
I like the boys,
And the boys like me. (Rotorua, 2000; Sutton-Smith, pre-1950s)
Tell your mother to hold her tongue,
For she did the same when she was young,
Tell your father to do the same,
For he was the one who changed her name.

(Auckland, 1990s)

--

Josie likes coffee,
Josie likes tea,
Josie likes sitting on the devil's knee.

(Christchurch, 1960s)

--

X likes coffee,
X likes tea,
X likes sitting on Y's knee.

(Oxford, 2003)

--

Jo likes coffee,
Jo likes tea,
Jo likes sitting on her boyfriend's knee.
Yes, no, yes, no.

(Wairoa, 1960s)

--

X likes coffee,
X likes tea,
X likes sitting on her boyfriend's knee.
How many kisses does she have?
1,2,3,..
Hi low jolly pepper.

I love coffee,
I love tea,
I love X skipping in with me.
I hate coffee,
I hate tea,
I hate Y skipping in with me.

(Napier, 2000)

--

I like coffee, I like tea,
I like sitting on my boyfriend's knee.
A, B, C.. (Ashburton, 2006)
Will you come to tea? Yes/no
Will you marry me? Yes/no
Where will we live? Castle, house..

(Waimate, 1990s)

--

I like chocolate,

I like tea,
I like sitting on your knee.

(Christchurch, 2006)

--

Background Info: See Opie, 1967:117:

I like coffee,
I like tea,
I like radio
And T V.

(UK, 1953)

--

Turner, 1978:30 records this version:

Do you like coffee?
Do you like tea?
Do you like sitting on a black fellow's knee?

(Melbourne, 1973)

--

Onwuchekwa, 2003:112 records from urban black America:

I like coffee, I like tea,
I like the Jackson Five
And they like me.
So step back Osmond Brothers,
You don't shine,
I'll get the Jackson Five
To beat your behind.

I like coffee, I like tea,
I like a coloured boy,
And he likes me.
Step back, white boy,
'Cause you don't shine.
I'll get a coloured boy
To kick your behind.

--

From Withers, 1948:63:

I like coffee,
I like tea,
I like the boys
And the boys like me.
Tell your mother to hold her tongue,
For she did the same when she was young,
Tell your father to do the same,
For he was the one who changed her name.

--

Keywords: media influence, romance, love, racist
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 19

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1119
Date: 1998
Title: I like bananas
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

I like bananas, monkey nuts and grapes, (x 3)
That's why they call me Tarzan of the Apes!

(Wellington, 1998)

--

Location: Wellington
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1120
Date: 1930s-1970s
Title: In the days of old
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

In days of old,
When knights were bold.
And suits were made of tin.
No anguished cry,
Escaped the guy,

Who sat down on a pin.

(Christchurch, 1930)

--

In the days of old,
When knights were bold,
And women weren't invented,
They drilled their holes in telegraph poles,
And had to be contented.

(NZ ex UK, 1950s)

--

In the days of old,
When knights were bold.
And toilets weren't invented.
They dug pot holes in the road.
And squatted there, quite contented.

(NZ, 1970s)

--

In the days of old,
When knights were bold.
And condoms weren't invented,
They used a sock to cover their cock,
And pregnancies were prevented.

(Auckland, 1970s)

--

In the days of old,
When knights were bold.
And dunnies just invented,
A poor old soul fell down the hole,
And came up sweetly scented.

(Wellington, 1970s)

--

Background Info: Turner, 1978:118. Variation:

In days of old when knights were bold,
And toilets weren't invented,

They'd drop their load,
In the middle of the road,
And go off quite contented.

(Victoria c. 1930)

--

Lowenstein, 1974: 25 recorded these versions:

In the days of old when knight were bold
And paper wasn't invented,
They'd wipe their arse
On blades of grass
And go away contented.

(Melbourne, 1967)

In the days of old when knights were bold
And women weren't invented,
They shoved their cocks
Between two rocks
And went away contented.

(Geelong, 1942)

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1121
Date: 1960s-2006
Title: In 1864
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

In 1864, (1964) the Maoris went to war,
They had no guns, so used their bums,
In 1864.

(Wairoa, 1970s; Ashburton, 1970s; Tauranga, 1990s x 2)

--

In 1984, we won the war,
We had no guns so used our bums,
In 1984.

(Gisborne, 1980s)

--

We won the war, in 1864,
We lost our sticks, so we used our dicks.
In 1864.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

In 1864 the Maoris went to war,
They had no guns
So bared their bums,
In 1864.

(Christchurch, 1970s)

--

In 1904 (1884) the Maoris went to war,
They had no guns
So fought with their bums,
In 1904.

(Wellington, 1960s; Christchurch, 1980s)

--

In 1994 my grandma went to war,
She had no gun,
So used her bum,
In 1994.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

In 1994 my grandma went to war,
She kissed a man, She lost her hand,
In 1994.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

In 1994 the teachers went to war,
They had no guns, so used their bums,
In 1994.

(Timaru, 2006)

--

In 1804 the Maoris went to war,
They had no guns,
So used their bums,
In 1804.

(Blenheim, 1930s)

--

Keywords: NZ culture, historical event, war, violence, scatological
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 3
Incidence: 13

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1122
Date: 1999
Title: In 1963
Gender: Male
Classification: Topical rhyme
Rhyme:

In 1963 I took a little walk along the Waikato,
I took a load of puha and a few grubs.
Now we're members of the Hokianga mob.

(Auckland, 1999)

--

Keywords: NZ culture
Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1123
Date: 1980s-2004
Title: If the old woman

Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

If the old woman who lived in a shoe,
Had lived in a cottage instead,
Her children could have played hide and seek,
And wouldn't have been sent to bed.

(Christchurch, 1980s)

--

There was an old woman, who lived in a shoe,
She fed all her children on glue stew.
But Mamma, they said,
This will not do,
We want blowflies in our stew.

(Runanga, 2004)

--

There was an old woman, who lived in a shoe,
She had so many children,
She didn't know what to do.
So she washed them and brushed them
And told them good jokes.
They all grew up to be very good blokes.

(Wellington, 2002)

--

Background Info: Origins of this rhyme date back to 1797, with this version from Opie, 1992:435:

There was an old woman, and she liv'd in a shoe,
She had so many children, she didn't know what to do.
She crumm'd 'em some porridge without any bread;
And she borrow'd a beetle,
And she knocked 'em all o' the head.
Then out went th' old woman to beespeak 'em a coffin,
And when she came back, she found 'em all a-loffeing.

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1124

Date: 1950s-1970s

Title: I'll tell you a story

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

I'll tell you a story,
About a Jack Nory,
He had a calf,
And that's half.
He threw it over the wall,
And that's all.

(Auckland, 1970s)

--

Shall I tell you a story,
About Jack and McGorey?
Shall I begin it?
That's all that's in it!

(Christchurch, 1950s)

--

Background Info: Alternative version in Turner,1978:116:

I'll tell you a story,
Of Jack and his glory.
Shall I begin it?
That's all that's in it!

(Melbourne, 1965, Sydney c. 1945)

--

From the USA, Botkin, 1944:786-787:

I'll tell you a story
About Old Mother Morey,
And now my story's begun;
I'll tell you another
About her brother,
And now my story is done.

I'll tell you a story
About Jack a Nory;
And he had a calf,
And that's half;
And he threw it over the wall,
And that's all.

--

Butler, 1989:24 recorded from both USA and England:

I'll tell you a story
About Jack Vanory
And now my story's begun
I'll tell you another
About his brother
And now my story's done.

(1900-1990)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1125
Date: 1950s
Title: I went to sea
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

I went to sea, to see the sea,
And what do you think I saw?
I saw the Atlantic,
And it wasn't as romantic,
As it was cracked up to be.

(Christchurch, 1950s)

--

Keywords: word play
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1126
Date: 1950s
Title: Just like me
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Guile
Rhyme:

I went up one pair of stairs.
Just like me.
I went up two pairs of stairs,
Just like me.
I went up three pairs of stairs,
Just like me.
I walked into a door,
Just like me.
I saw a monkey.
Just like me.

(Auckland, 1950s)

--

Background Info: A 'duel' between two children, statement and response.

--

Opie, 2000:149 notes this rhyme being recorded by J O Halliwell in 1844.

--

Keywords: word play
Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1128
Date: 1970s
Title: I wish I was
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

I wish I was a fairy Queen,
And if it came to pass.
I'd climb up all the rocks and trees,
And slide down on my arse.

(Nelson, 1970s)

--

Location: Nelson
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1129
Date: 1995
Title: M C Hammer
Gender: Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

M C Hammer went to town,
Riding on a Harley,
Stuck Madonna on the back,
And said, "I love you, darling."
M C Hammer, keep it up,
M C Hammer suck your butt,
M C Hammer, 1, 2, 3.
And make another baby.

(Whakatane, 1995)

--

Keywords: media culture, topical rhyme, pop culture, celebrities
Location: Whakatane
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1130
Date: 1970s-2002
Title: My old man
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

My old man's a dustman,
He wears a dustman's hat,
He farted through the keyhole,
And paralysed the cat.

(Wairoa, 2002)

--

My old man's a dustman,
He wears a dustman's hat,
He killed ten thousand Germans,
What do you think of that?
One laid here, one laid there,
One laid round the corner.
One poor soul,
With a bullet in his hole.
Crying out for water, water,
Water came at last,
We don't want your water,
So stick it up your arse.

(Rotorua, 1970s)

--

My old man's a dustman,
He wears a dustman's hat,
He wears cor blimey trousers,
And there's nothing wrong with that.
He went around the corner,
To see a soccer match,
The ball was in the middle,
The rusty whistle blew,
Fatty passed it to Skinny,
Skinny passed it back.
Tubby gave a rotten shot
And knocked the goalie flat.

(Rotorua, 1970s)

--

Background Info: Based on a 1950s pop song. See Turner,1978:148:

My old man's a dustman,
He wears a dustman's hat,
He bought five thousand tickets,
To go to a footy match.
The ball was in the centre,
When the umpire's whistle blew,..

(Melbourne, 1973)

--

Keywords: bawdy, fart lore
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1131
Date: 1950s-2003
Title: Mrs White
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Mrs White had a fight,
In the middle of the night,
Saw a ghost, eating toast,
Halfway up the lamp post.

(Timaru, 1960s; Blackball, 1990s; Carew, 1990s; Napier, 1990s; NZ ex Australia, 2002)

--

Mrs Green, saw the queen,
On the television screen.

(Carew, 1990s; Napier, 1990s)

--

Mrs Black, got the sack,
Said she wasn't coming back.

(Carew, 1990s)

--

Mrs Brown, went to town,
With her knickers (britches) hanging down.

(NZ ex UK, 1940s; Carew, 1990s; Mt Maunganui, 1988; Napier, 1990s)

--

Mr Green saw the scene,
And put it in a magazine.

Mrs Blue, did a pooh,

Mrs Pink, did a stink,
In the middle of the sink.

(Carew, 1990s)

--

Mrs Pink fell down the sink,
How many litres did she drink?
1, 2, 3, (Skipping)

(Hokitika, 2003)

--

Ashley White got a fright,
In the middle of the night.
Saw a ghost,
Eating toast,
Halfway up a lamp post.

(Gisborne, 1964)

--

Lucy Brown, went to town,
With her knickers falling down,
Saw a ghost, eating toast,
Halfway up a lamp post.

(Owaka, 1960s)

--

Mrs Brown went to town,
With her britches upside down.

(Invercargill, 1950s)

--

Background Info: Other similar rhymes recorded in 1950s by Sutton Smith, 1959:98 including:

Mrs B went to town,
With her britches upside down.

Mrs Brown went to town,
To buy a pair of britches.
When she came home

She tried them on,
And bang went the stitches.

Mrs Barton, Mrs Barton,
There's a devil in your garden.

Mrs Martin fell down barking,
Got up blinking,
Ran away thinking.

(NZ 1950s)

(Often said in disparaging tones in reference to another child's mother.)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 5
Incidence: 17

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1132
Date: 2002-2006
Title: My Auntie Anna
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

My Auntie Anna,
Plays the piano,
SPLIT! (repeat)

(Wellington, 2002)

--

My auntie Anna
Plays the piano, (piana)
Twenty four hours a day,
Split. (repeat until one player falls down)

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Background Info: Wide star jump performed on the word "split". Repeated until one of the pair falls over.

--

Location: Wellington
Group size: 3
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1133
Date: 1950s-2000
Title: Mabel, Mabel
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Mabel, Mabel,
Set the table,
Don't forget the
Sugar,
Salt,
Pepper.
(Salt, vinegar, pepper.)

(NZ, 1950s (Sutton-Smith, 1959:76); Christchurch, 1960s; Auckland, 1990s; Auckland, 2000)

--

Background Info: Variations from 1912 recorded in Abrahams, 1969:115.

--

Turner, 1978:2:

Mabel, Mabel, set the table,
Don't forget the vinegar, salt, pepper.

(Sydney, 1958)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 3
Incidence: 4

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1134
Date: 1980s
Title: Meanie, meanie,
Gender: Female

Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Meanie, meanie,
Show us your bikini.

(Auckland, 1980s)

--

Location: Auckland
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1135
Date: 2000
Title: Mushe, mushe
Gender: Female
Classification: Action
Rhyme:

Mushe, mushe, from Alabama,
Sitting on a rock, eating bellacocka,
Watching the clock go tick-tock, tic, toc,
From Alabama.
A,B,C,D,E,F,G.
Wash those bags right out of me.
Wisha-washa,wisha-washa,wisha-washa,
Freeze.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Background Info: See also rhymes in this collection beginning; Miss Moore, Miss Mew.

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1136
Date: 2000
Title: Mardamia
Gender: Female

Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Maradamia, maradamia,
Mardia, mardia, mardia,
Cha, cha, cha.
Mardia, cha, cha, cha,
1,2,3.

(Rotorua, 2000)

--

Keywords: nonsense
Location: Rotorua
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1137
Date: 1900s- 1990s
Title: My mother said
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping, skipping
Rhyme:

My mother said,
That I never should,
Play with the gypsies in the wood,
If I did, she would say,
Naughty girl to disobey. (Nelson, 1940s; Auckland, 1960s; Christchurch, 1960s x 3;
Wellington, 1960s; Auckland, 1990s)
Your hair won't curl,
Your shoes won't shine,
Naughty girl,
You won't be mine.

(Hamilton, 1920s; Dunedin, 1930s; Palmerston, 1960s; Christchurch, 1960s; Greytown,
1990s; Twizel, 1990s)

--

My mother said,
That I never should,
Play with the gypsies in the wood,
If I did, she would say,
Naughty girl to disobey
I - N spells in
O - U - T spells out.

(Coromandel, 1960s)

--

My mother said,
That I never should,
Play with the gypsies in the wood,
If I did, she would say,
Go over the hills and far away.

(NZ, 1960s)

--

My mother said,
That I never should,
Play with the gypsies in the wood,
If I did, she would say,
Naughty girl to run away.

(Timaru, 1960s)

--

My mother said,
That I never should,
Play with the gypsies in the wood,
If I did, she would say,
Naughty girl to disobey.
The woods are dark,
The grass is green,
Here comes Sally with a tambourine.
Hump tiddley batch cake,
Brown bread.

(Taradale, 1990s)

--

My mother said,
That I never should,
Play with the gypsies in the wood,
If I did, she would say,
Naughty girl to disobey
Eenie, meenie, minie mo,
Catch a tigger by the toe,
If he hollers, let him go,
Eenie, meenie, minie, mo.
O-U-T spells out.

(Tauranga, 1960s)

--

My mother said,
That I never should,
Play with the gypsies in the wood,
If I did, she would say,
Naughty girl to disobey,
Disobey, disobey,
Naughty girl to disobey.
Your hair won't curl,
Your shoes won't shine,
Naughty girl, you won't be mine.

I came to a river,
Couldn't get across,
Paid ten bob,
For an old lame horse,
Jumped on its back,
Gave it a crack,
Said lame horse,
You'll never get back.

(Palmerston, 1900 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:85-86))

--

Background Info: See Sutton-Smith, 1959:85, for description of clapping game. "The players hit each other's hands together, clapped their own hands, and hit their sides. This was the order of procedure, except for the last two lines in each verse, in which only the two hand clapping actions were employed, that is, they hit each other's hands and then clapped their own."

--

Turner, 1978:37 has additional lines:

Disobey once, disobey twice,
Disobey three, disobey four,
Disobey five, disobey six,,
Disobey, seven, eight and nine,
Now, little girl, it's time to dine.

(Melbourne, 1967)

Disobey one, disobey two,
Disobey over Waterloo (the ocean blue.)

(Melbourne - Victoria, 1910-1945)

My mother said I never should,
Play with the sailors down the bay,
If I did, she would say,
"Naughty girl, I'll have you spayed."

(Melbourne, 1973)

--

Also as a counting-out rhyme in Turner, 1978:9:

My mother said I must never,
Go where the gypsies are,
For if I did she would say,
"Naughty girl to disobey."
One spank, two spank, three spank,
You're out.

(Melbourne, 1973)

--

Opie, 1992:315 - 316. First found in "Come Hither", Walter De la Mare 1922:

My mother said,
That I never should,
Play with the gypsies in the wood,
The wood was dark, the grass was green;
In came Sally with a tambourine.
I went to sea - no ship to get across;
I paid ten shillings for a blind white horse;
I up on his back and was off in a crack,
Sally, tell my mother I shall never come back.

--

Butler, 1989:84-85 notes that gypsies were often maligned as child stealers or child molesters and recorded these two versions from Ireland in 1973:

My mother said,
That I never should,
Play with the gypsies in the wood,
If I did, she would say,
Naughty girl to disobey..
I wish my mother would hold her tongue,
She had a boy when she was young.
I wish my father would do the same,
He had a girl with an awful name. [prostitute]

My mother said,
That I never should,
Play with the gypsies in the wood,
The wood was dark, the grass was green;
In came Sally with a tambourine.
I went to sea - no ship to get across;
I paid ten shillings for a blind white horse;
I up on his back and was off in a crack,
Sally, tell my mother I shall never come back.

(Belfast, N. Ireland, 1973)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 11

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1138
Date: 2000-2006
Title: Mary, Mary
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Mary, Mary quite contrary,
How does your garden grow?
Up, stupid!

(Blaketown, 2000; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Mary, Mary quite contrary,
How does your garden grow?
It's nothing to do,
With nosy old you.
So mind your own business,
And go!

(Fairlie, 2003)

--

Mary, Mary quite contrary,
Watered her garden so,
The flowers grew, the weeds did too,

And Mary weeded 'till the cows came home.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Mary, Mary quite contrary,
How does your garden grow?
I live in a high rise flat,
So how on earth would I know?

(Tolaga Bay, 2000)

--

Mary, Mary quite contrary,
Acts a little crazy,
Talks to flowers,
For hours and hours
And wishes she was a daisy.

(Christchurch, 2002)

--

Background Info: Turner, 1978:148 has variation:

Mary, Mary quite contrary,
How does your garden grow?
Up, stupid!

(Melbourne, 1965)

--

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 2

Incidence: 6

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1139

Date: 2000

Title: Mary had a little clock

Gender: Male

Classification: Bawdy

Rhyme:

Mary had a little clock,
She swallowed it one day.

She had to swallow castor oil,
To pass the time away.
The castor oil did not work.
The clock it did not pass.
Now if you want to tell the time,
Just look up Mary's arse!

(Ashburton, 2000)

--

Location: Ashburton
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1140
Date: 1960s-2000
Title: Mummy's in the kitchen
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Mummy's in the kitchen, making scones,
Daddy's in the toilet dropping bombs.
How many bombs did Daddy drop?
1,2,3..

(Rotorua, 1960s; Rotorua, 2000 - skipping; Auckland, 2000 x 2; Kawerau, 2000)

--

Mum's in the kitchen, cooking fish and chips,
Dad's on the toilet, bombing battleships.

(Gore, 1960s; Thames, 1990s; Ashburton, 1990s; Auckland, 2000)

--

Mum's in the kitchen, making jam,
Dad's in the toilet, bombing Vietnam.

(Greytown, 1970s)

--

Background Info: Turner, 1978:122-123 has variations including:

Mother in the kitchen

Cooking fish and chips,
Father in the lavatory
Bombing battleships.

(Victoria, 1962)

--

Keywords: scatological, topical,
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 3
Incidence: 10

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1141
Date: 1960s-1990s
Title: Mama, Papa
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Mama, Papa, Uncle Dick,
Went to town,
On a stick,
Stick broke,
What a joke,
Mama, Papa, Uncle Dick.

(Christchurch, 1960s: Auckland, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Clapping game played by South African immigrants.

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1142
Date: 1950s-2000
Title: Miss Polly
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Miss Polly had a dolly, who was sick, sick, sick,
She phoned for the doctor to come quick, quick, quick.
The doctor came with a bag and his hat,
And he knocked on the door, with a rat, tat, tat.
He looked at the dolly and he shook his head.
He said, "Miss Polly, put her straight to bed."
He wrote on his paper for some pills, pills, pills.
I'll be back in the morning with my bill, bill, bill.

(Auckland, 1950s; Christchurch, 1990s; Timaru, 2000)

--

Background Info: Above version also recorded in Turner, 1978:32, from Melbourne in 1964 and 1973.

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1143
Date: 2000
Title: I saw a nanny goat
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

I saw a nanny goat,
Hanging out his petticoat.
Shoot! Bang! Fire!

(Cambridge, 2000)

--

Location: Cambridge
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1144
Date: 1980s
Title: Hungry, hungry
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

Hungry, hungry,
I am hungry.
Table, table,
Here I come.
I could eat a goose moose burger,
Fifteen pickles,
And a purple plum.

(Christchurch, 1980s)

--

Keywords: food
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1145
Date: 1930s
Title: Have you seen
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Have you seen the little fishes,
Swimming in the water?
In and out the ladies' legs.
Wouldn't that be corker.

(Auckland, 1930s)

--

Location: Masterton
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1147
Date: 1950s
Title: Here comes the Boys' Brigade
Gender: Female
Classification: Tease
Rhyme:

Here comes the Boys' Brigade,
All covered in marmalade.
The marmalade is mouldy,
And so is the Boys' Brigade.

(NZ ex UK, 1950s)

--

Keywords: partisan
Location: NZ (ex UK)
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1149
Date: 1930s
Title: Hallelujah, I'm a bum
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Hallelujah, I'm a bum,
Hallelujah, bum again.
I went to a house
I knocked at the door,
And I asked for some bread,
A lady came out, says,
"Bum, bum,
The baker is dead."
Hallelujah I'm a bum,
Hallelujah, bum again.
Hallelujah, give us a handout.
To revive us again.
Hallelujah I'm a bum,
Hallelujah, bum again.
I went to a house.
I knocked at the door,
The lady says,
"Bum, bum, you've been here before."

(Oxford, 1930s)

--

Background Info: Based on an old folksong sung on the Kansas railroads in 1897. Sung and adapted during WWI. Recorded by Harry McClintock in 1926. Banned on radio in NZ during 1930s. www.fortunecity.com/tinpan/parton/2/bum.html (accessed 15 January, 2007)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1150
Date: 2001
Title: A kiss is blown
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

A kiss is blown,
A kiss is wasted,
A kiss ain't a kiss,
Unless it's tasted.
Kisses spread germs,
And germs are hated,
So kiss me baby,
I'm vaccinated!

(Christchurch, 2001)

--

Keywords: teenage culture, love, romance
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 5
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1151
Date: 1990s-2000
Title: Keep the kettle boiling
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Keep the kettle boiling,
Never miss a beat loop.
1, 2, 3, 4...

(Christchurch, 1990; Timaru, 2000)

--

Background Info: Turner, 1978:20 for variations:

Keep the kettle boiling,
Do not miss a loop,
If you do you'll get no soup,
Keep the kettle boiling.

(Melbourne, 1973)

--

Bauer, 2002, Sect. 68:3, recorded this rhyme in Rotorua and Tauranga.

--

Details in Abrahams, 1969:104.

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 3
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1152
Date: 1990s-2006
Title: Kookaburra
Gender: Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Kookaburra sits on the electric wire.
He doesn't know his bum's on fire.
Laugh, kookaburra, laugh, kookaburra,
Gay your life must be.

(Auckland, 1990s; Rotorua, 2002)

--

Kookaburra sits on the electric wire,
Jumping up and down with his pants on fire.
Cry kookaburra, cry kookaburra,
Red your bum will be.

(Auckland, 2002)

--

Pukeko sits on an electric wire,
Better get off or you'll catch on fire.
Burn, pukeko, burn, pukeko,
Burnt your bum will be.

(Auckland, 2006)

--

Kookaburra sits on the electric wire,
Tears in his eyes and his pants on fire,
Ouch! Kookaburra,
Ouch! Kookaburra,
Hot your tail must be.

(Amberley, 1990s)

--

Kookaburra sits in an old gum tree,
Shot up the bottom with a 303.

(Methven, 2000)

--

Kookaburra sits on the electric wire,
Tears in his eyes and his pants on fire,
Cry kookaburra, cry, kookaburra.
Sore your bum must be.

(Hamilton, 1990s)

--

Kookaburra sits on the electric wire,
Tears in his eyes and his tail on fire,
Cry kookaburra, cry, kookaburra.
Sore your tail must be.

(Hamilton, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Parody of the Australian song "Kookaburra sits in an old gum tree",
the words and music attributed to Miss Marion Sinclair.

--

See Turner, 1978:146 for:

Kookaburra sits on the electric wire,
Merry, merry king of the bush fire.
Laugh kookaburra, laugh kookaburra,
How hot your arse must be.

(Melbourne, 1973)

--

Discussion in Knapp, 1976:10-11 regarding the Australian-American connections with this rhyme. Variations include:

Kookaburra sits in a rocking chair,
Along comes a bear and pulls his hair,
Poor kookaburra, poor kookaburra,
How bald your life must be.

Kookaburra sits on a country road,
Sits right down on a horny toad,
Poor kookaburra, poor kookaburra,
Bloody his life must be.

--

Keywords: Australian culture, NZ culture
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 8

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1153
Date: 2000
Title: Knock, knock
Gender: Male
Classification: Tease
Rhyme:

Knock, knock,
Tat, tat,
Twirly, whirly,
Maniac.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Location: Christchurch

Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1154
Date: 1950s
Title: Knight's Castile
Gender: Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Knight's Castile's the soap for me,
Mum and Dad both agree,
Good for all the family,
And for baby.

(Christchurch, 1950s)

--

Keywords: commercial product
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1155
Date: 2000-2005
Title: Knock, knock
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Knock, knock,
Who's there?
Bob.
Bob who?
Bob down and kiss my arse!

(Blenheim, 2002)

--

Knock, knock,
Who's there?
Goffer.
Goffer who?
Go for help, I'm stuck in the elevator.

(Ashburton, 2005)

--

Knock, knock,
Who's there?
Peg.
Peg who?
Beg your pardon, it's the wrong door.

(Ashburton, 2005)

--

Knock, knock,
Who's there?
Gas.
Gas who?
Gas, gas, kiss my ass.

(Rotorua, 2000)

--

Keywords: bawdy
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 4

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1156
Date: 1990s-2003
Title: Jack be nimble
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Jack be nimble,
Jack be quick,
Jack tried jumping a pogo stick.
The string shot up with lightening pace,
And shot him into outer space.

(Gisborne, 2001)

--

Jack be nimble,

Jack be quick,
Jack jump over the candlestick,
Better be quick,
Better run,
Else he'll get a fiery bum.

(Papakura, 1990s)

--

Jack be nimble,
Jack be quick,
I go under the limbo stick.

(Papakura, 1990s)

--

Jack be nimble,
Jack be thick,
Jack sit on the candlestick.

(Dunedin, 2003)

--

Jack be nimble,
Jack be quick,
Jack burnt his bum,
On the candlestick.

(Waiuku, 2000)

--

Jack be nimble,
Jack be quick,
Jack jumped over the candlestick,
He jumped so high,
He reached the sky,
He never came back
To the end of July.

(Timaru, 2000)

--

Jack be nimble,
Jack be quick,
Grab the mop,

The cat's been sick.

(Nelson, 1990s)

--

Jack be nimble,
Jack be quick,
If Jack had jumped a little higher,
His pants wouldn't have caught on fire.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Knapp, 1976:180 records:

Jack be nimble,
Jack be quick,
Jack jump over the candlestick.
But Jack wasn't nimble,
Jack wasn't quick,
Now Jack's in hospital,
With a French-fried dick.

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 8

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1157
Date: 2003
Title: Julius Caesar
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Julius Caesar,
The Roman geezer,
Squashed his wife,
In a lemon squeezer.

(Wellington, 2003)

--

Background Info: Turner, 1978:119, for variations:

Julius Caesar let a breezer
On the coast of France.
His mother thought she'd do the same
And did it in her pants.

(Perth, c. 1925)

--

Keywords: topical rhyme
Location: Wellington
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1158
Date: 1964-2003
Title: Jane the pain
Gender: Male
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Brett Kane went to Spain,
In a chocolate aeroplane.
Hit the sky,
Made it cry,
Landed in a pig-sty.

(Gisborne, 1964)

--

Jane the pain,
Went to Spain,
In a chocolate aeroplane,
Hit the sun,
Burnt her bum,
That's the end of Chapter One.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Kane the pain,
Went to Spain,
In a chocolate aeroplane,
Flew around the sun,
Burnt his bum,

That was the end of chapter one.

(Dunedin, 2003)

--

Keywords: bawdy, partisan
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1159
Date: 1990s-2002
Title: Tarzan, Tarzan
Gender: Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Tarzan, Tarzan, in the air,
Tarzan lost his underwear.
Tarzan say, "Me no care,
Jane make me another pair."
Jane, Jane in the air,
Jane lost her underwear.
Jane say, "Me no care,
Cheetah make me another pair."
Cheetah, cheetah, in the air,
Cheetah lost his underwear,
Cheetah say, "Me no care,
Cheetah need no underwear."

(Tauranga, 2002)

--

Jane, Jane, flying through the air,
Jane, Jane, lost her underwear,
Jane said, "Me no care.
Tarzan liked me better bare!"

(NZ, 1990s; Auckland, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Onwuchekwa, 2003:103, records similar version from urban black America:

Hi-Ho Silver everywhere,

Tonto lost his underwear,
Tonto say me don't care,
Lone Ranger buy me another pair.

--

Keywords: media influence
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1160
Date: 2003
Title: Jack sailed over the water
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Knuckle bones chant
Rhyme:

Jack sailed over the water,
Jack sailed over the sea,
Jack came to my house,
To have a cup of tea.

(Fairlie, 2003)

--

Background Info: Knuckle bones laid out in a square shape and picked up on the last word of each rhyme. Sutton-Smith, 1959:132 records the "Jack be Nimble" rhyme being used as an accompaniment to the game of knuckle bones. Also includes details of the use of sheep knuckle bones and how they were coloured.

--

Further details of knuckle bones in Darian-Smith, 2005:49-67, citing an article written by Dorothy Howard in Australia, 1950s.

--

Location: Fairlie
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1161
Date: 1990s-2001
Title: Little Bo Peep

Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Little Bo Peep, has lost her sheep,
And doesn't know where to find them.
In the deep freeze, with packets of peas,
Stacked up all around them.

(Ashburton, 1996)

--

Little Bo Peep, has lost her sheep,
And doesn't know where to find them.
Little Bo peep, found those sheep,
And gave them such a hiding.
Little Bo Peep, she shot those sheep,
And when the kids came in from ridin'
She gave them a bone,
And said you'll never know,
And now you'll never find 'em.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Little Bo Peep, has lost her sheep,
And doesn't know where to find them.
Leave them alone,
And they'll come home.
Jumping through the window, the window,
The second story window.

(Tauranga, 2001)

--

Background Info: Turner, 1978:146 for variations:

Little Bo-peep has lost her sheep,
And thinks they may be roaming.
They haven't fled,
They've all dropped dead,
From nerve gas in Wyoming.

(Melbourne, 1973)

Little Bo-peep has lost her sheep,
She looks for them sedately,

I hope she finds them very soon,
Because we've had no lamb chops lately.

(Melbourne, 1966)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1162
Date: 2000
Title: Not last night
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Not last night or the night before,
A pickle and a nickle came knocking at my door.
And this is what they said.
Little Jack Horner,
Sat in a corner,
Eating his Christmas Pie.
He put in his thumb and pulled out a plum,
And said what a good boy am I!

(NZ, 2000)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1163
Date: 1960s
Title: Last night
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Last night as I lay on my pillow,
Last night as I lay on my bed,
I stuck my feet out of the window,
And in the morning my neighbours were dead.

(Whangarei, 1960s)

--

Background Info: Sung to the tune of "My Bonnie Lies over the Ocean".

--

Variation in Turner, 1978:146:

Last night as I lay on my pillow,
Last night as I lay on my bed,
I hung my feet out of the window,
The next day my neighbours were dead.

(Melbourne, 1973)

--

Location: Whangarei
Group size: 8
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1164
Date: 2000
Title: La la bamba
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

La, la, bumba,
Mysterious meatball,
Stick it up your bumba,
With a cucumber,
Show it your mumba,
She said it was nice,
So I did it twice.

(Napier, 2000)

--

La la la la bumba,
Squashed banana,
Stick it up your teacher's bumba,
Corrabunga.

(Napier, 2000)

--

La, la bumba,
Had a cucumba,
Gave it to Mumba,
She said it was yumba.
La, la Bumba!

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1165
Date: 1960s
Title: Little Robin Redbreast
Gender: Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Little Robin Redbreast
Sitting on a pole,
Lifted up his right leg,
And whistled through his hole.

(Blenheim, 1960s)

--

Keywords: bawdy
Location: Blenheim
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1166
Date: 2000
Title: Let's do the mmm, mmm
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Let's do the mmm, mmm, mmm.
Quack like a duck, quack, quack,
Hiss like a snake, hiss, hiss, hiss.
Don't give a fuck, oh, oh, oh.
Shiver and shake,
Who's a bugger, who's a bugger?
I'm as silly as a rock mango,
Let's all do the squashed banana tango!

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Keywords: Pacific culture, bawdy
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1167
Date: 2002
Title: Mr A, A, A,
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Mr A, A, A,
Mr B, B, B,
Mr A, B,
Mr 1, 2, 3.

(NZ, 2002)

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1168
Date: 1990
Title: Mind your own beeswax
Gender: Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Mind your own bees wax,

Cook your own fish,
Don't let your nose,
Drip in my dish.

(Christchurch, 1990)

--

Background Info: Said as a retort to someone interfering in something that is not their business.

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1169
Date: 1970s
Title: Matthew, Mark
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Matthew, Mark, Luke and John,
Hold the horse, while I get on.
I got up and then fell down,
The horse then galloped into town.

(Auckland, 1970s)

--

Matthew, Mark, Luke and John,
Bless this bed that I lay on.

(NZ, 1970s)

--

Matthew, Mark, Luke and John,
Let your partner carry on.

(Tauranga, 1974 - ball-bouncing rhyme)

--

Background Info: Opie, 1967:21. Rhyme possibly evolved from "Diddle, diddle dumpling

my son John". In 1656 the version appeared:

Matthew, Mark, Luke and John,
The bed be blest that I lay on.

--

Chambers, 1870:59 notes:

Matthew, Mark, Luke, John,
Haud the horse till I loup on;
Haud it fast and haud it sure,
Till I get ower the misty muir.

Matthew, Mark, Luke and John,
Hold the horse till I get on;
When I got on I could not ride,
I fell off and broke my side.

--

"Play and Folklore", Issue 15, 1988:8, records this version:

Matthew, Mark, Luke and John,
Guard the bed that I lie on.
One to watch and one to pray,
And one to keep the fleas away.

--

Radio 4 BBC series "The Invention of Childhood" (Michael Morpurgo) mentions this rhyme developed from earlier times (1600s) originally as a prayer:

Matthew, Mark, Luke and John,
Bless this bed that I lay on.
Four corners to my bed,
Four angels round my head.
One to watch, and one to pray,
And one to bear my soul away.

--

Also from earlier times:

Matthew, Mark, Luke and John,
Bless the bed that I lay on.
Four corners to my bed,
Four angels round my head
One at head and one at feet,
And two to keep my soul asleep.

Matthew, Mark, Luke and John,
Hold the horse that I leap on.
Matthew, Mark, Luke and John,
Take and stick and lay upon.

--

Opie, 1997:153-154 describes this rhyme being used as part of a group ball-bouncing game between 1950s-1980s. The group stands in a line and on the final word of each verse must change places and continue bouncing the ball without missing a beat.

Matthew, Mark, Luke and John,
Next-door neighbour carry on.

--

From Withers, 1948:44:

Matthew, Mark, Luke and John,
Stole a pig and away they run;
The pig got loose and they stole a goose,
And all got thrown in the calaboose.

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1170
Date: 2000
Title: Magpie, magpie,
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Magpie, magpie, flutter and flee,
Turn your tail and good luck to me.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1171
Date: 1960s
Title: Mabel's on the table,
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Mabel's on the table,
But the two bucks is for beer.

(Gore, 1960s)

--

Location: Gore
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1172
Date: 1950s-2006
Title: Mrs D, Mrs I,
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Mrs D,
Mrs I,
Mrs F, F, I,
Mrs C,
Mrs U,
Mrs L, T, Y.
(How many 'fs' are there in it?)

(Tauranga, 1950s; Christchurch, 1970s; Auckland, 2003 x2; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 3
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1173
Date: 2000
Title: Miss Mew

Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Miss Mew, Miss Mew,
Living in a rocket,
Eating jam and chocolate.
Watching the time go,
Tick tock, shwalla, walla,
A, B, C, D, E, F, G,
I'm going to wash boys' germs
Right off me!

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Keywords: gender rivalry
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1174
Date: 1992
Title: My name is
Gender: Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

My name is Tiger Girl,
I wear my hair in curls,
I wear my dungarees,
Down to my dirty knees.
The boy next door,
Got me on the floor,
Got kissing me more and more.
My Mummy was surprised,
To see my tummy rise.
My Daddy jumped for joy,
It was a baby boy.

(Christchurch, 1992)

--

Background Info: Rowan, 2005 records from London:

We are the Keighley girls,

We wear our hair in curls, (curling hand movements)
We wear our dungarees,
To show our sexy knees,
You know the boy next door,
He got me on the floor,
I gave him 50p,
To give it all to me,
My mummy was surprised,
To see my belly rise,
My daddy jumped for joy,
It was a baby boy.
(East London, c. 2005)

--

Knapp, 1976:180 records:

We are the tomboy girls,
We wear our hair in curls,
We never play with toys,
We always flirt with boys.
We wear our dungarees,
Above our dirty knees.
And keep our sweaters tight,
To keep the boys in sight.

--

See also Barbie girl rhymes in this collection.

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1175
Date: 1970s-2000
Title: My name is
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

My name is Annabeline (Anna Berry)
And I'm a movie star,
I've got a cute, cute smile
And a groovy guitar.
I've got hips and lips,

I'm a turn around movie star.

(Auckland, 2000; Howick, 2006)

--

My name is Alicka Sue, (Olicka Bolicka)
And I'm a movie star,
I've got cute, cute boyfriend
And a mighty guitar.
I've got hips, boom, boom, (shake hips)
And lips, kiss, kiss, (kissing sound)
I'm a jump down, turn around, movie star.

(Christchurch, 1970s; Christchurch, 2000)

--

My name is Eleanor Reeve (?)
And I'm a movie star,
I've got cute, cute boyfriend
And a groovy guitar.
I've got hips (shake hips)
And lips, (kissing sound)
I'm a jump down, turn around, movie star.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Origins with American movie star connections in 1960s; My name is Diana Dors, Matt Munro. Opie, 1988:416 - 417:

My name is Diana Dors and I'm a movie star,
I've got a cute, cute face and a monkey guitar,
I've got the lips, kiss, kiss,
I've got the hips, boom, boom,
I've got the le-egs, sexy le-egs,
Turn around movie star, boom, boom, boom. (x 2)
Fire crack, fire crack, boom de boom boom, (x 2)
Boys got the muscles,
Teacher's got the brains,
We've got the sexy legs,
And we've won the game, hey!

Diana Dors, she is a star,
She's got a cute, cute face
And a musky guitar,
She's got lips,
She's got those hips,

She's got those legs, those beauty legs,
1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10 (during which skirts are raised with finger tips)
Sorry, boys, down again. (in which skirt is lowered again)
I'm Matt Monroe, I'm a famous star,
I've got a coo-coo figure, and a driving car.
I've got two big hips, so what do you say,
Come up, pretty baby, and dance today.

(UK, 1966)

--

Keywords: movies. modern culture, media,
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1176
Date: 1990s-2006
Title: My name is Michael Jackson
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

My name is Michael Jackson,
And I come from Japan.
I thought I kissed a lady,
But I kissed a black man.

(Christchurch, 2006)

--

My name is Michael Jackson,
And I come from Japan,
I tried to kiss a woman,
But I kissed a black man.
I went to the shop,
I got a big gun, (some bubble gum)
I stuck it up my bum.
I gave it to [X] (my mum)
And he said, "Yum, yum."

(Auckland, 1990s; Ashburton, 2006)

--

My name is Michael Jackson,

And I come from Japan,
I tried to kiss a woman,
But I kissed a big, fat man.
I got some bubble gum,
Stuck it up my bum,
Gave it to a lady,
And she said, "Yum, yum."

(Kerikeri, 2002)

--

Background Info: Variant from Marsh, 2001:82, text along with melody:

My name is Michael Jackson,
Girlfriend Madonna,
Kissing in the garden,
Kiss, kiss, (mime action)
Grunt, grunt, (pelvic thrust)
Out comes the baby,
Out comes the boy.
All the girls, boo hoo (crying actions)
Sexy! (lift up skirts)

(Australia, 1990)

--

Keywords: media culture, pop culture, bawdy, commercial product

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 2

Incidence: 4

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1177

Date: 2000

Title: My name is Johnny Cool

Gender: Female

Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

My name is Johnny Cool,
And I'm a rock star,
I've got a leather jacket,
And a sporty car.
I've got curls,
I like the girls,
I'm a turn around, turn around,
Rock star.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Background Info: Male equivalent of "My name is Annabeline".

--

Keywords: modern culture, media, movies

Location: Christchurch

Group size: 4

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1178

Date: 1960s-2006

Title: My name is Lili

Gender: Female

Classification: Clapping

Rhyme:

My name is L-I-L-I double i, double i,
Ooey gooey, cluck, cluck, cluck,
Mum's got the measles,
Chinese cheezles,
That's what it's all about.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

My name is Lili,
Chicken I
Chicken I
Pop, pop, wheelie,
Willy whiskers,
Chinese restaurant,
Corned beef.

(Lower Hutt, 1990s; Christchurch, 1990s)

--

My name is Lili chickeli, chickeli,
Pom, pom, pearl-I,
Pearly, pearly whiskers.
Chinese chopsticks,
Indian chief.

(Auckland, 1970s)

--

My name is chickadie, chickadie,
Ooey, gooey, upside down,
California,
Do me a favour,
Dive in the lake,
Swallow a snake,
Come out with a belly ache.
2,4,6,8,
Belly ache!

(NZ ex Australia, 1990s)

--

Alternative lines:
Pom, pom poodle,
Willy, willy winkie.

(Auckland, 1960s)

--

My name is Eli, Eli,
Chickolai, chickolai,
Ooey, ooey,
Bok, bok, bok,
Chinese checkers,
Cheese on toast, Put it in the oven,
With a poke, poke, poke.

(Christchurch, 1980s)

--

My name is L - I - L - I,
Jickalie, Jickalie,
Ooey, gooey, cluck, cluck, cluck,
Mummy's got the measles,
Daddy's got the cheezels,
That's what it's all about,
I'm out (Time out)
Lights out!

(Auckland, 2002)

--

My name is alabi, alabi,
Chicaby, chicaby,
Ooey gooey,
Cluck, cluck, cluck,
The cat's got the measles,
Chinese weasels,
Diri, diri, di, di, dint.

(Auckland, 1994)

--

My name is Li, Li,
Chickle I, chickle I,
Jam, jam poodle,
Jolly, jolly whiskers,
Chinese chopsticks,
Indian chief!

(Auckland, 1970s; Auckland, 1980s)

--

My name is Ali Ali, chicoli, chicoli,
Pom pom poodle,
Willie willie whiskers,
Chinese chopsticks,
Indian chief.

(Greymouth, 1990s)

Wallah, wallah, wallah, wallah,
'BLAH!

(Nelson, 1970s)

--

Li chickle, I cluck, cluck, cluck,
The cat's got the measles, duck, duck, duck.

(Gisborne, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Also part of a rhyme beginning "I went to a Chinese restaurant".
Opie, 1988:465 - 467.

--

Discussion of the rhyme beginning "My name is Ali Ali" is included in an article in "Play and Folklore", Issue 13, 1987:13 on melodic structures in children's play lore.

--

From www.warrenfahey.com (accessed 15 January, 2007) Australian Folklore Website:

My name is Elli
Chickilli, chickilli,
Oozy oozy,
Up, up, up.
Down in the dungeon,
She's on crack,
Cheese on crackers,
Up, up, up.
(Sydney, Australia, 2005)

--

Keywords: nonsense
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 13

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1179
Date: 1998
Title: I know a little Dutch girl
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

I know a little Dutch girl,
Her name is eye shoe shiana,
And all the boys in the football team, said,
"Eye shoe sheena,
How is your father?"
"All right. Died in the fish shop last night."
"What was he eating?"
"Raw fish."
"How did he die?"
"Like this!" (All fall down.)

(Wellington, 1998)

--

Background Info: Variation Opie, 1988:480, a combination of "I'm a pretty little

Dutch girl" and "O Susie Anna":

I know a little Dutch girl
Called Hi Susie Anna,
All the boys in the football team go
"Hi Susie Anna!"
"How is your father?"
"All right - died in the fish shop - last night."
"What was he eating?"
"Raw fish."
"How did he die?"
"Like this!" (One girl falls into another's arms.)

(UK, 1983)

--

Rowan, 2005, recorded from London:

There once was a young English girl,
Called I shoo shiwawa,
All the boys in the football team,
Loved I shoo shiwawa,
How was your boyfriend, all right?
Down in the fish shop, last night.
What did he die of?
Raw fish.
How did he die?
Like this ..ahhhh.
(East London, c. 2005)

--

Grugeon, 2001:104 notes the change of Dutch girl to 'dustbin girl':

I had a little dustbin girl,
Her name was
Eye (hand to eye)
Shoe (touch shoe)
Anna.
And all the boys on the football pitch
Say eye shoe anna.
How is your mother?
All right.
Died in the fish shop
Last night.
What did she die of?
Raw fish.
How did she die?
Like this.

(Player falls back to be caught by another.)

(UK, 1997)

--

Keywords: death
Location: Wellington
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1180
Date: 1996-2006
Title: My name is Nicholas
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping - skipping
Rhyme:

My name is Nicholas, Picholas,
Don't be ridiculous,
Can you do me a favour?
Jump in the lake,
Swallow a snake,
Don't come back with a belly ache.

(Auckland, 2002; Ashburton, 2006)

(And come back with a belly ache)
(Christchurch, 2000 x 4; Mangakino, 2000; Blenheim, 2000; Methven, 2000; Auckland,
2000; Diamond Harbour, 2000; Ashburton, 2006; Sheffield, 2006)

--

Nicholas the picholas,
Sound so ridiculous,
Why don't you do me a favour?
Jump in the lake,
Swallow a snake.

(Methven 2000)

--

My name is Nicholas, Picholas,
Don't be ridiculous,
He jumped in a lake,
And swallowed a snake,
And came back with a tummy ache.

(Hororata, 2002)

--

Nicholas, Picholas,
Ain't that ridiculous,
Why don't you do me a fa..vour
Jump in the lake,
And swallow a snake,
Come back out with a belly ache.
O.U.T. says out.

(Auckland, 2002 - skipping)

--

Nicholas, Picholas,
Boys are ridiculous,
Can you do me a favour?
Jump in the lake,
Swallow a snake,
Or something.

(Christchurch, 2003 - taunt)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 17

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1181
Date: 1960s
Title: My mother, your mother
Gender: Female
Classification: Counting-out
Rhyme:

My mother, your mother
Hanging out the washing,
My mother punched your mother on the nose.
What colour did the blood run?
(The child who is touched on the word 'run' chooses a colour, which is then spelled out, and the person who falls on the last letter is out.)

(Whangarei, 1960s)

--

Background Info: Sutton-Smith, 1959:70, recorded many variations of this rhyme, current in 1940s-1950s. Endings include the following:

Blue spells B-L-U-E, and out spells O-U-T.

B-L-U-E spells blue, so out you go for saying so.

My mother bought me a dress, what colour is it?

--

Discussion of variations in Turner, 1969:33:

My mother, your mother, went over the way,
Said my mother to your mother,
It's a chop-nose day.

--

Turner, 1978:5:

My mother gave your mother a punch in the nose,
Did it hurt her?
Yes/no, yes/no.

(Melbourne, 1969)

My mum kicked your mum up the bum,
What colour did it bleed?

(Melbourne, 1973)

What colour was the blood?
Pink with purple spots.

(Melbourne, 1960s)

--

Location: Whangarei
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1182

Date: 2000-2004

Title: My Mummy had a baby

Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

My Mummy had a baby,
Yummy, yummy,
My Daddy is a dentist,
Gummy, gummy,
My sister is a show off,
Honey, honey,
My brother is a donkey,
Bang, bang, boom, boom,
Fifty bullets in my head,
Turn around, touch the ground,
FREEZE!

(Auckland, 2001)

--

My mother is a baker,
Bakey, bakey, (Yum, yum, fat tum.)
My father is a butcher,
Choppy, choppy,
My sister is a show off,
"How'd ya like it? How'd ya like it?"
My brother is a cowboy,
Bang, bang, you're dead,
High-oh bullets in your head,
Some are green, some are blue,
Some are shaped like chicken poo!
Singing, "Yi, yi yippee, yippee, yi,
Chicken pie!"
Singing, "Yi yi yippee , your mama is a hippy."

(NZ, 2000)

--

My mother is a butcher, chop, chop,
My father is a baker, yum, yum, fat tum,
My brother is a show off,
How do I look? How do I look?
Oh, no I broke a nail!
My sister is a cow girl,
Bang, bang, you're dead.
Fifty bullets in your head,
Some are green, some are blue,
Some are shaped like chicken poo.
Sing it ey, ey yippee, yipee ey x 4

Ey ey yipee my mamma is a hippie,
Sing it ey ey yipee, yipee, ey.

(Christchurch, 2004)

--

My father is a butcher, chop, chop,
My mother is a baker, yum, yum, fat tum,
My sister is a show off,
How do I look? How do I look? Oh, no I broke a nail!
My brother is a cow boy,
Bang, bang you're dead.
Fifty bullets in your head,
Some are green, some are blue,
Some are shaped like chicken poo.
Sing it ey, ey yippee, yipee ey x 4
Ey ey yipee my mamma is a hippie,
Sing it ey ey yipee, yipee, ey.

(Christchurch, 2004)

--

My mother is a baker, bakey, bakey,
My father is a butcher, choppy, choppy.
My sister is a show off,
How d'ya like it? How d'ya like it?
My brother is a cowboy,
Bang, bang, you're dead,
High - oh bullets in your head,
Some are green, some are blue,
Some are shaped like chicken poo,
Singing ey, ey yippee, yipee ey CHICKEN PIE!
Ey ey yipee my mamma is a hippie,
Sing it ey ey yipee, yipee, ey. CHICKEN PIE!

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Background Info: Opie, 1988:476 for historical details and comparisons:

My mother is a baker and she bakes like this - yummy, yummy.
My father is a butcher, and he smells like this - pooey, pooey.
My sister is a modeller and she went like this - Mrs Susie.
My brother is a cowboy and he goes like this - Hands up, drop yer guns, turn around,
touch the ground.
My grandpa is a flasher and he went like this - flash, flash, flash.
My grannie is a hairdresser and she went like this - comb, comb, comb.

(UK, 1975, USA, 1970s)

Appropriate actions accompany the hand clapping sequences.

--

Keywords: violence, modern culture

Location: Auckland

Group size: 8

Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1183

Date: 1990s-2000

Title: I went upstairs

Gender: Female

Classification: Clapping

Rhyme:

I went upstairs to say my prayers,
I went downstairs and my uncle was there.
(I got a shoo-bop, shoo bop, bop, shoo-bop, shoo bop.)
I went upstairs to do my hair,
I went downstairs and the bogeyman was there.
(I got a shoo-bop, shoo bop, bop, shoo-bop, shoo bop.)
I went to school,
The boys were cool.
I showed my legs and my boyfriend went, 'oohh!' (red)
(I got a shoo-bop, shoo bop, bop,shoo-bop, shoo bop.)

(Rotorua, 2000)

--

ALTERNATIVE VERSES:

I went upstairs to say my prayers,
I went downstairs and I boogied everywhere.

I went to school, the boys were cool,
I shaved my leg with a razor blade.

I went to school, the boys were cool,
I shaved my legs, they all dropped dead.

I went back home, my daddy said,
"You're too young to shave your legs."

I went upstairs to light the fire,
My balls got stuck in the electric wire.

I went to the doctor, the doctor said,
"Sorry mister but your balls are dead."

(Blenheim, 1999; Auckland, 2000 ; Northland, 2000; Auckland, 2001)

--

Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls.
CHORUS: Gotta re rub shee bub, sheebub sheebub.
I went upstairs to comb my hair,
I went back down and the bogey man was there.
CHORUS
I went to school, it was pretty cool.
I shaved my legs, my face went red.
CHORUS
I came back home and my mummy said,
Naughty, naughty girl for shaving your legs.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Background Info: Complicated actions accompany this rhyme, including twirling, clapping, cross overs, with sexually suggestive undertones.

--

Keywords: modern culture, body image, bawdy
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 6

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1184
Date: 2000
Title: My mother said
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Counting-out
Rhyme:

My mother said to count to ten,
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10.
Pig's snout,
You are out.
If I say so,
Out you must go.

(NZ, 2000)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1185
Date: 1948
Title: My mother made
Gender: Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

My mother made a seedy cake,
It gave us all the belly ache,
My father bought a pint of beer,
It gave us all diarrhoea!

(NZ ex UK, 1948)

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: NZ (ex UK)
Group size: 3
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1186
Date: 1950s-1990s
Title: My Mummy told me
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

My mother told me,
That she would buy me,
A rubber dolly, if I was good, good, good,
But when I told her,
I'd kissed a soldier,
She would not buy me
That rubber dolly. (D-O-double L-Y)

(NZ ex UK, 1950s; Bulls, 1960s; Christchurch, 1960s; Hastings, 1960s; NZ, 1973 x 2;
Manurewa, 1980; Wellington, 1990s x 2)

--

My mamma told me,
If I was goody,
That she would buy me,
A rubby dolly.
My aunty told her,
I kissed a soldier,
Now she won't buy me,
A rubby dolly.

(Gisborne, 1950s)

--

My mother told me,
That she would buy me,
A rubber dolly, if I was a goodie,
But when I told her,
I'd kissed a soldier,
She would not buy me
That rubber dolly.
2,4,6,9, the goose drank wine,
The monkey chewed tobacco,
On the street post line.
The line broke,
The monkey did choke,
And they all went to heaven in a little row boat.

(Tauranga, 1960s)

--

Background Info: For variants see Turner, 1978:37:

My mother told me criss, cross,
That she would buy me, criss, cross,
A rubber dolly, criss, cross...

(Melbourne, 1965-1967)

--

Opie, 1988:447-449, has details of actions and history. Possibly based on a music hall song of 1890s. Compared with pseudo-childishness of "Daddy wouldn't buy me a bow-wow". Became skipping game in 1910. Include in the popular music hit of 1965 by Shirley Ellis, "The Clapping Song", along with the words from "3,6,9 the goose drank wine." A rubber dolly was a prized possession in the early 1900s.

--

A discussion of this rhyme is included in an article in "Play and Folklore", Issue 13, 1987:15 on melodic structures in children's play lore.

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 11

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1187
Date: 1040s-1970s
Title: Nebuchadnezzar
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Ball bouncing
Rhyme:

Nebuchadnezzar, King of the Jews,
Bought his wife, wife, wife,
A pair of shoes, shoes, shoes,
But the shoes, shoes, shoes,
Were too small, small, small,
So he bought, bought, bought, a rubber ball.

(Wellington, 1970s)

--

Nebuchadnezzar, king of the Jews,
Bought his wife a pair of shoes.
When the shoes began to wear,
Nebuchadnezzar began to swear.

(Auckland, 1970s)

--

Background Info: For variations see Turner, 1978:38:

Nebuchadnezzar, King of the Jews,
Bought his wife a pair of shoes.
When the shoes began to wear,
Nebuchadnezzar bought a chair,
When the chair began to break,
Nebuchadnezzar bought a snake,
When the snake began to rust,,
Nebuchadnezzar turned to dust.

Alternative beginnings include; Ikey Moses and I King Mo..
(Melbourne, 1920 -1950)

--

Features in novel by Shena Mackay, "The Orchard Road", set in 1950s Kent, as a skipping rhyme, beginning:

Nebuchadnezzar, the King of the Jews,
Bought his wife a pair of shoes.
When the shoes began to wear
Nebuchadnezzar began to swear,
When the swears began...
(p 95 and p 209)

--

Opie, 2000:151 notes a version from 1820:

My needle and thread
Spells Nebuchdned;
My bodkin and scissors
Spells Nebuchadnezzar;
One pair of stockings and two pair of shoes
Spells Nebuchadnezzar the King of the Jews.

--

Keywords: Jews
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1188
Date: 1930s-1990s
Title: The night was dark and stormy
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

The night was dark and stormy,
The cart was full to the brim,
The night man fell in backwards,
And found he could not swim.

(Christchurch, 1930s)

--

The night was dark and stormy,
The night man was within,
I heard a bash,
And a helluva crash,
Good God, he's fallen in!

(Blenheim, 1950s)

--

The night was dark and stormy,
The billy goat was blind.
He backed into a barbed wire fence.
And scratched his never you mind.

(NZ, 1963 - autograph)

--

The night was dark and stormy ,
The dunny light was dim,
I heard a crash,
And then a splash, My God, she's fallen in!

(Christchurch, 1980s)

--

The night was dark and stormy,
The billy goat was blind.
He backed into a barbed wire fence.
And scratched his never you mind.

Refrain:

We're off, we're off, we're off in a motorcar..
Fifty bobbies are after us
And we don't know where we are.

Fatty passed the ball to Skinny,
Skinny passed it back,
Where was the goalie when the ball was in the net?
Halfway up the goalpost, with his trousers round his neck.

Refrain: We're off..

The dog was on the railway,
The driver rang the bell,
The dog didn't hear the engine,
So now he's on his way to Hal..ifax

Refrain: We're off..

(Christchurch, 1990)

--

Background Info: Based on a verse from the Texas square dance song, "It Ain't Gonna Rain No More". (Schwartz, 1992:177)

--

Turner, 1978:131 records:

The night was dark and stormy,
The toilet light was dim,
I heard a splash and then a crash -
My God, he's fallen in.

(Melbourne, 1961-1973)

--

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 4

Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1189

Date: 1970s-2000

Title: Nobody likes me

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

Nobody likes me,
Everybody hates me,
I'm going down the garden to eat worms. (Christchurch, 1980s)
Long thin slimy ones,
Short fat fuzzy ones.
Ooey gooey ooey gooey worms.
Long thin slimey ones slip down easily,
Short fat fuzzy ones don't. (Auckland, 1990s x 2)
Short fat fuzzy ones stick to your teeth,
And the juice goes, slurp, slurp, down your throat.

(Wellington, 1970s; Christchurch, 1980s; Auckland, 2000)

--

Nobody loves me,

Everybody hates me,
I'm going down the garden to eat worms.
Big fat juicy ones,
Long thin slimy ones,
Itsy, bitsy, fuzzy, wuzzy ones
First you eat their heads off,
Then you suck their gizzards out,
See how they squiggle and squirm.
Big fat juicy ones, long thin slimy ones,
Itsy, bitsy, fuzzy, wuzzy worms.

(Wellington, 1970s)

--

Nobody likes me,
Everybody hates me,
I'm going down the garden to eat worms.
Big fat juicy ones,
Eeny teeny tiny ones,
See how they squiggle and squirm.

(Wellington, 1980s)

--

Nobody likes me,
Everybody hates me,
I'm going down the garden to eat worms.
Long thin slimy ones,
Short fat fuzzy ones.
Worms that squiggle, and worms that squirm,
Bite their heads off, suck their blood,
Eat them up like a cow chewing cud.

(Nelson, 1970s)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 6
Incidence: 6

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1190
Date: 2000
Title: Nine months
Gender: Female
Classification: Bawdy

Rhyme:

Nine months of pleasure,
Six months of pain,
Men do the fucking,
And women get the blame.

(Nelson, 2000)

--

Keywords: gender issues
Location: Nelson
Group size: 8
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1191
Date: 1999
Title: Neighbours
Gender: Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Neighbours,
Pick your nose,
And taste the flavours.

(Auckland, 1999)

--

Background Info: Based on TV programme "Neighbours".

--

Keywords: media culture
Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1192
Date: 2000-2002
Title: Met my boyfriend
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Not last night, but the night before,
My boyfriend took me to the Warehouse store,
He bought me lollies,
He bought me cake,
He bought me home with a belly ache.
Mummy, mummy, I feel sick,
Call the doctor, quick, quick, quick.
Doctor, doctor, will I die?
1, 2, 3, 4, 5.
I'm still alive at number five!

(Rotorua, 2000)

--

My boyfriend went to the candy store,
He bought me ice cream,
He bought me cake,
He took me home with a belly ache.
Call the doctor, quick, quick, quick,
I think I'm going to be sick, sick, sick,
Count to five, you'll be alive, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.
Count to ten, you're dead again.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Teddy bear, teddy bear, turn around,
To the east, to the west,
Met my boyfriend at the candy store,
He bought me cake, he bought me cake,
He brought me home with a belly ache.
Mamma, Mamma, I feel sick,
Call the doctor quick, quick, quick,
Doctor, doctor, will I die?
Count to five and you're alive.
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, I'm alive,
6, 7, 8, 9, 10, I'm dead again.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Owee, owee, owee,
To the east, to the west,
Met my boyfriend at the candy store,
He bought me ice cream,
He bought me cake,

He bought me home with a belly ache.
Mamma, mamma, I feel sick,
Call the doctor, quick, quick, quick,
Doctor, doctor, will I die?
No, count to nine and you'll be fine.
1, 2, 3,4..

(Ashburton, 2000; Christchurch, 2002)

--

Background Info: Bauer, 2002, Sect.70:19, recorded a similar version beginning:

Easy weasy measles,
East to the west
I met my boyfriend at the candy store,
Count to five and you're alive,
Tahi, rua, toru, wha, rima.

(Invercargill, 2002)

--

Keywords: NZ culture, commercial product, death, Maori
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 8
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1193
Date: 1970s-2002
Title: No more
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

No more English,
No more French,
No more sitting on the high school bench.
If the teacher disagrees,
Hang her up and box her knees.
Dynamite will blow her up,
10,9, 8..
BOOM!

(Kerikeri, 2000)

--

Two more days and we shall be,
Out of the gates of misery.
No more Latin,
No more French,
No more sitting on the hard old bench.
No more porridge,
Thick or thin,
No more Laurie to rub it in.

(Dunedin, 1970s)

--

No more spelling,
No more books,
No more teacher's dirty looks.
When the teacher rings the bell,
Grab your books and run like hell.

(Dannevirke, 1970s)

--

No more biscuits,
No more buns,
No more holy family nuns.

(Twizel, 1970s)

--

No more school today,
No more school tomorrow,
No more days in this old dump,
Cos we'll be home tomorrow.

(Rotorua, 1980s)

--

No more teachers,
No more sums,
No more whacking of our bums.

(Auckland, 1980s)

--

No more school,
No more stick,

No more dirty Arithmetic,
No more Latin,
No more French,
No more sitting,
On a hard old bench.

(NZ ex South Africa, 1990s)

--

Up and down and all around,
We don't care if the school falls down.
No more English, no more French,
No more sitting on the high school bench.
If the teacher disagrees,
Tie her up and box her knees.
If that doesn't shut her up,
You might have to dynamite.
10,9,8,7..
BOOM!

(Kerikeri, 2002)

--

No more spelling,
No more sums,
No more teachers,
To whack our bums.

(New Plymouth, 1960s)

--

School breaks, school breaks,
We don't care if the school blows up.
No more teachers,
No more books,
No more teacher's dirty looks.
When the teacher rings the bell,
Grab your books and run like hell.

(Dunedin, 1997)

--

Background Info: Chanted at the end of the school term.
Described by Sutton-Smith, 1959:45, as being used on last day of term pre 1920s:

Two more weeks and we shall be,

Out of the gates of misery.
No more writing no more French
No more sitting on the hard board bench.
No more walking two by two,
Like the monkeys in the zoo.
No more spelling,
No more sums,
No more teachers to whack our bums.

--

Opie, 2000:134-135 records these versions:

This time tomorrow, where shall we be?
Not in this academy!
No more Latin, no more French,
No more sitting on the hard school bench.
No more dirty bread and butter,
No more water from the gutter.
No more maggots in the ham,
No more yukky bread and jam.
No more milk in dirty old jugs,
No more cabbages boiled with slugs.
No more spiders in my bath,
Trying hard to make me laugh.
No more beetles in my tea,
Making googly eyes at me.
No more things to bring us sorrow,
'Cos we won't be here tomorrow.

--

Keywords: authority, school, violence, Catholic
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 10

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1194
Date: 2000-2006
Title: Na, na, na, na
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Na, na, na, na, Batman,
Running down the highway,
Car coming the other way,
Na. na, na, na, flatman!

(Ashburton, 2000; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Keywords: media culture
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 6
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1436
Date: 1990s
Title: Ching Chong
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Ching Chong, mina mong,
Sitting on a rock,
Along came an Indian,
And chopped off his cock.
Ching Chong, mina mong,
Tried to milk a cow,
Ching Chong, mina, mong,
Didn't know how,
Ching Chong, mina, mong, pulled the wrong bit,
And all he came with was a bucket full of shit.

(Rangiora, 1990s)

--

Keywords: bawdy, scatological, Chinese, racist
Location: Rangiora
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1195
Date: 1970s-2006
Title: Little Jack Horner
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Little Jack Horner,
Sat in the corner,

Watching the girls go by.
Along came a beauty,
He said, "What a cutey."
And that's how he got his black eye.

(Ashburton, 1996; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Little Jack Horner, sat in the pub,
Eating a mince pie.
He stuck in his thumb, and pulled out a drum,
And said, "Shit, I could have choked on this."

(Ashburton, 1970s)

--

Little Jack Horner,
Sat in the corner,
Eating his Christmas pie,
He put in his thumb,
And pulled out a bum,
And said, "What a gay boy am I."

(Ashburton, 1996)

--

Little Jack Horner,
Sat in the corner,
Eating his Christmas pie,
He put in his thumb,
And pulled out a plum,
And squirted the juice in his eye.

(Greymouth, 2000)

--

Background Info: For alternative versions see Turner, 1978:147:

Endings include:

..pulled out a plum and said,
"Shit, it's hot!"

...and said,
"Bugger, I ordered an apple."

..he thought it was rude,

To eat in the nude,
So he put on his old school tie.

(Melbourne 1971-1973)

--

Keywords: bawdy, sexist, homophobia
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 5
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1196
Date: 1970s -1990s
Title: Little Miss Piggy
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Little Miss Piggy,
Fell down the sink.
How many inches did she fall?
1, 2, 3..

(Auckland, 1990s)

--

Little Lucy Pink,
Fell down the sink.
How many miles did she fall?
1, 2, 3..

(Christchurch, 1970s)

--

Background Info: Turner, 1978:4 has versions beginning:

Little Miss Pink,
Fell down the sink..

How many miles did she fall?
How many gallons of water did she drink?

(Victoria, 1962 - 78)

Little Miss Pink,

Fell down the sink,
With a great big stink.

(Melbourne, 1973)

--

Sutton-Smith, 1969:69, has the version beginning:

Old mother Ink,
Fell down the sink,
How many think
She went..(five)
F-I-V-E spells five,
And out you must go,
If I say so.

(NZ, 1950s)

--

Keywords: media
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1197
Date: 2000
Title: Little Micheal Corney
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Little Michael Corney,
Was very horny,
He was overweight,
He read about a diet.
He thought he should try it.
So he didn't eat
What was on his plate.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Keywords: body image
Location: Auckland
Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1198

Date: 1998

Title: Let the hula, hula girls

Gender: Female

Classification: Clapping

Rhyme:

Let the hula, hula girls come in.
Hallelujah!
Let the hula, hula, girls, come in.
Hallelujah!
From Kim to Danielle,
Danielle to Lexi,
Lexi to Gail,
Gail to Heather..

(Rotorua, 1998)

--

Background Info: A circular hand-clapping game where players stand in a circle, hands are clapped together and then to the side, clapping hands with the person on either side. The names are recited in order and in time; if a beat or name is missed, that person must do the hula dance.

--

Keywords: Pacific culture

Location: Rotorua

Group size: 4

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1199

Date: 2003

Title: Lobsters, lobsters

Gender: Female

Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

Lobsters, lobsters,
Open the door,
Lobsters, lobsters,
Pee on the floor,
Lobsters, lobsters,

Swimming around,
Lobsters, lobsters,
Make no sound.

(Christchurch, 2003)

--

Background Info: Compare with the rhyme in this collection beginning; "Teddy Bear, teddy bear...".

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1200
Date: 2000
Title: Look at that thing
Gender: Female
Classification: Tease
Rhyme:

Look at that thing on your neck,
It's big and horrible,
A thing that's red.
Look at that thing on your neck.
That thing that's red.
Don't worry,
It's only your head!

(Whakatane, 2000)

--

Location: Whakatane
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1201
Date: 1990
Title: Little Boy Blue
Gender: Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Little Boy Blue,
Sitting on the loo.

(Christchurch, 1990)

--

Keywords: bawdy
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1202
Date: 1990
Title: Listen to this
Gender: Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Listen to this,
It's too good to miss.
Do-dahm do-dah, dah-dah.

(Whangarei, 1990)

--

Background Info: Chanted before passing wind.

--

Keywords: scatological, fart lore
Location: Whangarei
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1203
Date: 1950s
Title: My bonnie
Gender: Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

My bonnie lies over the ocean,
My bonnie lies over the sea.

My father lies over my mother,
And that's how they got you and me.

(NZ ex UK, 1950s)

--

Background Info: Sung to the tune of "My bonnie lies over the ocean".

--

Variations in Turner, 1978:122:

My bonnie leaned over the gas tank,
The height of its content to see;
She struck a match to assist her -
Oh bring back my bonnie to me.

(Melbourne, 1967)

My father lies over the ocean,
My mother lies over the sea.
My daddy lies over my mummy,
And that's how they got little me.

(Melbourne, 1963-1967)

--

Keywords: bawdy
Location: NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1204
Date: 1998
Title: My little pony
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

My little pony,
Skinny and bony,
Lives in a stable,
Pees on the table.

(Auckland, 1998)

--

Keywords: commercial product
Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1205
Date: 1970s
Title: Maggie and Magpie
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Maggie and Magpie sitting in the grass,
Maggie slides her finger up Magpie's arse.
Magpie said, "God bless my soul,
Get your dirty finger, out of my arse hole!"

(Blenheim, 1970s)

--

Background Info: See Turner,1978:120:

Maggie and the magpie were sitting in the grass,
Maggie put her finger up the magpie's arse.
The magpie said, "Upon my soul,
You'd better get your finger out of my arse hole!"

(Sydney, 1964)

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1206
Date: 2000
Title: My soup
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

My soup, my soup,
My soup from California,
Sitting on the rocks,
Waiting for the clocks,
To go tick tock,
Tick, tock,
Shaw-all-walla.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Background Info: Similar to Miss Sue, Miss Moore, Miss Mew.

--

Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1207
Date: 2000
Title: Moonshine
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Moonshine, moonshine
Pal,
Moonshine, moonshine,
Freeze!

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Background Info: On freeze, the first person to move is out. Often used as a concluding verse in a number of rhymes.

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1208

Date: 1990s-2003
Title: Mississippi
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Mississippi
Mississippi,
If you miss a skip, (turn)
You're out.

(NZ, 2000)

--

One Mississippi,
Two Mississippi,
Three Mississippi...
M. I. double S, I,
Double S, I,
Double P, I,
Mississippi!

(NZ, 1990s)

--

M, I. SS. I. SS. I. PP. II
Hey Mississippi,
When you miss a turn,
You're out, You're out.

(Napier, 2000; Porirua, 2003)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 6
Incidence: 4

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1209
Date: 1990
Title: Mama Mia
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Mama Mia,

Papa Pia,
Baby had a diarrhoea,
Grandma said,
It wouldn't hurt,
So baby had it for dessert.

(NZ ex Alaska, 1990)

--

Background Info: Collected from American Naval Base in Alaska.

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Alaska
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1210
Date: 1960s
Title: My teacher's got a bunion
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

My teacher's got a bunion,
A nose like a pickled onion,
A face like a squashed tomato,
And legs like pea sticks.

(Dunedin, 1960s)

--

Keywords: authority, school
Location: Dunedin
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1211
Date: 1999
Title: My father comes
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

My father comes from Germany, my mother comes from Italy,
My sister comes from the disco show, and the baby follows me, me, me.
My father works at the ABC, my mother works at the bakery,
My sister works at the disco show, and the baby follows me, me, me.
My father likes to smoke his pipe, my mother likes to read her book,
My sister likes to show her knee, and the a baby follows me, me, me.
My father died in Germany, my mother died in Italy,
My sister died in the disco show, and baby follows me, me, me.
My father went to Germany heaven, my mother went to Italy heaven,
My sister went to disco show heaven, and the baby followed me, me, me.

(Auckland, 1999)

--

Background Info: Turner, 1978:56 for variations including the lines:

My sister comes from the go-go shop,
My father works in the ABC,
My sister works in the strippery shop,
My sister likes to strip a lot,
My sister went to purgatory,
My baby's born in me, me, me,
My baby works with me, me, me,
My baby died in me, me, me.

(Melbourne, 1967-73)

--

Keywords: life passages
Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1212
Date: 1940s
Title: Poor old Robinson Crusoe
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Poor old Robinson Crusoe,
They made him a coat,
Of an old nanny goat.
I wonder how they could do so.
With a ring a ting ting,

And a ring a ting tang,
Poor old Robinson Crusoe.

(Christchurch, 1940s)

--

Background Info: Bawdy version in Turner, 1978:127:

Poor old Robinson Crusoe
Didn't know what to do, so
He sat on a rock
And scratched his cock,
Poor old Robinson Crusoe.

(Perth, c. 1925)

--

Opie, 1992:373 records musical version from 1781:

When I was a lad,
I had cause to be sad,
My grandfather I did lose O;
I'll bet you a can
You've heard of the man,
His name was Robinson Crusoe.

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1213
Date: 2000-2006
Title: Pea knuckle war
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Game
Rhyme:

1, 2, 3, 4,
I declare a pea knuckle war,
4, 3, 2, 1,
The pea knuckle war has just begun.
(Who won the war in 1953?)

(Auckland, 2000; Dunedin, 2000; Auckland, 2003; Tauranga, 2004; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Pea knuckle, pea knuckle,
1, 2, 3.

(Auckland, 2000; Gisborne, 2002)

--

Background Info: Two children interlink their fingertips together. As they chant this rhyme they swivel their thumb from left to right, trying to pin down their opponent's thumb.

--

Detailed description of a number of pea knuckle variations in Bauer, 2002, Sect.77:3-5 , involving the rituals of kiss (thumbs together), bow (thumbs bow towards each other), attack. The object is to capture the opponent's thumb and hold it down while the rhyme is chanted. A type of thumb wrestling, comparable to arm wrestling.

--

'Chicken' is a similar game where the starting grip is similar to pea knuckle, but the aim is to dig the fingernails of the four fingers into your opponent's hand, inflicting pain. The person who gives up first is declared 'chicken'.
(Tinwald, Ashburton, 2006)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 7

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1214
Date: 1996
Title: Peanut butter
Gender: Female
Classification: Handstand
Rhyme:

Peanut butter, in the gutter,
Pop, bang, go!

(Christchurch, 1996)

--

Background Info: Chanted by observers at a handstand competition.

--

Location: Christchurch

Group size: 9

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1215

Date: 2000

Title: Pimlico

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Skipping

Rhyme:

Plimico, Plimico,
Pumpkin and peas.
Pepper them properly,
Else you will sneeze.

(Wellington, 2000)

--

Location: Wellington

Group size: 6

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1216

Date: 1974

Title: I'm not a pheasant plucker

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Tongue twister

Rhyme:

I'm not a pheasant plucker,
I'm a pheasant plucker's son,
I'll sit here plucking pheasants,
'Til the pheasant plucking's done.

(Wellington, 1974)

--

Keywords: bawdy, word play

Location: Wellington
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1217
Date: 1950s-2002
Title: Piggy on the railway line
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Piggy [Polly] on the railway line,
Picking up stones.
Along came the engine,
And broke Piggy's bones.
"Ow," said Piggy, "That's not fair!"
"Tough," said the engine driver,
"I don't care."

(NZ ex UK, 1950s; Christchurch, 1970s; Christchurch, 2002)

--

Paddy on the railroad,
Picking up stones,
Along came the engine,
And broke Paddy's bones.
'Oh,' said Paddy.
'That's not fair.'
'Oh,' said the engine driver.
'I don't care!'

(Hamilton, 1950s; 1900-1920 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:65) with additional line - O-U-T
spells out and out you must go.)

--

Background Info: Skipping game played that involved picking up stones while
skipping.

Recorded in Turner, 1969:36:

Piggy on the railway,
Picking up stones.
Along came an engine,
And broke Piggy's bones.
"Oh," said Piggy, "That's not fair!"
"Puff," said the engine driver,
"I don't care."

(Melbourne, 1935)

--

Scottish version from Gullen, 1950:17:

Paddy on the railway
Picking up stones,
By came an engine
And broke Paddy's bones.
"Oh," said Paddy, "that's not fair."
"Well," said the engine driver,
"You shouldn't be there."

(Paddy here refers to a large number of Irish workers who went to Scotland in the 1800s to be employed in the making of the railways.)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 4
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1218
Date: 1994
Title: Pussy cat
Gender: Male
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Pussy cat, pussy cat,
Where have you been?
I've been to the vets,
To get my vaccine.
Pussy cat, pussy cat,
What did you there?
I bit the vet's hand,
And spat in her eye (?)

(Auckland, 1994)

--

Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1219
Date: 2000
Title: Pretty little goldfish
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Pretty little goldfish,
Never can walk,
All it does is wiggle,
When it tries to walk.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Background Info: Actions accompany rhyme.

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 5
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1220
Date: 2000
Title: A peach is a peach
Gender: Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

A peach is a peach,
A plum is a plum,
A kiss ain't a kiss,
Without any tongue,
So open your mouth,
And close your eyes,
And let your tongue,
Do some exercise.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Keywords: sex, love, bawdy
Location: Auckland
Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1221

Date: 1960s

Title: A polar bear

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

The polar bear sleeps in his little bear skin,
He sleeps very well, so I'm told.
Last night I slept in my little bare skin,
And I got one heck of a cold.

(Kahukahu, 1960s)

--

Keywords: word play

Location: Kahukahu

Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1222

Date: 1998

Title: Peter had a boat

Gender: Male

Classification: Bawdy

Rhyme:

Peter had a boat,
The boat began to rock,
Up came Jaws,
And bit off his cock.

(Gore, 1998)

--

Keywords: scatological

Location: Gore

Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1223
Date: 1960s-2000
Title: What's your name?
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

What's your name?
Puddeny Jane.
Where do you live?
Down the lane.
What street?
Cat's meat.
What number?
Cucumber.
What room?
Swishy broom.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

What street?
Cat's meat.
What number?
Cucumber.
Boogie, boogie Avenue.

(Wairoa, 1960s)

--

What's your name?
Pretty Jane.
Where do you live?
Down the lane.
What street?
Cat's meat.
What number?
Cucumber.
What room?
Swishy broom.

(Raumati South, 2000)

--

What's your name?
Puddin' Jane.
Where do you live?

Down the lane.
What number?
Cucumber.
What do you keep?
A little shop.
What do you sell?
Soda pop.
How many bottles do you sell?
(Any 2 digit number)

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Background Info: A cheeky retort in response to being asked your name. (Personal informant)

--

Turner, 1978:92 records variants:

What's your name?
Mary Jane.
Where do you live?
Wamber Lane.
What do you do?
Keep a school.
How many scholars?
Twenty-two.
How many more?
Twenty-four.
What's your number?
Cucumber.

(Melbourne, 1973)

--

Variation from Hastings, 1990:130:

What's your name?
Puddentame.
Where are you from?
Down the lane.
What's your number?
Cucumber.
What's your trade?
Lemonade.
Show us some if you're not afraid.

--

Opie, 2000:62 records

What's your name?
Butter and tame.
If you ask me again
I'll tell you the same.

Opie contends that this rhyme is a substitute for sharp-wittedness.
Alternative version used by Eton schoolboys (1830) was:

Who's your tutor,
Who's your dame,
What's your form,
And what's your name?

--

Also from Opie, 2000:152:

What do they call you?
Patchy Dolly.
Where were you born?
In the cow's horn.
Where were you bred?
In the cow's head.
Where will you die?
In the cow's eye.

What's your name?
Baldy Bane.
What's your other?
Ask my mother.
Where do you sleep?
Among the sheep.
Where do you lie?
Among the kye (cows).
Where do you take your brose (oatmeal)?
Up and down the cuddy's (donkey's) nose.

--

See also Opie, 1967:156-158.

--

From USA Botkin, 1944:778 records:

What's your name?
Pudden tame;
Ask me again
And I'll tell you the same.
(John Brown, ask me again and I'll knock you down.)

What's your name?
Pudden tame.
What's your natur'?'
Pudden tater.
What's your will?
Pudden swill.

What's your name?
Pudden tame.
What's your other?
Bread and butter.
Where do you live?
In a sieve.
What's your number?
Cucumber.

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1224
Date: 1995
Title: Postie, postie
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Postie, postie, don't be slow,
Make sure it gets there,
Go, man, go!
Postie, postie,
Don't be slow,
Make sure it feels good,
Go, man, go!

(Christchurch, 1995)

--

Background Info: Often written on the back on an envelope to make sure a letter

quickly reaches its destination. Examples in Turner, 1978:

Postie, postie, don't be slow,
Go like the Beatles, go, man, go.
(Go like Elvis, go, man, go.)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1225
Date: 1996
Title: Puff the magic dragon
Gender: Male
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Puff the magic dragon,
Lived by the sea.
He farted in the autumn mist,
And got shot by a 303.

(Blenheim, 1996)

--

Keywords: scatological, bawdy, fart lore
Location: Blenheim
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1226
Date: 1970s-2006
Title: Pinky promise
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Half belief
Rhyme:

Pinky promise, pinky promise, pinky promise - Done.

(Taupo, 1970s; Christchurch, 2002)

--

Pinky swear, pinky swear, pinky swear.

(Christchurch, 2000. Chanted by all participants - if the promise is broken you have to buy the other person a Pinkie bar.)

--

Pinky promise - lock.
Knuckle promise - lock.
Double pinky promise - lock.
Double knuckle promise - lock.

(Tinwald, Ashburton, 2006 - explanation from two boys was if you break the promise you have to then scrape your knuckles on the ground as punishment. The promise here was to share some desirable piece of the other's lunch box the next day.)

--

Background Info: Said while linking little fingers and making a promise.

--

Keywords: Commercial product
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 4

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1227
Date: 1970s
Title: Postie, postie
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Postie, postie, do your duty,
Take me to my green eyed beauty.
Postie, postie, do your stuff,
Take me to the one I love.

(Christchurch, 1970s)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1228
Date: 1970s
Title: Pick it
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Pick it,
Lick it,
Roll it,
Flick it.

(Auckland, 1970s; Gisborne, 1976)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1229
Date: 1998-2000
Title: Peter, Peter
Gender: Male
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Peter, Peter, Pumpkin eater,
Had a wife and liked to beat her,
Hit her twice around the head.
Fucked her twice, and went to bed.

(Auckland, 1998; NZ ex UK, 2000)

--

Background Info: Version in Turner, 1978:150:

Peter, Peter, pumpkin eater,
Had a wife and couldn't keep her.
So what could poor old Peter do,
But kick her out with a size ten shoe.

(Melbourne, 1968)

--

Keywords: bawdy
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1230
Date: 1985-2000
Title: Simple Simon
Gender: Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Simple Simon met a pie man,
Going to the fair,
Said Simple Simon to the pie man,
"What have you got there?"
Said the pie man to Simple Simon,
"Pies, dickhead!"

(Christchurch, 1999)

--

Stupid Simon ate the pie man,
Forgetting about the pies.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Stupid Simon cracked her hymen,
Having an affair.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Simple Simon met a pie man,
Going to the fair,
Said Simple Simon to the pie man,
"What have you got there?"
Said the pie man to Simple Simon,
"Pies, stupid!"

(Te Awamutu, 2000)

--

Simple Simon met a pie man,
Going to the fair,
Said Simple Simon to the pie man,
"What have you got there?"
Said the pie man to Simple Simon,
"Pies, fuckwit, pies!

(Rangiora, 1985)

--

Keywords: bawdy
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1231
Date: 1990s-2002
Title: Scaredy cat
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Scaredy cat, scaredy cat,
[X] is a smelly rat.

(Auckland, 2001)

--

Scaredy cat, scaredy cat,
Sitting on a doormat.

(Christchurch, 1990 x2)

--

Scaredy cat, scaredy cat,
Can't catch me.

(Dunedin, 1990s)

--

Scaredy cat, scaredy cat,
Kiss the rat at Ballarat.

(NZ ex Australia, 2002)

--

Background Info: A taunt challenging some action.

--

Keywords: Australia
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1232
Date: 1970s-2006
Title: Silence in the court
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Order in the court,
The monkey want to talk,
Speak up monkey, speak.

(Wellington, 1990; Te Awamutu, 2000; Timaru, 2000)

--

Silence in the courthouse,
The monkey wants to speak,
The first one to speak,
Is a monkey for a week.

(Timaru, 1970s; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Silence in the court,
The judge is eating beans,
His wife is in the bath tub,
Counting submarines.

(Auckland, 1990s; Wellington, 1990)

--

Silence in the court,
The judge is eating beans,
Wife is in the toilet,

Shooting submarines.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Silence in the court,
The monkey wants to talk,
The judge is in the kitchen,
Eating strawberry sauce.

(Wellington, 1990)

--

Background Info: Opie, 1967:193 -194 discusses ways children initiate quiet by various ruses and sayings, such as the first person to speak after me is a monkey. The following rhymes are recorded:

Next person to speak has to wash Hitler's dishes. (UK, 1952)

Silence in the pig market, the fat pig wants to speak.

Silence in the frying pan, the sausage is going to speak.

Silence in the court, the donkey wants to talk.

Silence in the court, the monkey wants to talk, speak up monkey, speak.

Silence in the court, while the judge blows his nose, stands on his head and tickles his toes.

Silence in the gallery, order in the pit, the people in the boxes, can't hear a bit. (1900s)

Origins of this type of rhyme go back to 1894, with the phrase "Silence in the pig market, let the old sow speak first".

--

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 4

Incidence: 9

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1233

Date: 2000

Title: Santa, Santa

Gender: Female

Classification: Handstands

Rhyme:

Santa, Santa,

Ho, ho, ho,

Santa, Santa,

Go, go, go.

(Timaru, 2000)

--

Background Info: Chant before the start of a handstand endurance competition.

--

Location: Timaru

Group size: 4

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1234

Date: 2000

Title: Sella, wella

Gender: Female

Classification: Clapping - group

Rhyme:

Sella, wella,
All round,
Clap, clap, clap,
Say yes chicka cheeta,
Fellow, fellow, fellow, fellow,
1, 2, 3..20.

(Whangaparaoa, 2000)

--

Background Info: Group clapping game where players are eliminated when a beat or clap is missed. Played with up to twenty players in a circle, until only two remain.

--

Location: Whangaparaoa

Group size: 10

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1235

Date: 1950s

Title: Salvation Army

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

Salvation Army, they all went balmy,
All went to heaven in a sardine can.
The can caught fire, on a telephone wire,
They all went to heaven with their bums on fire.

(Wellington, 1950s)

--

Salvation Army, free from sin,
Sailed down the river in a sardine tin.

(NZ ex UK, 1950s)

--

Background Info: Opie, 1967:346-347, discusses rhymes connected to the Salvation Army. Includes variations:

Salvation Army free from sin,
Went to heaven
In a corned beef tin. (sardine tin, kerosene tin)

The corned beef tin it was too small,
So Salvation Army couldn't go at all.

(Wales, 1950s)

Salvation Army are a greedy lot,
All go to heaven in an old jam pot.

(Durham, 1950s)

--

Keywords: bawdy,
Location: Wellington
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1236
Date: 1998
Title: Sing a song
Gender: Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Sing a song of sixpence,
And lots and lots of pie.
Humpty Dumpty's underpants
Are flying through the sky.
Along came the blackbirds,
And carried them away.
How he got them back again,
I really cannot say.

(Christchurch, 1998)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1237
Date: 1927-1930s
Title: There's a war
Gender: Male
Classification: Political
Rhyme:

There's a war in Abyssinia, won't you come?
Mussolini will be there,
Shooting peanuts in the air.
There's a war in Abyssinia, won't you come?

(Masterton, 1927; Oxford, 1930s; NZ 1930s)

--

Keywords: political, WWII
Location: various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1238
Date: 1990s- 2000
Title: So, so, suck your toe
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Clapping, Fun
Rhyme:

So, so, suck your toe,
All the way to Mexico.
When you're there,
Cut your hair,
And stick it down (up) your underwear.

(Awanui, 1990s; Auckland, 1990s; Christchurch, 1990; Auckland, 2000; Manurewa, 2000;
Northland, 2000; Rotorua, 2000; Whangarei, 2000)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 8

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1239
Date: 1960s-1970s
Title: See a pin
Gender: Female
Classification: Half belief
Rhyme:

See a pin and pick it up,
All the day you'll have good luck.
See a pin and let it lie,
You'll need a pin before you die.

(Auckland, 1960s)

--

See a pin and pick it up,
All the day you'll have good luck.
See a pin and let it lie,
And bad luck will find you, by and by.

(Tolaga Bay, 1960s)

--

See a pin and pick it up,
All the day you'll have good luck.
See a pin and let it lay,
Bad luck is sure to come your way.

(Nelson, 1960s; Auckland, 1970s)

--

Background Info: Similar versions recorded by Halliwell, 1842:98.

--

Alternative versions in Opie, 1967:224:

See a pin and pick it up
All the day you'll have good luck.
See a pin, and let it lay
Bad luck you'll have all the day.

Pin, pin, bring me luck,
Because I stop to pick you up.

--

From Botkin, 1944:790, rhymes related to 'pin lore' cited from "Pin Lore" by Charles G Leland 1891 ("Journal of American Folklore", Vol. IV, No. XIII:174):

See a pin and pick it up,
All that day you will have luck;
See a pin and let it lay,
You'll have bad luck all that day.

Needles and pins!
Needles and pins!
When a man's married
His trouble begins.

It is a sin to steal a pin,
It is a greater to steal a tater.

--

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 2

Incidence: 4

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1240

Date: 1945-1963

Title: Stacks on the mill

Gender: Female

Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

Stacks on the mill,
More on still.

(Waimate, 1945; Invercargill, 1950s; Lower Hutt, 1950s; Darfield, 1958; Fairlie, 1960s; Raumati South, 1960s; Ashburton, 1963)

--

Background Info: Children pile on top of each other until the 'stack' eventually falls down, and then begin again.

A variant of "Sacks to the mill," recorded by Opie.

Sutton-Smith, 1959:147, describes the game played in Otago, 1875 as "We would knock one boy down , and then pile one on top of another on his back until we all fell off". Known also as "Squash" in Auckland, 1920.

--

Bauer, 2002, Sect.77:1 found the word 'baggie' used when "one person lies on the ground, heaps of other people pile on. It keeps going till the bottom person calls "Stop" or "Squashed" or they start crying." (Queenstown, c.2002)

--

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 6

Incidence: 7

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1241

Date: 1940s-2006

Title: 1 1 was a racehorse

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Autograph

Rhyme:

1 1 was a racehorse,

2 2 was 1 2.

1 1 1 1 race,

And 2 2 1 1 2.

(Christchurch, 1940s; Rotorua, 1950s; Christchurch, 1960s; Hawarden, 1970s; NZ ex UK, 1980s; Auckland, 1990s; Wellington, 1990; Christchurch, 1990s x 2; Timaru, 2003; Christchurch, 2003; Lumsden, 2003; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Background Info: Can also be read as:

Wunwun was a racehorse,

Tutu was one too,

Wunwun won one race,

Tutu won one too.

--

A South African version:

10 was a bishop,
22 was 12,
10 1 a peace prize,
22112.

(Personal informant)

--

Turner, 1969:117 variation:

1 1 1 1 race,
2 2 1 1 2.
2 2 1 2 races,
2 21 2 2.

(Melbourne, 1967)

--

Keywords: word play, riddle, political

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 2

Incidence: 13

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1242

Date: 2003

Title: Oh, oh baby

Gender: Female

Classification: Clapping

Rhyme:

Oh, oh baby, I can do karate, (Kick leg to the side)
Oh, oh baby, I can call my mummy, (Mime a phone call)
Oh, oh baby, woops I'm sorry. (Kick legs of the other)

(Christchurch, 2003)

--

Keywords: modern culture

Location: Christchurch

Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1243
Date: 2000-2002
Title: Oliver Twist
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Action game, ball bouncing game
Rhyme:

Oliver Twist, Oliver Twist,
Bet you can't do this.
Number 1, touch your tongue,
Number 2, touch your shoe,
Number 3, touch your knee,
Number 4, touch the floor,
Number 5, stay alive,
Number 6, wriggle your hips,
Number 7, jump to heaven,
Number 8, stay awake,
Number 9, stay on the line,
Number 10, start again.

(Auckland, 2000; Napier, 2002)

--

Background Info: 'Follow the leader' type game.

--

Early version: Abrahams, 1969:145:

Oliver Twist, he can't do this,
So what's the use of trying?
No. 1 touch your tongue,
No. 2 touch your shoe,
No. 3 bend your knee,
No. 4 touch the floor,
No. 5 wave goodbye,
No. 6 do the splits,
Goodbye Oliver Twist.

(UK, 1961)

--

Similar versions in Turner, 1978:48 beginning:

Oliver Twist, can you do this?
If so, do so.
Number one, touch your tongue..

(Melbourne, 1955)

Oliver Twist, can't do this
So what's the use of trying?
Touch your nose and under it goes,
Touch your knee and around the tree.

(Perth, 1955)

--

Reported from Australia, 1950s to Dorothy Howard as ball bouncing rhymes:

Oliver Twist, you can't do this,
So what's the use of trying.
Touch your nose and under it goes.
Touch your knee and around the tree.

Oliver Twist, can you do this?
If so, do so,
Touch your knee and then your toe.
Oliver Twist, can you do this?
If so, do so,
Then your heel and down you go.

Oliver Twist, can't do this,
What's the use of tryin'
Touch your knee or touch your toe,
Touch your heel and down you go.

(Darian-Smith, 2005:95-96)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 3
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1244
Date: 2000-2005
Title: Oh my gosh!
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

Oh my gosh!
I think I broke a nail.
It's totally for sure.
I'm gonna need a manicure.
The sun up there
Is shining on my gorgeous hair.
Hey, you, go home,
I'm talking on my telephone.
23, 24, I don't know the stupid score.
Go, go, fight, fight,
Gee I hope I look alright.

(Rotorua, 2002)

--

Oh my God, I broke a nail,
The sun up there is shining on my precious hair.
Hey you go home, I'm talking on the telephone.
68, 24, I don't know the stupid score,
Go go fight fight,
Man, I hope I look alright.

(Ashburton, 2005)

--

Oh my God!
I just got a manicure,
The sun up there is shining on my precious hair.
Hey you go home, I'm talking on the telephone.
26, 24, I don't know the stupid score,
Oh my God,
I just broke a nail.

(Christchurch, 2001)

--

Background Info: Based on an American cheerleading sports chant - baseball.

--

Keywords: modern culture, body image, commercial product, teen culture
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1245
Date: 1967-2003
Title: Old Mother Hubbard
Gender: Male
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Old Mother Hubbard
Went to the cupboard,
And gave the poor dog a bone.
When she got there,
A bear was there,
And ate her to
The very last bone.

(Kaiapoi, 2003)

--

Old Mother Hubbard
Went to the cupboard,
To get her poor doggy a bone,
When she bent over,
Rover took over,
As he had a bone of his own.

(Auckland, 1990s; NZ ex UK, 1999)

--

Old Mother Hubbard
Went to the cupboard,
To get her poor daughter a dress.
But when she got there,
The cupboard was bare,
And so was her daughter,
I guess.

(Tauranga, 1998)

--

Old Mother Hubbard
Went to the cupboard,
To get her poor doggy a bone.
When she got there,
The cupboard was bare,
So the poor doggy bit her leg off.

(Te Aroha, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Variations: Turner, 1978:149 include:

Old Mother Hubbard
Went to the cupboard,
To get her poor doggy a bone,
When she bent over,
Rover took over,
And gave her a bone of his own.

(Melbourne, 1973)

Old Mother Hubbard
Went to the cupboard,
To get her daughter a dress.
But when she got there,
The cupboard was bare,
And so was her daughter,
I guess.

(E. Victoria, 1967, Melbourne, 1973)

--

Keywords: bawdy
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 3
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1246
Date: 1920s-2002
Title: On the mountain
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

On the mountain stands a lady,
Who she is I do not know.
All she wants is gold and silver,
All she wants is a nice, young man.
A, B, C, D..
Who will you marry?
(Christchurch, 1970s)
Where will you marry? (registry office, church, chapel)

Where will you live? (mansion, cottage, pigsty)
How many children? 1, 2, 3.

(Auckland, 2002)

--

On the mountain stands a lady,
Who she is I do not know.
All she wants is gold and silver,
And she wants is some candy too.
So come in my dear [X], dear [X], dear [X],
We don't want [Y], any more, shut the door.

(Rotorua, 1960s)

--

Now, now [X], don't tell lies,
I saw you kissing [Y] last night,
How many kisses did you give him?
1, 2, 3..

(Auckland, 1990)

--

[X], [X], don't tell lies,
I saw you kissing in the parlour.
Kissing, kissing your boyfriend.
How many kisses did you give him?
1,2,3..
Where are you going to get married?
Church, toilet, pigsty?

(Auckland, 1990s)

--

On yonder hill there lives a maiden,
Who she is I do not know.
All she wants is gold and silver,
And a nice young man, I know.
Choose to the east and choose to the west,
And choose the very one you love best.
THEN:
Now you're married you must be good,
Help your wife to chop the wood.
Chop it fine and carry it in,
Kiss her over and over again.

(NZ, 1920s from "Play and Folklore", Issue 6, 1984:9)

--

Background Info: Based on the 'wedding ring' singing game, "Lady on the Mountain". See Opie, 1988:175-177.

--

Turner, 1978:23-24: "Girls stand in a circle holding hands, skipping around one girl who stands in the centre. As they sing, the centre girl chooses another girl from the ring, who is then called in, and so the game continues."

--

Described as a game played in 1950s, Leeds, England, where the girl in the middle was blindfolded, thus unable to see who they were picking, resulting in much hilarity. Also used a skipping game.
(Pam Simpson- personal informant)

--

From Botkin, 1944:801:

Hooligan, Hooligan, number nine,
Hung his breeches on the line,
When the line began to swing,
Happy Hooligan began to sing:
"On the mountain stands a lady,
Who she is I do not know;
All she wants is gold and silver,
And a nice young man with whom to go."
Come in my sister, [X]
Go out my sister, [Y].

(USA, 1930-1940s)

--

Opie, 1997:264-266 discusses the origins of this rhyme, along with many different variations:

There's a lady on the hill,
Who she is I do not know,
All she wants is gold and silver,
All she wants is a nice young man.
So call in [Barbara].
[Barbara] likes whiskey,
[Barbara] likes rum,

[Barbara] likes kissing the boys,
So I'm going home.

(Kent, 1953)

The tune was adopted as the theme music for the BBC television series "The Liver Birds" (1970s).

--

Butler, 1989:15 notes the version from Virginia:

On the hilltop stands a lady
Who she is I do not know.
All she wears is gold and silver
All she needs is a nice young man.

(Virginia, 1949)

--

Keywords: divination, marriage, traditional game
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 6
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1247
Date: 1940s-2004
Title: Old King Cole
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Old King Cole was a merry old soul,
And a merry old soul was he.
He called for a light,
In the middle of the night,
To go to the W.C.
The path was dark and dreary,
The candle had a fit.
Old King Cole fell down the hole,
And came up covered in shit!

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Old King Cole was a merry old soul,

And a merry old soul was he.
He called for a candle
In the middle of the night,
To go to the W.C.
Now, the moon shone through the dunny door,
The candle had a fit.
Old King Cole fell down the hole,
Up to his neck in shit!

(Coromandel, 1940s)

--

Old King Cole was a merry old soul,
And a merry old soul was he.
He called for a light,
In the middle of the night,
To go to the W.C. (Waimate, 2000; Waikari, 1998)
The wind blew on the dunny door,
The candle had a fit.
Old King Cole fell down the hole,
Up to his knees in shit.

(Ashburton, 1998; Christchurch, 2000)

--

Old King Cole was a merry old soul.
And a merry old soul was he.
He called for his cake,
And called for his pie,
And called for his toilet, wee, wee.

(Christchurch, 1990)

--

Old King Cole
Was a smelly old bloke,
A smelly old bloke was he.
Until the desperate Queen one night,
Filled his pipe with dynamite.

(Nelson, 1990s)

--

Old King Cole was a merry old soul,
And a merry old soul was he.
He called for a light,

In the middle of the night,
To go to the lav-a-tree.

(NZ ex UK,1950s)

--

Old King Cole was a merry old soul,
A merry old soul was he,
He called for his fiddle,
And then did a piddle.

(Christchurch, 1996)

--

Background Info: Variations, see Turner, 1978:123:

Old King Cole was a dirty old soul,
As dirty as a soul could be.
He woke up his wife in the middle of the night,
And took her to the dunny, you see.
The lightning struck the dunny door,
The candle had a fit,
And Old King Cole he stuck his pole
Right up her raspberry split.

(Melbourne, c. 1935, 1967)

Old King Cole had a forty foot pole,
And he showed it to the lady next door.
She thought it was a snake
And hit it with a rake,
And now it's only two foot four.

(Melbourne, 1962-1973)

There have been variations in the length of the 'member' from one foot four, ten foot, to forty foot. Legend of a similar theme circulates in New Guinea highlands.

--

Onwuchekwa, 2003:103 records version from urban black America:

Old King Cole was a merry old soul,
Tried to get to heaven on a telephone pole.
One foot slipped, the other one fell.
He didn't get to heaven, but he made it down to hell.

--

Keywords: scatological, bawdy,
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 10

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1248
Date: 2002
Title: Ooh ah yeah
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Partisan
Rhyme:

Ooh ah yeah,
We've got it goin' now. (x 3)
Western Heights,
We're loud,
We're proud,
We're Western Heights.
Break it down now,
Ooh ah yeah.

(Rotorua, 2002)

--

Background Info: Chanted at a high school stage challenge contest.

--

Keywords: partisan
Location: Rotorua
Group size: 10
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1249
Date: 2002
Title: Oink, oink pig
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Oink, oink, pig, have you any ham?
No sir, no sir, but here's a jar of jam.
There's one for the boss man,
And one for his wife,

And one for the scary guy,
Who's holding the knife.

(Rotorua, 2002)

--

Background Info: "Baa, baa black sheep" parody.

--

Location: Rotorua
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1250
Date: 2002
Title: On the first day of Christmas
Gender: Male
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

On the first day of Christmas,
My true love gave to me.
\$3.50 and a pair of panties.
On the second day of Christmas,
My true love gave to me,
\$3.50 and a pair of undies.

(Wellington, 2002)

--

Keywords: bawdy
Location: Wellington
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1251
Date: 1960s
Title: One more day
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

One more day of this old school,

One more day of sorrow,
One more day of this old dump,
We'll be home tomorrow.

(Auckland, 1960s)

--

Background Info: Turner, 1978:76 records the following versions:

One more day of sorrow,
One more day of tomorrow,
One more day at this old dump,
We'll be home tomorrow.

One more day of school,
One more day of sorrow.
One more day of dirty work,
'Cause we break up tomorrow.

(Melbourne, 1973)

--

Keywords: authority
Location: Auckland
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1252
Date: 1935 - 2006
Title: One potato
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Counting-out
Rhyme:

One potato, two potato, three potato, four,
Five potato, six potato, seven potato, more.

(Wellington, 1920s; NZ ex UK, 1940s; Owaka, 1960s; Auckland, 1960s; Fairlie, 1960s;
Christchurch, 1960s x 5; Wairoa, 1970s; NZ ex UK, 1970s x 2; Auckland, 1985;
Whakatane, 1990s; Timaru, 1990s; Auckland, 1990s; Christchurch, 1990s x 3;
Blenheim, 2004; Ashburton, 2006)

--

One potato, two potato, three potato, four,
Five potato, six potato, seven potato, more.

O. U. T. spells out and out you must go.

(Auckland, 1960s; Wellington, 1970s)

--

One potato, two potato, three potato, four,
Five potato, six potato, seven potato, more.
Pig's snout, you're out.

(Timaru, 1970s)

--

One potato, two potato, three potato, four,
Five potato, six potato, seven potato, more.
And out you go with a dirty, dirty dishcloth,
Down your throat.

(Tauranga, 1950s)

--

Background Info: Also known as "One spud, two spud..", noted by Turner, 1978:5 as recorded in Adelaide, 1935.

Compare with "One a pecker.." in this collection.

Recorded by Sutton-Smith, 1959: 68 as the most well known counting-out rhyme from the 1950s, along with the counting-out rhyme beginning "My mother, your mother".

--

Opie, 1984: 54, notes that in the rhyme above the word 'potato' is likely to be pronounced 'bertater.' To start the game, the leader calls out 'spuds up,' where players get ready with fists clenched, thumbs uppermost, for the elimination process.

--

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 4

Incidence: 26

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1254

Date: 1950s

Title: Old Mother Riley

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Bawdy

Rhyme:

Old Mother Riley went to milk a cow,
Old Mother Riley didn't know how.
She pulled the tail, instead of the tit,
And all she got was a bucket full of shit.

(NZ ex UK, 1950s)

--

Location: NZ (ex UK)
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1255
Date: 1950s -2000
Title: One man went to mow
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

One man went to mow,
Went to mow the meadow.
One man and his dog,
And a bottle of pop,
And a sausage roll,
Went to mow the meadow.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

One man went to mow,
Went to mow the meadow.
One man and his dog, Spot,
And a bottle of pop,
Sausage roll,
Ham sandwich,
Bag of crisps,
Went to mow a meadow.

(NZ ex UK, 1950s)

--

Background Info: Cumulative verse, which involves counting up to ten and then back down again.

--

Keywords: commercial products
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1258
Date: 1935-2002
Title: Draw a snake
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Counting-out
Rhyme:

Draw a snake upon your back,
Which finger did that?

(NZ, 1980s)

--

Draw a snake down your back,
This is the way it went,
North, south, east, west,
Who tipped your finger?

(Wellington, 1935)

--

Draw a snakey down your back,
Paint it white,
Paint it black.
Which finger was that?

(Christchurch, 2002)

--

Background Info: This chant is used as a prerequisite for choosing the 'in' person in a group game. If the child guesses the correct finger that the snake is drawn with they are free. If they guess incorrectly they are 'it'. Often used as a starter for hide and seek. (Personal informant)

--

See also, Turner, 1978:52: "One child faces a wall or a tree with one hand behind her back with one finger extended, and her eyes closed. A group behind her recite,

while one of them draws an 'S' on her back and another tips her finger."
Draw a snake upon your back,
And who tipped your finger?
"The child facing the wall turns around and tries to guess who tipped her finger."

--

Discussed in Sutton-Smith, 1959:67, as a game known as Tip the Finger.
Alternative names to this game include Draw the Snake, Round and Round the Mulberry Bush, I Tipped the Finger, This is the Way the World goes Round, Somebody must Tig and Who Tipped your Finger Last?

--

Opie, 1884:158, records these variations:

Draw a snake on a black man's back.
Chop off his head, and who did that?

(Ipswich, UK, 1950s)

Smooth the cat, smooth the cat,
Who touches you last?

(Penzance, UK, 1950s)

I spread the butter, I spread the cheese,
I spread the jam on your dirty knees.
Guess who tipped.

(Edinburgh, UK)

Other versions included along with details of the rituals involved.

--

Location: NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1259
Date: 1940s-2006
Title: Salt, mustard, vinegar
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Salt, mustard, vinegar, pepper.

Salt, mustard, vinegar, pepper.
(Repeated with increasing speed in turning the rope.)

(Whangarei, 1940s; Nelson, 1950s; Christchurch, 1990 x 2; Blenheim, 2000; Fairlie, 2003; Lower Hutt, 2006)

--

Salt, pepper, chilli.

(Christchurch, 2002)

--

Background Info: Noted in Turner, 1959:25. Sydney, 1910.

--

Gomme, 1898:200.

--

Early versions of the rhyme related by Opie, 2000:69 began:

Up the ladder and down the wall,
Penny an hour will serve us all.
You buy butter and I'll buy flour,
And we'll have pudding in half an hour.
With -
Salt, mustard, vinegar, pepper.

(Soho, 1907)

--

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 3

Incidence: 8

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1260

Date: 2000

Title: School's out

Gender: Male

Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

School's out, school's out,
Teacher let the fools out.

One went east,
One went west,
One went up the teacher's dress.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Keywords: authority, school
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1261
Date: 1990s-2006
Title: Slime
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Slime
Yuk, yuk.

(Timaru, 2006; Christchurch, 2006)

--

Slime, yuk
1, 2, 3, 4.

(Wellington, 1990s; Awanui, 1990s; Whangaparoa, 1998; Christchurch, 2000; Auckland, 2000; Auckland, 2004)

--

Background Info: Clapping action involving slow upward inflection for the word 'slime'.
The following 'yuk, yuk' said faster and repeated until one of the pair makes a mistake. (Personal observation)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 8

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1262
Date: 1970s
Title: Some go to church
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Some go to church to confess,
Some go there to show their dress,
Some go there to sleep and nod.
But few go there to worship God.

(Rotorua, 1970s)

--

Keywords: religion
Location: Rotorua
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1263
Date: 1999
Title: A skinny old woman
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

A skinny old woman took a bath,
She didn't tell a soul,
She forgot to put the stopper in,
And slid right down the hole.

(Napier, 1999)

--

Location: Napier
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1264
Date: 1970s-2000
Title: She'll be coming round
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy parody

Rhyme:

She was coming round the mountain smokin' dope,
When the chain on her motorcycle broke.
She went skimming along the grass,
When the muffler went up her arse.
And her boobs were getting caught up in the spokes.

(Rotorua, 2000)

--

She'll be coming round the mountain, when she comes,
She'll be flying through the grass,
With the back wheel up her arse,
And her fanny getting tickled by a spoke.

(Gisborne, 1970s)

--

She'll be coming round the mountain blowing smoke,
When the chain on her motorcycle broke,
She went spinning through the grass,
With a sprocket up her arse,
And her tits were playing on the smoke.

(Greymouth, 2000)

--

Background Info: Variation in Turner, 1978:150:

She'll be coming round the mountain,
Pissing like a fountain,
When the chain on the bicycle broke.
They found her on the grass,
With the pedals up her arse,
And her tits were playing tunes on the spokes.

--

Keywords: Bawdy, drugs, modern culture
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 8
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1265

Date: 1970s
Title: Stop the bus
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Stop the bus I want to wee, wee,
Stop the bus I want to wee, wee,
Stop the bus I want to wee, wee,
A wee, wee packet of chips.

(Christchurch, 1970s x 2)

--

Background Info: Sung to the tune of "Glory, Glory, Halleluiah".
Recorded in Lowenstein, 1974:45:

We wanta, we wanta, we want a wee.
If you don't stop for us
We'll do it on the bus,
Open the door or we'll do it on the floor.

(Melbourne, 1967)

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 5
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1266
Date: 1960s
Title: Scarlet Fever
Gender: Female
Classification: Ball bouncing
Rhyme:

I had scarlet fever,
I had it very bad.
They wrapped me up in a blanket,
And put me in a van.
The van was very shaky.
I nearly fell out.
But when I got to the hospital,
I heard the children shout..
"Mummy, Daddy, take me home,

I've been here a week or two,
And now I want to be with you.
Here comes the nurse with a red hot poker,
Slaps it on and takes no notice.
All the children say it's hot,
But the big fat nurse says, "I'm sure it's not."

(NZ ex UK, 1960s)

--

Location: NZ (ex UK)
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1267
Date: 2000
Title: Sea, sea
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Sea, sea, sea and a rockin' machine,
We're going up to the tree top all day long.
A-huffin' and a-puffin' and a-singing a song.
All the girls on Sesame Street,
A-huffin' and a-puffin' and a-singing a song.
And all the boys down Marble Street,
A-huffin' and a-puffin' and a-singing a song.

(Tauranga, 2000)

--

Keywords: media culture,
Location: Tauranga
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1268
Date: 1950s-2002
Title: Stare, stare
Gender: Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Stare, stare, like a bear.
Stare, stare, everywhere.

(Wellington, 2002)

--

Stare, stare, like a bear.
Poke your nose in everywhere.

(NZ ex UK, 1950s)

--

Background Info: Said when you catch someone staring at you.
Turner, 1978:91 records:

Sticky-stare, like a bear,
Like a monkey in the air,
When you lose your underwear,
That will teach you not to stare.

(Canberra, 1959)

--

Opie, 1967:184-185, records variations under the "stare-cats" section:

Stare, stare, like a bear, then you'll know me anywhere.
Stare, stare you big fat bear, when you get married you'll have no hair.
Stare, stare, pull your mum's hair, pull your dad's whiskers, I don't care.

From Rhodesia, Opie records:

Stare, stare, like a bear,
Call your mother "Ginger hair,"
Chase your father round a chair,
Like a sausage in the air.

--

Sutton-Smith, 1959:98 records:

Stare, stare, like a bear,
Sitting in a monkey's chair.

--

Lowenstein, 1974:2 records:

Stare, stare, like a bear,
Like a monkey in the air.

With the response:

I know your boy,
You big saveloy.

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1269
Date: 1950s-1980s
Title: Skite, skite
Gender: Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Skite, skite,
Your pants are too tight.

(NZ, 1950s)

--

Skite, skite,
Your pants are white.

(Manurewa, 1980s)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1271
Date: 1996
Title: Spice girls
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Spice Girls, Spice Girls,
We love you.
Posh and Baby,
Scary too.
Sporty Spice makes number four,
Ginger Spice is there no more.

(Christchurch, 1996)

--

Keywords: modern culture, media, celebrities
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 10
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1272
Date: 1996
Title: Spider, spider
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Spider, spider on the wall,
Don't you have no sense at all?
Can't you see the wall's been plastered,
Now you're stuck, you silly bastard!

(Te Aroha, 1996)

--

Location: Te Aroha
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1273
Date: 1998-2000
Title: Say it
Gender: Female
Classification: Retort
Rhyme:

Say it, don't spray it.
We want the news,
Not the weather.

(Auckland, 1998)

--

Say it, don't spray it,
I want to hear it, not wear it.

(Wellington, 2000)

--

Background Info: Said when someone accidentally spits.
"Play and Folklore", Issue 25, 1993:7:

Don't spray it, say it,
I want conversation, not precipitation,
The News, not the Weather.
I want communication, not irrigation.

(Sydney, 1970s)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 1
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1274
Date: 2000-2004
Title: Sex, drugs
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Sex, drugs, rock and roll,
Speed, weed, birth control.
Life's a bitch,
Then you die,
So fuck the world,
Let's all get high.

(Lower Hutt, 2004)

--

Stoners live and stoners die,
But in the end we all get high.

So if at 1st u don't succeed,
Fck the world and smoke sum weed.

(NZ, 2000)

--

Drugs, drink, rock and roll,
Speed, weed, birth control.
Stuff the world, it's a hole.
Bubba wouldn't be here
If the rubber hadn't torn.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Keywords: drugs, modern culture, txt
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 6
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1275
Date: 1990
Title: Six feet two
Gender: Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Six feet two,
Eyes of blue.
My dad is gonna,
Beat up on you!

(Christchurch, 1990)

--

Keywords: threat
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1276
Date: 1998-2003
Title: Some people

Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Some people started doing it,
Not knowing what it was.
And now they keep on singing it for ever.
Just because it is a song that never ends,
It just goes on and on my friend..

(Northland, 1998)

--

It is a song that never ends,
It just goes on and on, my friends.
Some people started singing it,
Not knowing what it was.
And they'll be singing it forever just because..
It is a song that never ends..

(Kaitaia, 1990s; Auckland, 2000; Christchurch, 2000; Greytown, 2002; Kaiapoi, 2003)

--

Keywords: never ending song, continuous
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 60
Incidence: 6

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1277
Date: 1960s-2006
Title: She sells seashells
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Tongue twister
Rhyme:

She sells seashells by the seashore.
The shells that she sells are seashells, I'm sure.
If she sells seashells on the sea shore,
Whose are the seashells she sells?

(Christchurch, 1960s x 2; Auckland, 2006)

--

She sells seashells by the sea shore,
Six shining sea shells she has sold.

Let's hope she sells some more.

(NZ, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Mary Anning, a fossil hunter, early 1800s, is believed to be the source of the seashell rhyme. She would collect and sell fossils to museums in Great Britain.

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 4

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1278
Date: 2006
Title: 2, 4, 6, 8
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Txt language
Rhyme:

2, 4, 6, 8, feeling horny can't wait,
3, 5, 7, 9, want ur body next to mine.
a, b, c, d, come and lay on top of me,
u, v, w, x, txt me when u want some sex.

(NZ, 2006)

--

Keywords: bawdy, teenage culture, modern culture, txt language
Location: NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1279
Date: 2006
Title: If a kiss
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Txt language
Rhyme:

If a kiss was a raindrop id send u showers
If a hug was a second id send u hours

If a smile was water id send u da c
If luv was a person id send u me Xox.

(NZ, 2006)

--

Keywords: love
Location: NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1280
Date: 2000
Title: Red sky
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Half belief
Rhyme:

Red sky at night,
Shepherd's delight.
Red sky in the morning,
Shepherd's warning.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Red sky at night,
Shepherd's delight.
Sheep drowned in the morning,
Global warming.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Background Info: Related to traditional wisdom which can be traced to a biblical quote from Matthew 16:2-3: "He answered and said unto them, When it is evening, ye say, It will be fair weather; for the sky is red. And in the morning it, It will be foul weather today; for the sky is red and lowering. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but ye cannot discern the signs of the times?"

--

In the UK the words relate to shepherds, while in USA the words are of significance to sailors.

--

Keywords: environmental issues, half belief

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 2

Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1281

Date: 1940s-2006

Title: Rain, rain, go away

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Half belief

Rhyme:

Rain, rain go away,
Come again another day.

(Christchurch, 1990s x 2; Auckland, 2001; Methven, 2001; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Rain, rain go away,
Come back another day.
We all want to go out and play.

(Tauranga, 2000; Timaru, 2000)

--

Rain, rain go away,
Come again another day.
Rain, rain, go away,
Let the children out to play.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Rain, rain go away,
Come on mother's washing days!

(NZ ex UK, 1940s)

--

Background Info: James Howell, 1659, Proverbs, "Raine, raine, goe to Spain: faire weather come againe".

Strattis (409-375 BC) chants translated as "Come forth, beloved sun".
Aubrey, 1687, "Raine, raine goe away, come againe a Saterdag."
(Opie, 2000:158)

--

Opie, 1992:361, for nursery rhyme background including details of variations such as:

Rain, rain, go to Spain,
Never show your face again.

Rain on the green grass, and rain on the tree,
And rain on the house top, but not on me.

Rain, rain, come down and pour,
Then you'll only last an hour.

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 9

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1282
Date: 1999
Title: Running down the road
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Running down the road,
Knocking on the door,
Fuck, damn, son of a bitch,
Couldn't find a whore.
Finally found a whore,
She was tall and thin,
Fuck, damn son of a bitch,
Couldn't get it in.
Finally got it in,
Wiggled it around,
Fuck, damn, son of a bitch,
Couldn't get it out.
Finally got it out,
It was red and sore,
The moral of the story is,
Never fuck a whore.

(Darfield, 1999)

--

Background Info: Shouted at school sports' event!

--

Location: Christchurch

Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1283

Date: 1947 - 2001

Title: Red, white and blue

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Counting-out

Rhyme:

Red, white and blue,
The cat's got the flu,
The dog's got the chicken pox,
And out goes you!

(Christchurch, 2001)

--

Red, white and blue,
You dirty kangaroo.
You sat on a lamp post, (sitting on a monkey's hat)
Doing number two.

(Rotorua, 1970s; Wellington, 1970s)

--

Red, white and blue,
You dirty kangaroo.
Went behind the dustbin,
To do his number two.

(NZ ex UK, 1947)

--

Chicken's got the chicken pox,
Cow's got the measles,

Go around in circles,
1,2, 3, OUT.

(Wellington, 2001)

--

Background Info: Turner, 1978:88 records many variations of this rhyme including:

Red, white and blue,
You dirty cockatoo,
Sitting on the lamp-post,
Doing number two.

(Victoria, 1935-1973)

Red, white and blue,
the boys love you,
They took you to the pictures,
And undressed you.

(Victoria, 1960s)

--

Keywords: bawdy, scatological
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1284
Date: 1980s-2000
Title: Racing driver no. 9
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Racing driver, number nine,
Losing petrol all the time.
Which petrol station did you choose?
BP

B-P
Racing driver, number nine,
Losing petrol all the time.
Which petrol station did you choose?
Mobil

Mo-bil
Racing driver, number nine,

Losing petrol all the time.
Which petrol station did you choose?
Shell,
Sh-ell.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Racing car, number nine,
Losing petrol,
Gallons all the time.

(Hamilton, 1980s)

--

Background Info: Also used as counting-out with players eliminated when they make a mistake.

--

Keywords: commercial products, NZ culture
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1286
Date: 1994
Title: Racing car
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Racing car, number 57,
Had a crash and went to heaven.
How many angels did he see?
12 (any number called)
1, 2, 3, 4,..12..

(Ashburton, 1994)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 3
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1287
Date: 2000
Title: Rock a bye baby
Gender: Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Rock a bye baby on the tree top,
When the cot drops the baby will fall,
Wah, wah, wah,
Another cot death.

(Nelson, 2000)

--

Keywords: death
Location: Nelson
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1288
Date: 1970s
Title: Root her standing
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Root her standing,
Root her lying,
If she had wings,
I'd root her flying.
Now she's gone,
But not forgotten,
Dig her up and root her rotten.

(Wellington, 1970s)

--

Location: Wellington
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1289
Date: 1937
Title: Roll along Mrs Simpson
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Political
Rhyme:

Roll along, Mrs Simpson, roll along.
You thought you'd be Queen, but you're wrong.
You've been married twice already,
Now you've stolen our old Teddy,
Roll along, Mrs Simpson, roll along.

(Wellington, 1937)

--

Keywords: political
Location: Wellington
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1290
Date: 2001
Title: See, see, see, Macarena
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

See, see, see Macarena,
Got to rock to the rhythm, all day long.
And the Mamma and the Papa, them sing a song.
We can play it for you,
I've got to rock, rock, rock-a-rock.
I've got to rock, rock, rock-a-rock.

(Auckland, 2001)

--

Location: Auckland
Group size: 8
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1291
Date: 2000-2006

Title: Sitting on the dunny
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Sitting on the dunny,
Eating bread and honey,
Waiting for my mummy,
To wipe my little bummy.

(Nelson, 2000; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Location: Nelson
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1292
Date: 2001
Title: See ya!
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

See ya, see ya,
Wouldn't want to be ya.

(Waimate, 2001)

--

Location: Waimate
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1293
Date: 1998
Title: Once upon a time
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Once upon a time, the birds ate lime,
The monkeys chewed tobacco.
The man went past, with a shovel up his arse,

To see how far the wind blew.

(Ashburton, 1998)

--

Background Info: Turner, 1978:124:

Once upon a time,
Birds ate lime.
Monkeys chewed tobacco;
A pig ran by
With a finger in his eye
To see what was a-matter.

--

Opie, 1967:22:

Once upon a time, when birds ate lime,
And monkeys chewed tobacco.
The pigs took snuff to make them tough,
And that's the end of the matter.

--

Keywords: bawdy, nonsense
Location: Ashburton
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1294
Date: 1920s-1970s
Title: One, two, three O'Leary
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Ball bouncing
Rhyme:

One, two, three O'Leary,
Four, five, six O'Leary,
Seven, eight, nine O'Leary,
Ten O'Leary over. (Bounce the ball)

(Hamilton, 1920s; Hamilton, 1950s; Lawrence, 1970s; Hamilton, 1970s)

--

One, two, three O'Leary,

I spy Wallace Spear,
Sitting on a bumdeleary,
Kissing Shirley Temple.

(NZ ex Scotland, 1940s)

--

One, two, three O'Learah
I saw Aunty Sarah,
Sitting on an umbrella,
Early in the morning.

(NZ ex UK, 1950s)

--

One, two, three, O'Leary,
I saw Sister Mary,
Outside the Canterbury
Eating mandarins.

(Auckland, 1940s)

--

1,2,3, O'Leary,
4,5,6, O'Leary,
7,8,9, O'Leary,
10, O'Leary,
Postman!

(Auckland, 1940s)

--

1, 2, 3, O'Leary
My balls down the airy.

(NZ ex UK, 1920s-1950s)

--

Background Info: Discussion in Opie, 1997:136-138.
Sung to a tune resembling "Dusty Bluebells". The action involved occurs with the word 'airy' and other rhyming variants, with the ball bouncer lifting up her leg and swinging it over the ball. Becomes almost like a dance with a skilful player. Ball can be bounced on the ground or against the wall.
Early English versions of the 1950s include:

1, 2, 3 alairy,
My ball's down the airy,
Don't forget to give it to Mary,
Early in the morning.

1, 2, 3 and a larry,
My husband's name is Harry,
If you think it's necessary,
Look it up in the dictionary.

--

Recorded by Turner, 1978:65, as being said while playing marbles. Sutton-Smith, 1959:87, recorded it as a ball-bouncing rhyme in the 1940s-1950s.

--

Opie, 1967:108 records the ball bouncing version of:

One two three, a-lairy,
My ball's down the airie,
Don't forget to give it to Mary,
Not to Charlie Chaplin.

(UK, 1940s -1950s)

And

One two three a-leary,
I saw Wallace Beery
Sitting on his bumbaleerie,
Kissing Shirley Temple.

(Edinburgh, c. 1940)

--

The word 'a-leary' used in some of the versions of this rhyme refers to lame-looking legs and really exists only in these rhymes today. Connections date back to the 1370 manuscript of Piers Plowman, with workers blaming 'crooked legs' for their idleness. (leggis a-lery) (Knapp, 1976:6)

--

Keywords: movie culture, political
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 9

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1295
Date: 1940s
Title: Down in the jungle
Gender: Female
Classification: Ball bouncing
Rhyme:

Down in the jungle,
Living in a tent,
Better than a pre-fab,
No rent.

(NZ ex UK, 1940s)

--

Location: NZ (ex UK)
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1296
Date: 1998
Title: One for a wish
Gender: Female
Classification: Half belief
Rhyme:

One for a wish,
Two for a kiss,
Three for a disappointment.
(Said in relation to sneezes)

(Christchurch, 1998)

--

Background Info: Variation in "Play and Folklore", Issue 7, 1984:4:

One for sorrow,
Two for joy,
Three for disappointment,
Four to meet your boy,
Five a letter,
Six something better,
Seven a miss,
Eight a kiss,
Nine a carriage,

Ten a marriage.

(Australia, 1943)

--

Keywords: half belief
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1297
Date: 1980s-2002
Title: 1, 2 miss a few
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

One, two, miss a few, (skip a few)
Ninety nine, one hundred.

(Auckland, 1980s; Auckland, 1990s; Kaitaia, 1990s; Rotorua, 2002)

--

One, two, Miss Spew,
Ninety nine, a hundred.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Background Info: Peter Opie commented that he had this rhyme in a manuscript collection written more than a century ago, which would date it back to pre- 1850s. (Cited in Turner, 1969:118)

--

Keywords: number
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1298
Date: 1900-1990s
Title: 1, 2, 3, 4

Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7,
All good children go to heaven.
Penny on the water,
Two pence on the sea,
Three pence on the railway,
And out goes she!

(NZ ex UK, 1930s; NZ ex UK, 1970s; Amberley, 1900 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:64))

--

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7,
All good children go to heaven.
When I die, you will cry,
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

1,2,3,4,5,6,7,
All good children go to Heaven.
Open the gate and let them in,
1,2,3,4,5,6,7.

(Amberley, 1900 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:64))

--

Background Info: Variations, Turner, 1978:6, also Sutton-Smith, 1959:64.

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7,
All good children go to heaven.
7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1,
All bad children suck their thumb.
(Australia, 1960s)

--

From USA, 1940s (Botkin, 1944:773)

1,2,3,4,5,6,7, All good children go to heaven.
1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8, All bad children have to wait.

--

Scottish versions from Gullen, 1950:35

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7,
All good children go to heaven;
When they die their sin's forgiven,
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7.

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7,
All good children go to heaven.
Penny on the water,
Two pence on the sea,
Three pence on the railway,
And out goes she!

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7,
All good folks go to heaven.
Peter and Paul,
Great and small,
You and me,
1, 2, 3,
Out goes he.

--

Reported by Dorothy Howard in her counting-out rhyme collection from Australia in 1950s as:

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7,
All good children go to heaven.
When you die, you will fly,
Like a tom cat (or swallow, or angel) in the sky.

(Darian-Smith, 2005:132)

--

Keywords: number, counting
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1437
Date: 2004
Title: Brow, brow, brink
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Brow, brow, brink,
Eye, eye, wink,
Mouth, mouth, merry,
Chin chopper, chin chopper,
Chew, chew, chew.

(Christchurch, 2004)

--

Background Info: Toddlers' hand game and song. (Personal informant)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1438
Date: 1950s
Title: Brothers and sisters
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Riddle
Rhyme:

Brothers and sisters have I none,
But this man's father is my father's son.

(NZ, 1950s)

--

Keywords: word play, riddle
Location: Tauranga
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1439
Date: 2000
Title: Baby, baby
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Baby, baby,
I'm a little baby,

Baby, baby,
Superbaby!

(Upper Hutt, 2000)

--

Background Info: Chanted while jumping between tyres in playground.

--

Location: Upper Hutt
Group size: 3
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1440
Date: 1970s
Title: Billy Bunter
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Billy Bunter had a boat.
What! Billy Bunter had a goat?
NO! Billy Bunter had a boat.
What! Billy Bunter couldn't float?
NO! Billy Bunter had a boat..

(Christchurch, 1970s)

--

Background Info: A continuous exchange with as many rhyming combinations as possible.

--

Keywords: continuous rhyme
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1441
Date: 2000
Title: I jie
Gender: Male

Classification: Nonsense
Rhyme:

I jie jick-a-lie,
Jick-a-lie bony,
Chom bom bony,
Walla walla wish bang,
Chinese cheese.

(Amberley, 2000)

--

Keywords: nonsense, Chinese
Location: Amberley
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1442
Date: 1990s
Title: I've got a golden ball
Gender: Female
Classification: Ball game
Rhyme:

I've got the golden ball,
I've got the golden ball,
Heigh-ho the derry-oh
I've got the golden ball.

(Greymouth, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Sung to the tune of "Farmer in the Dell".

--

Location: Greymouth
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1443
Date: 1990s
Title: Burp
Gender: Male

Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

If you burp the person who burps must say 'mackerel'. If a mate says it first then he can punch the offender until he names 5 fish.

If you fart, the person who farts must say 'safety'. If a mate says it first, then he can punch the offender until he names 5 breakfast cereals.

(Thames, 1990s)

--

Keywords: fart lore
Location: Thames
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1445
Date: 2002
Title: I want a cup of coffee
Gender: Female
Classification: Word Play
Rhyme:

I want a proper cup of coffee,
And a proper coffee cup.

(Whakatane, 2002)

--

Keywords: tongue twister
Location: Whakatane
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1446
Date: 2000
Title: I want my meat pie
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

I want my meat pie,
Cause it makes me really high!

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Keywords: modern culture, food

Location: Auckland

Group size: 4

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1447

Date: 1960s

Title: Four little angels

Gender: Female

Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

Four little angels dressed in white,
Tried to get to heaven on the end of a kite.
But the kite string broke,
So down they all fell,
They couldn't get to heaven
So they all went to ... (hell)
Three little angels.. (and so on)
Final verse ending:
She couldn't get to heaven
So she went to bed!

(Rotorua, 1980s)

--

Background Info: Similar to rhyme recorded by Schwartz, 1992:13

There was a fellow, his name was Jack,
He tried to get to Heaven in a Cadillac.
The Cadillac broke, down he fell,
Instead of heaven he went to..
Now don't get excited, don't lose your head,
Instead of Heaven, he went to bed.

--

Keywords: Girl Guide song, predictive

Location: Rotorua

Group size: 6

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1448
Date: 2001
Title: Fox, fox
Gender: Female
Classification: Word Play
Rhyme:

Fox, fox,
Fox, box,
Fix, fix,
Fix my Weet-bix.

(Tauranga, 2001)

--

Keywords: commercial product
Location: Tauranga
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1449
Date: 1998-2006
Title: Fire cracker
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Fire cracker, fire cracker,
Boom, boom, boom (repeat)

(Christchurch, 1998)

--

Fire cracker, fire cracker,
Boom, boom, boom (repeat)
The girls do a curtsey,
The boys do a bow,
The boys go kiss
And the girls go wow!

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Background Info: Turner, 1978:94, records version:

Fire cracker, fire cracker,
Boom, boom, boom,
The girls go wee,
And the boys go woo.

(Melbourne, 1973)

--

Fire cracker, fire cracker,
Boom, boom, boom,
Fire cracker, fire cracker,
Boom, boom, boom.
The boys have got the muscles,
The teacher's got the brains,
But the girls have got the sexy legs,
So they win the game.

(Factor, 1983:89)

--

Also version beginning:

Flintstones, Flintstones,
Yabba-dabba-do.
Flintstones, Flintstones,
Yabba-dabba-do.
Fred does the bow,
Wilma does the curtsey,
Pebble shows her knickers,
We all go, "Wow!"

("Play and Folklore", Issue 26, 1994:1)

--

Keywords: media connections
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1450
Date: 2004
Title: A flick and a kick
Gender: Male

Classification: Retort
Rhyme:

A flick and a kick for being so quick.

(Christchurch, 2004)

--

Background Info: Said in response to 'A pinch and a punch for the first of the month'.

--

Keywords: In response to getting the last word in.
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1451
Date: 1950s
Title: Found a peanut
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Found a peanut, found a peanut,
Found a peanut, last night.
Last night I found a peanut,
Found a peanut last night.
It was rotten, it was rotten,
It was rotten, last night,
Last night it was rotten,
It was rotten last night.
Ate it anyway..
Got a tummy ache..
Went to the hospital..
Died anyway..

(Invercargill, 1950s)

--

Background Info: Variation in Turner, 1978:114. A group singing game, in which the group divides into two parts and engages in seemingly endless dialogue. Sung to the tune of "Oh my darling, Clementine", an American western folk ballad (1884). Lines continue:

Found a peanut,
Where 'ja find it?
In the bathroom.
Found a peanut..

(Brisbane, c. 1940s)

--

Lowenstein, 1974:19 records:

Found a peanut, found a peanut,
Found a peanut, just now.
Where'd you find it?...
In the sewerage, in the sewerage..
Did you eat it?...
Yes I did..
What did it taste like?...
All gooey..

(Melbourne, 1973)

--

Keywords: repetitive rhyme, continuous
Location: Invercargill
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1452
Date: 1990s
Title: Flies are
Gender: Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Flies are a nuisance,
Bees are worse,
I saw an Indian,
Doing up his..
Flies are a nuisance.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Keywords: Circular rhyme
Location: Christchurch

Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1453
Date: 1995
Title: Girls, girls
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Girls, girls, have a lot of fun,
Here comes the lady with the blue jeans on.
She can do the wiggle, waggle,
She can do the splits.
I bet you five bucks,
She can't do this.
Close your eyes and count to ten,
1,2,3..

(Ashburton, 1995)

--

Background Info: Similar to "Apple on a stick" rhyme.

--

Location: Ashburton
Group size: 8
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1454
Date: 1900s-1990s
Title: Guy Fawkes
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Topical
Rhyme:

Guy Fawkes Guy,
Stick 'im up high,
Stick 'im on a lamp post,
And there let him die.
Christmas is coming,
The geese are getting fat.
Please put a penny in the old man's hat.
If you haven't got a penny,

A ha'penny will do,
If you haven't got a ha'penny,
God bless you.

(Christchurch, 1970s; Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Guy, Guy,
Stick him up high,
Stick him on a lamp post,
Then let him die.

(Lower Hutt, 1950s)

--

Please to remember the fifth of November,
The gunpowder treason and plot.
I see no reason why the gunpowder treason
Should ever be forgot.
Four and twenty barrels lain down below
To blow old England overflow,
Happy was the night,
Happy was the day,
See old Guy Fawkes going to his den,
With a dark lantern and a candle in his hand.
Get out, get out, you dirty ol' man,
Holla, holla boys, make the bells ring,
Holla, holla boys, God save the King,
A pound of cheese to choke him,
A bottle of beer to wash it down,
A jolly good fire to roast him.
Christmas is coming, the pigs are getting fat,
Please put a penny in the old man's hat.
If you haven't got a penny, a ha'penny will do,
If you haven't got a ha'penny, God bless you.

(Christchurch, 1920 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:44))

--

Guy Fawkes Guy,
Stick 'im up high,
Stick 'im on a lamp post,
And there let him die.
A penny for the guy,
A ha'penny will do.
If you haven't got a ha'penny,
You're a mingy Jew.

(1900s (Sutton-Smith, 1959:44))

--

Background Info: Guy Fawkes day was always celebrated from the time of British settlement, with both bonfires and fire crackers. Children made stuffed 'guys' in an attempt to entice money from adults. Rhymes often accompanied these activities:

Git up, good wives, and shake your feathers,
Dinna think that we are beggars,
Only bairnies come to play,
Git up and gi' us hog manay.

(Dunedin, 1875 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:43))

--

Many variations given in Opie, 1967:281-283.
Britain has celebrated November 5th with bonfires and Guy-burning since 1606, replacing the earlier tradition of bonfires on All Saints' Eve.
(Opie, 2000:156-157)

--

Keywords: occasional custom, racist, Jews
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 6

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1455
Date: 1940s-2006
Title: Gates
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Oral legislation
Rhyme:

Gates!

(Auckland, 1940s)

--

Pegs.

(Tinwald, Ashburton, 2006)

--

Shield.

(Tinwald, Ashburton, 2006)

--

Saved (by the bell).

(Tinwald, Ashburton, 2006)

--

Turn around, touch the ground,
Pegs not me.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Background Info: Used as a truce term to gain respite in a game like chasing. The most common truce term found through Bauer's research is 'pegs' (Bauer, 2003:87). Other terms common in NZ playgrounds include: pegged, pax, pags, pads and paxed. Prior to 1970, 'pax' was the most common term used. Bauer's research found the term 'gates' to be predominantly from the Auckland area. (Bauer, 2003:34).
Bauer. 2003:87-89.

--

Further details of truce terms in Bauer, 2002, Sect.14:1-35.

--

Keywords: truce term
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1456
Date: 1960s
Title: Gingernut
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Gingernut fell in a cup,
And frightened all the fishes.

Along came a shark
And gobbled him up,
And that was the end of poor Gingernut.

(Masterton, 1960s)

--

Keywords: nickname, tease
Location: Masterton
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1457
Date: 2002
Title: Glue, glue
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Glue, glue, everywhere,
Glue on the table,
Glue on the chair,
I hope I don't get glue in my hair.
Glue, glue, everywhere.

(Napier, 2002)

--

Location: Napier
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1458
Date: 2000
Title: Give me candy
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Give me candy, Mrs Mandy!

(Hamilton, 2000)

--

Background Info: Possibly associated with Halloween and trick or treat rituals.

--

Keywords: food
Location: Hamilton
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1459
Date: 1960s
Title: Hop marijanika
Gender: Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Hop marijanika,
Stroop in de panike,
Hat de popetjes dancen.

(Southland, 1960s)

--

Background Info: Sung at a Catholic school in Southland, to bait the teachers (nuns) by a group of Dutch immigrant children who did not feel accepted as part of the school.

"I believe we did this as everything else we tried to force them into accepting failed and we then decided to push our difference on them..As all children of immigrants we stood out, but because of our numbers we were able to band together."
Quote from Donna Watt, contributor of this rhyme.

Details and translation from Ria Cabout (Holland) Ref. "A Hundred Old Rhymes."

Hop marjanneke, stroop in het kanneke,
laat de poppetjes dansen,
eerst was er de Prins in t'land
en nu die kale Fransen.
Hop marjanneke, stroop in het kanneke,
hop marjanneke Jansen
Hij wiegt het kind, hij roert de pap
er laat zijn hondje dansen.

TRANSLATION:

Hop marjanneke, syrup in the can,
Let the puppets dance.
First the Prince was in the country,
And now those bald French.

Hop Marjanneke, syrup in the can,
He rocks the child, he stirs the porridge,
And lets his doggie dance.

--

The rhyme dates back to 1748-1806, the reign of Prince William V. Marjanneke was the French virgin Marianne, the puppets being the French soldiers. The Prince was Prince William, who eventually fled to England. This rhyme is anti-French and looks back to a time when the Prince still reigned.

--

Keywords: Dutch, immigrant, taunt, racism
Location: Southland
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1460
Date: 2001
Title: Hooper, glooper
Gender: Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Hooper, glooper,
Up a tree.
Do a sneeze,
And fall on me.

(Auckland, 2001)

--

Background Info: Used as a tease for unpopular or badly dressed children.

--

Keywords: tease,
Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1461
Date: 1900 -1970s
Title: A house to let

Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

A house to let,
Apply within,
When [X] goes out,
[Y] goes in.

(Auckland, 1970s)

--

House to let
Apply within,
[Jenny] go out,
And [Mary] jump in.

(Dunedin, 1900 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:73))

--

Background Info: Opie, 1967:12:

House to let, apply within,
Lady turned out for drinking gin.

(Northall, G F, "English Folk-Rhymes", 1892:306)

--

Opie, 2000:143 records versions:

House to let, enquire within,
Men turned out for drinking gin,
Smoking tobacco and pinching snuff.
Don't you think that's quite enough?

And from "The New Yorker", 1937:

Floor to let, inquire within;
Lady put out for drinking gin.
If she promises to drink no more,
Here's the key to her back door.

Further details and variants in Opie, 1997:275 -276.

--

Sutton-Smith, 1959:73, recorded variations including:

House to let, apply within,
People turned out for drinking gin.
Smoking pipes is a terrible sin,
So Annie runs out and Mary runs in.

(Wellington, 1900)

--

Variation in Turner, 1978:17:

House to let, apply within,
The ladies upstairs are drinking gin.
Drinking gin is a very bad thing,
So I must call my neighbour in.

(Melbourne, 1956)

--

Keywords: alcohol,
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 3
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1462
Date: 2001
Title: Hush a bye
Gender: Male
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Hush-a-bye kite,
On a kite tail.
When the wind blows
The kite will sail.
When the wind stops,
The kite tail will swoop,
Down will come kite tail,
Looping the loop.

(Gisborne, 2001)

--

Location: Gisborne
Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1463

Date: 1950s

Title: Here comes the doctor

Gender: Male

Classification: Topical rhyme

Rhyme:

Here comes the doctor,
Here comes the nurse,
Here comes the lady
With the alligator purse.

(NZ ex UK, 1950s)

--

Background Info: Reported as being said in slums of England. The lady with the alligator purse was said to be representative of social welfare. See also rhyme beginning "I had a little brother.." in this collection.

--

Location: NZ (ex UK)

Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1464

Date: 1970s

Title: Hokey pokey

Gender: Female

Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

Hokey pokey,
Penny a lump,
The more you eat,
The more you jump.

(Ashburton, 1970s)

--

Location: Ashburton

Group size: 3

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1465
Date: 1950s
Title: Hey there
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Hey there, ho there,
Ring the barber's bell.
If he doesn't like it,
Tell him to go to..
Hey there, ho there,
How about a lass,
Hey there, ho there,
What comes after this?

(NZ ex UK, 1950s)

--

Location: NZ (ex UK)
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1466
Date: 1960s
Title: Hope
Gender: Female
Classification: Autograph
Rhyme:

Hope
Diana was the child in me,
The one who cried, but couldn't be.
She touched the priceless jewels of time.
Reached out, beyond,
Turned and made them mine.

(Christchurch, 1960s)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1299

Date: 1983

Title: Oh come all ye Gremlins

Gender: Female

Classification: Parody

Rhyme:

Oh, come all ye Gremlins,
Joyful and triumphant,
Oh come ye, oh come ye,
To New Zealand.
Come and destroy us,
Hiding in our letterboxes,
Oh come let us destroy you,
Oh come let us destroy you,
Oh come let us destroy you,
Great and terrible Gremlins.

(Nelson, 1983)

--

Background Info: Based on Gremlins movie in 1980s and the carol "Oh Come All Ye Faithful".

--

Keywords: media culture, NZ culture

Location: Nelson

Group size: 9

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1300

Date: 1980s

Title: One, two Freddy's after you

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Parody

Rhyme:

One, two, Freddy's after you,
Three, four, lock the door,
Five, six, grab your crucifix,
Seven, eight, you're too late.
Nine, ten, he's got you again.

(NZ, 1980s)

--

Background Info: Skipping game referring to the movie "Nightmare on Elm Street" (1984), Freddy Kruger.

--

Keywords: media culture, movie
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1301
Date: 1998
Title: Oh give me a home
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Oh give me a home,
Where the prostitutes roam,
And AIDs is a common disease.
Where babies are born,
With a forty foot horn,
And their balls hang down to their knees.

(Christchurch, 1998)

--

Background Info: Sung to the tune of "Home, home on the Range".

--

Keywords: AIDs, modern culture, bawdy
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1302
Date: 2000
Title: Over my teeth
Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Over my teeth,
Over my tongue,
Look out stomach,
Here it comes!

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Background Info: Similar rhymes in Withers, 1948:198:

Through the teeth,
Past the gums,
Look out stomach,
Here it comes.

Lift the nozzle
To your muzzle,
And let it swizzle,
Down your guzzle.

--

Keywords: food, grace
Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1303
Date: 2003-2006
Title: Hit it
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

A, B, C, (1, 2, 3) hit it!
That's the way, ah ha ah ha,
I like it, ah ha ah ha,
That's the way, ah ha ah ha,
I like it, ah ha ah ha,
You got the moves,
I got the grooves,
Peace, love,
Hit it, dude.

(Timaru, 2003; Ashburton, 2003; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Keywords: parody
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1304
Date: 1980s-1990s
Title: Sausage dog
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Sausage dog,
Busy street,
Fast car,
Mince meat.

(Christchurch, 1980s; NZ, 1990s)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1305
Date: 1997
Title: There was a young man
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

There was a young man from Fiji,
Who tried to pee up a tree.
The tree was too high,
He peed in his eye,
And now the poor bugger can't see.

(Christchurch, 1997)

--

Keywords: bawdy, scatological, Pacific culture, limerick
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1306
Date: 2002-2006
Title: Turn around
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Turn around,
Touch the ground,
Bags not me.

(Nelson, 2002)

--

Turn around,
Touch the ground,
Pegs not me.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Background Info: An opting out rhyme after having been chosen for a particular role. Child turns in a circle on the spot, touches the ground and then her forehead with her thumb with the index and middle finger crossed.

--

Keywords: counting-out
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1307
Date: 1992
Title: Teddy ate the marmalade
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Teddy ate the marmalade,
Teddy ate the jam,
Teddy ate the sausage rolls,
Teddy ate the ham.
Teddy drank the lemonade
And all the ginger beer.
Teddy wondered what it was
That made him feel so queer.
Up came the marmalade,
Up came the jam,
Up came the sausage rolls,
Up came the ham.

(Ashburton, 1992)

--

Keywords: NZ culture, food
Location: Ashburton
Group size: 3
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1308
Date: 1880 -2006
Title: Two little dicky birds
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Two little dicky birds,
Sitting on a wall,
One named Peter,
One named Paul,
Along came Granny,
And shot them in the head,
Now you have two little dicky birds,
Dead, dead, dead!

(Te Aroha, 2003)

--

Two little dicky birds,
Sitting on a gun,
The farmer pulled the trigger,
And shot them up the bum.

(Christchurch, 2000; Auckland, 2000; Auckland, 2002)

--

Two little dicky birds sitting on a wall,
One named Peter, one named Paul,
Fly away Peter, fly away Paul,
Come back Peter, come back Paul.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Background Info: Sutton-Smith, 1959:133, recalls this rhyme as a hand game played with small pieces of paper stuck to a fingernail of each hand. The hands were placed on the edge of the table with the papered fingers on top. On the words "fly away", the finger was hidden behind the back. (Wellington, 1949) In the 1880s in Nelson the game was known as "Jack and Jill".

--

Originally the birds names were Jack and Gill. c. 1765. Opie, 1992:147:

There were two blackbirds
Sat upon a hill,
The one was nam'd Jack,
The other nam'd Gill;
Fly away Jack
Fly away Gill,
Come back Jack,
Come back Gill.

--

Similar version often chanted as part of a traditional street game known as "Kerb and Wall", involving a race between two players and the kerb and wall. (Opie, 1984:196-197)

Two little dicky birds
Sat upon a wall,
One named Peter,
The other named Paul.
Paul said to Peter,
Peter said to Paul
Let's have a game
At 'Kerb and Wall'.

--

Keywords: violence
Location: Various NZ

Group size: 2
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1309
Date: 1920s-2000
Title: Tell tale tit
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Tell tale tit
Your tongue will split.
(Christchurch, 2000; Whangarei, 1990)
And all the dogs in our town,
Shall have a little bit.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Tell tale tit
Your tongue will split,
All the little puppy dogs,
Will have a little bit.

(Blenheim, 1925; NZ ex UK, 1948; Thames, 1950s; Whangarei, 1950s; Blenheim, 1985;
Auckland, 1990s; Christchurch, 1990s; Thames, 1990s)

--

Tell tale tit,
Your mother can't knit.
Your father's in the rubbish bin,
Eating fish and chips.

(Wellington, 1970s)

--

Tell tale tit,
Yer mammy cannae knit,
Yer daddy cannae go to bed,
Without his dummy tit. (Scottish)

(Christchurch, 1950s; Gisborne, 1970s)

--

Tell tale tit, suck your mummy's tit,
All the little puppy dogs,
Shall have a little bit.

(Kaitaia, 1960s)

--

Tell tale tit.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Tell tale tit,
Your tongue will be slit,
And all the tigers in the town,
Will have a little bit.

(Waiuku, 2000)

--

Tell tale tit,
Your pants will split.

(Christchurch, 1990)

--

Background Info: Opie, 1978:189, records historical details of this rhyme as appearing in "Tommy Thumb's Pretty Song Book" in 1744 as the rhyme:
Spit cat spit / Your tongue shall be slit / And all the dogs in our town / Shall have a bit.

Other names recorded by Opie for a tell tale are: blabber mouth, a sly, a snitch, a squealer, a snake in the grass, a stoolie.

--

Sutton-Smith, 1959:97, also records this version of the rhyme:

Tell tale tit,
Your mother's in a fit,
Your father's in the washing tub,
Tell tale tit.

(NZ, 1920-1950)

--

From the Scottish website
www.glesga.ukpals.com/MemoryLane%20Songs.htm: (accessed 15 January, 2007)

Tell tale tit, yer mammy canny knit,
Yer daddy cannie go toe bed,
Without a dummy tit.

--

American versions from Knapp, 1976:61 include:

Tattletale, tattletale,
Stick your head in ginger ale.

Tattletale, tattle tale,
Hang your britches on a nail,
Hang them high, hang them low,
Hang them in a picture show.

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 16

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1310
Date: 1960s
Title: Ladies and gentlemen
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Ladies and gentlemen,
Take my advice,
Pull down your pants,
And skate on the ice.

(Wellington, 1960s; Ashburton, 1960s)

--

Ladies and gentlemen,
Listen to me.
Pull down your pants,
And do a wee.

(Wellington, 1960s)

--

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 2

Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1311

Date: 1940s

Title: I'm looking under

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Bawdy

Rhyme:

I'm looking under a two-legged wonder
That I under-looked before.
First comes the ankles and then comes the knees,
Then comes the knockers that swing in the breeze.
And there's no need explaining, the one remaining
Is something that I adore.
I'm looking under a two-legged wonder,
That I under-looked before.

(Collected as a recollection from Lioness meeting)

(Ashburton, 1940s)

--

Background Info: Alternative version:

I'm looking over my dead dog Rover
That I ran over with a mower.
One leg is missing, another is gone.
The third one is scattered all over the lawn.
There's no use explaining, the one remaining
Is stuck in the front screen door.
I'm looking over my dead dog Rover
That I ran over before.

(Versions from Bronner, 1988:103)

--

Location: NZ

Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1312

Date: 1950s-1960s

Title: 3,6,9

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Clapping

Rhyme:

3, 6, 9, the goose drank wine,
The monkey chewed tobacco,
On the street car line,
The line broke,
The monkey did choke,
And they all went to heaven
In a little row boat.

(Gisborne, 1950s; Auckland, 1960s)

--

Background Info: Also used as a counting-out chant. Included in the popular music hit by Shirley Ellis, "The Clapping Song" (1960s) along with the words "My mother told me".

--

Opie, 1988:449-450. Origins as a narrative rhyme in America in 1930s, beginning, "Once upon a time the goose drank wine".

--

Keywords: nonsense

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 2

Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1313

Date: 1940s

Title: You're crazy

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Taunt

Rhyme:

You're crazy, you're barmy,
Your mother's in the army,
Your father's in the navy,
And you're in the gravy.

(Gore, 1940s)

--

You're mad, you're barmy,
Your mother's in the army.
She wears red britches,
With khaki stitches,
You're mad, you're barmy.

(Wellington, 1940s)

--

You're mad, you're barmy,
Your mother's in the army.
She wears black britches,
With pink and white stitches.
(She wears brown britches,
With a hundred and twenty stitches.)
(NZ, 1930-1940 (Sutton-Smith, 1972:133))

--

Background Info: Similar to rhyme in Opie, 1967:179:

You're daft, you're potty, you're barmy,
You ought to join the army.
You got knocked out,
With a brussel sprout,
You're daft, you're potty, you're barmy.

(UK, c. 1950s)

--

Turner, 1978:101 has version:

You're mad, you're mad, you're barmy,
Your mother's in the army;
She wears calico britches
With red and white stitches.

(Victoria, 1940)

--

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 2

Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1314
Date: 2005
Title: Everyone wants
Gender: Female
Classification: Bawdy anagram
Rhyme:

Everyone wants a man who is
Attractive
Brave
Intelligent
Generous
Polite
Energetic
Non-alcoholic
Intellectual
Sincere

(NZ, 2005)

--

Keywords: anagram
Location: NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1315
Date: 2006
Title: U r
Gender: Female
Classification: Txt
Rhyme:

Ur 100% caring,
Ur 100% fun,
Ur 100% sweet,
Ur 100% nice and
Ur 100% stupid to believe it.

(NZ, 2006)

--

Keywords: txt language, guile

Location: NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1317
Date: 1880s-1980s
Title: Poor Sally sits a-weeping
Gender: Female
Classification: Circle game
Rhyme:

Poor Sally sits a-weeping, a-weeping, a-weeping,
Poor Sally sits a-weeping, upon the seashore.
Pray tell me what you're weeping for, weeping for..upon the seashore.
I'm weeping for my playmate, my playmate.. upon the seashore.
Pray tell me who your playmate is.. upon the seashore.
{X} is my playmate, my playmate..upon the seashore.
And now they are so happy.. upon the seashore.

(Invercargill, 1950s)

--

Sit down and kneel, while the grass is growing,
Stand up, stand up and face your true love.
You're married, you're married, I wish you joy.
Now's the time to kiss your boy.

(Napier, 1980s)

--

Poor Jenny is a-weeping, a-weeping, a-weeping,
Poor Jenny is a-weeping, on a bright summer's day.
Pray tell me why you're weeping,
On a bright summer's day.
I'm weeping for my true love, my true love, my true love,
I'm weeping for my true love on a bright summer's day.

(Porirua, 1960s)

--

Background Info: Based on a marriage circle game described by Sutton-Smith, 1959:14-17, "Pretty Little Girl of Mine." Also "Poor Sally is Weeping."

Now you are married we wish you joy,
First a girl and then a boy.

Seven years after, seven years to come,
Pray young couple, kiss and be done.
(Christchurch, 1880)

Other verses include:

Pray, what is she weeping for, weeping for?
She is weeping for a sweetheart.
Then pray stand up and choose one, choose one, choose one,
Then pray stand up and choose one, on a bright summer's day.
(Amberley, 1890)

And now you are married you must be good,
And help your wife to chop the wood,
Chop it fine and bring it in,
Kiss the one in the silver ring.

(Auckland, 1890s)

Now you are married I wish you joy,
First a girl and then a boy.
Seven years after a son and daughter,
Pray young couple kiss together.

(Taranaki, 1890s)

--

Also known as:

Sally, Sally Waters, sprinkle in the pan,
Rise Sally, rise Sally for a young man.
Look to the East, and look to the West,
Look to the very one that you love best.

(Dunedin, 1890s (Sutton-Smith, 1959:17))

--

Onwuchekwa, 2003:134 records a version from urban black America:

Little Sally Waters,
Sitting in a saucer,
Weeping and a-crying
For someone to come.
Rise Sally rise,
Wipe your teary eyes,
Put your hands upon your hips
And let your backbone slip,
Turn to the east Sally,
Turn to the west Sally,

Turn to the one that
You like best.

--

Played as a circle game by Afro-American girls, based on the rhyme "Little Sally Walker":

Rise, Sally, rise!
Wipe your weepin' eyes,
Put your hands on your hip
And let your backbone slip.
Ahhh! Shake it to the east,
Shake it to the west,
Shake it to the very one that you love the best.

(Gaunt, 2004:253)

"Girls graduate from ring games to hand clapping. Hand clapping games in some urban areas, are actually known as 'cheers' or 'scolds', and among some groups of girls these games have no specific name at all. Hand clapping games are played primarily by younger girls of generally the same age.." (Gaunt, 2004:253)

--

Discussion of this rhyme on website www.cocojams.com (accessed 15 January, 2007).

Includes this version from New Jersey, USA, 1950s:

Little Sally Ann
Sitting in the sand,
A- weepin' and a-cryin'
For a nice young man.
Rise, Sally, rise,
Wipe your weepin' eyes.
Now turn to the east,
And turn to the West,
And turn to the very one that you love best.

--

Keywords: romance, love, Afro-American, traditional game

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 5

Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1318

Date: 2000

Title: Some girls
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Some girls put on make up,
Some girls put on cream,
But [Mary], being rather thick,
Puts on margarine.

(Timaru, 2000)

--

Keywords: body image, commercial product
Location: NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1319
Date: 1970s
Title: A sigh
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

A sign is a whisper from the heart,
When it goes the other way, we call it a fart.

(Christchurch, 1970s)

--

Keywords: scatological, fart lore
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1320
Date: 2000
Title: Show off
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Show off, show off,

Turn around and blow off.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Keywords: fart lore

Location: NZ

Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1321

Date: 1950s

Title: Soldiers

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

Soldiers coming form the left,
Soldiers coming from the right,
Soldiers with stripes down their trousers.
(Said as wiping nose on sleeves)

(Auckland, 1950s)

--

Location: Auckland

Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1322

Date: 2004

Title: Skip, skip

Gender: Female

Classification: Skipping

Rhyme:

Skip, skip, try not to trip,
You might win the Lucky Dip,
If you skip,
And you don't trip,
Try to do a forward flip.

(Hamilton, 2004)

--

Keywords: commercial product
Location: Hamilton
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1323
Date: 2002
Title: Sausages and custard
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Sausages and custard, covered in mustard,
Pizza three days old,
Green deli ham in blackberry jam,
Stuck to the sides of my bowl.
They give me jelly on toast and last week's roast,
And a slimy ice cream cone.
All mixed in and slopped in a tin,
I think I'll find my bone!
They give me greasy old chips with mushroom dip,
And coleslaw on the side.
Curry and rice and coconut ice,
Makes me want to hide.
They give me pureed fruit through an old gumboot,
Makes me want to moan.
All mixed in and slopped in a tin,
I think I'll find my bone.

(Wellington, 2002)

--

Background Info: Sung in school assemblies as a song rather than as a playground rhyme.

--

Location: Wellington
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1324
Date: 1990s-2000

Title: Twinkle, twinkle
Gender: Male
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Twinkle, twinkle traffic light,
Standing on the corner bright.
When it's green, it's time to go.
When it's red it's stop, you know.
Twinkle, twinkle traffic light,
Standing on the corner bright.

(Gore, 2000)

--

Twinkle, twinkle traffic light,
On the corner shining bright,
Red means stop,
Green means go,
Yellow means go, but very slow.

(Auckland, 1990s)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1325
Date: 1998
Title: There was an old lady
Gender: Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

There was an old lady called Miss van Milligan,
She grew whiskers on her chinagin,
Mr Dobson came along and chewed them off agin,
Poor old Miss van Milligan, agin, agin.

(Wellington, 1998)

--

Background Info: Parody of the song "There was an old man called Michael Finnagin", relating to specific teachers at a school.

--

Location: Wellington
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1326
Date: 1999
Title: Two little monkeys
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Two little monkeys fighting in bed,
One fell out and donged his head.
The other called the doctor and the doctor said,
"That's what you get for fighting in bed."

(Gisborne, 1999)

--

Location: Gisborne
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1327
Date: 2000
Title: Ten cents
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Ten cents for half an hour,
In the bed or in the shower,
Make sure your dick is clean,
Rub it in some Vaseline.
I want my money back,
Because she's got a dirty crack.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Location: Christchurch

Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1328
Date: 2000
Title: Three ants
Gender: Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

There were three ants in a lady's pants.
One was smoking marijuana,
One was injecting heroin,
Q? What was the other one doing?
A. Sniffing crack!

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Keywords: drug culture, crude, scatological, joke
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1329
Date: 1996
Title: There was an old man
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

There was an old man and his name was Jed,
He had a lot of hair, but it wasn't on his head.
And the one day when he was shouting for some food,
Up out of the ground came [X] in the nude.
Nude, that is, clothes off,
The next thing you know they're a huffin' and a puffin'
Till their balls turn red..(unfinished)

(Wellington, 1996)

--

Background Info: Parody of the 1960s Beverley Hillbillies' theme song.

--

Keywords: bawdy, movie culture,
Location: Wellington
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1330
Date: 1990s-2000
Title: There was once a man from China,
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

There was once a man from China,
Who wasn't a very good climber.
He slipped on a rock,
And split his cock,
And now he has got a vagina.

Dannivirke, 1998; Timaru, 2000; Ashburton, 2006)

--

There once was a man from China.
Who thought he was a very good climber.
He slipped on a rock,
And cut off his cock,
And now has got a vagina.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Keywords: limerick, bawdy,
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 4

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1331
Date: 1997
Title: Twinkle Twink
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Twinkle, twinkle, little Twink,
I won't smell you 'cos you stink.
In a bottle shiny white.
Works amazing, what a delight.
Twinkle, twinkle, little Twink,
I won't smell you 'cos you stink.
If I smell you, I'll get high,
Only problem is I'd die!

(Te Aroha, 1997)

--

Background Info: Twink is a NZ correction fluid. Often used as a generic term.

--

Keywords: commercial product, drugs, NZ culture
Location: Te Aroha
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1332
Date: 1990s-2000
Title: Teacher, teacher
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Tease
Rhyme:

Teacher, teacher, don't be mean,
Give me a coin for the coffee machine.

(Hawarden, 1990s)

--

Teacher, teacher, don't be dumb,
Give me back my bubble gum.

(Hawarden, 1990s; Rotorua, 2000)

--

Teacher, teacher, don't be queer,
Tarzan's lost his underwear.

(Hawarden, 1990s)

--

Teacher, teacher, don't be mean,
Give me a dollar for the coke machine.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Opie, 1967:367, records a very early version of this rhyme:

Teacher, teacher, let me in,
My feet's cauld and my shoes are din [done]
If ye winna let me in,
I'll no come back in the efternin.

(Lanarkshire, 1900)

--

Turner, 1978:77, records versions from Melbourne:

Teacher, teacher, don't be dumb,
Give me back my bubble gum.
Teacher, teacher, I declare,
Tarzan lost his underwear.
Teacher, teacher, don't be mean,
Give us a dime for the coke machine.

If you don't I declare,
I'll rip off your underwear.

(Melbourne, 1973)

--

Marsh, 2001:92, records the version:

Teacher, teacher, don't be dumb,
Give me back my bubble gum.
Teacher, teacher, don't be mean.
Give me a coin for the coffee machine.
Teacher, teacher, I declare,
Tarzan lost his underwear.

(Australia, 1993)

--

Keywords: authority, commercial product, media culture, school

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1333
Date: 1990s-2000
Title: Tragedy
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Clapping, fun
Rhyme:

Tragedy, tragedy,
When you walk up town
And your pants fall down.

(Gisborne, 2000)

--

Tragedy,
When the toilet's gone,
And you can't hold on,
That's tragedy.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Keywords: scatological, bawdy
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1334
Date: 1950s-2006
Title: There's a party
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Counting-out, skipping
Rhyme:

There's a party down the corner.
Could you please, please come?
Bring your own cup 'n saucer,
And your own chewing gum.
What is your boyfriend's name?
[Bob] will be there

Blowing kisses in the air.
Spelling O. U. T.
Spells you are out.

(Christchurch, 2006)

--

Here's a party on the hill,
Do you want to come?
Yes,
Then bring a bottle of rum.
Can't afford it.
Then get lost.

(Fairlie, 2003)

--

There's a party on the hill,
If you want to come,
Bring your own toilet paper,
And your own smelly bum.
[X] will come with a sausage up her bum,
And it will not be me.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

There's a party on the top of the hill,
Would you like to come
With your own currant biscuit,
And your own currant bun?
Yes.
[X] will be there with funny knickers on,
Singing ey, ey ippy, ey, ey, ippy, ippy oh.

(NZ ex UK, 2000)

--

There's a party round the corner,
Would you like to come?
Bring your own pack of sweets,
And your own pack of gum,
What is your boyfriend's name?
[X] will be there, blowing kisses in the air.
Singing I love you.

(Arrowtown, 2006)

--

There's a toilet (party) up the hill,
Would you like to come?
Bring your own toilet paper,
And your own fat bum.

(Hamilton, 2000; Wairoa, 2002)

--

There's a party round the corner.
Will you please, please come?
Bring your own cup 'n saucer,
And your own chewing gum.
[X] will be there shooting peanuts in the air,
Singing I love [Y].

(Howick, 2006)

--

There's a party on the hill,
Will you come?
Yes.
Bring your own cup of tea and a bun.
Yes.
O.U.T. spells out.

(NZ ex UK, 1950s)

--

Background Info: Used as accounting-out rhyme when making a choice in a game situation.

Turner, 1978:10 records:

There's a party on the hill,
Would you like to come?
Bring your own cup and saucer
And your own cream bun.
Fat will be there
Kissing [X] on the chair,
O.U.T spells out.

(Melbourne, 1973)

There's a party on the hill,

Would you like to come?
Bring your own cup and saucer
And your own nice bun.
Who is your true love?
X will be there
With a ribbon in her hair.
O.U.T. spells out.

(Melbourne, 1973)

--

"Play and Folklore", Issue 27, 1994:8 records this questions and answer version:

There's a party on the hill,
Would you like to come?
Yes.
Bring a bottle of rum.
Can't afford it.
Then pack your bags and get lost! OK?
No.
Then who is your best friend?
She will come with her party dress on and have a very good time.
OR
She will come with a sausage up her bum, and not have a very good time!

--

Also from Opie, 1984:60, based on the singing game "Will you come to my wedding, will you come?" used as a counting-out rhyme:

There's a party on the hill, will you come?
Bring your own cup and saucer and a bun.
What's your sweetheart's name?
[Mary]
[Mary] will be there with a ribbon in her hair,
Will you come to my party, will you come?
(UK, 1940s-1950s)

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 3
Incidence: 9

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1335
Date: 1990

Title: There is a soldier
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

There is a soldier on the grass,
With a dagger up his arse.
Pick it out, pick it out,
Be a good Boy Scout.

(Tauranga, 1990)

--

Keywords: bawdy
Location: Tauranga
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1336
Date: 2002-2003
Title: Thank you very much
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Thank you very much
For your kind donation,
Gimme twenty bucks
Or I'll smash your face in.

(Taradale, 2002; Wellington, 2003; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Background Info: Sung as a parody of the Telethon theme song.

--

Keywords: violence, television, threat
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1337
Date: 1930s-1970s

Title: The wise old owl
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

The wise old owl lived in an oak,
The more he heard, the less he spoke,
The less he spoke, the more he heard.
Why can't we be more like that old bird?

(Christchurch, 1960s; Auckland, 1970s)

--

The wise old owl sat in an oak,
The more he saw the less he spoke,
The less he spoke the more he heard,
Why can't we all be like that wise old bird?

(NZ, 1930)

--

Background Info: Adult recollection. Not found prior to WWI. Quoted by American millionaire John D Rockefeller, 1915, when questioned about a War Loan. (Opie, 1992:340-341)
Often regarded as a moral nursery rhyme with the message that "Children should be seen, not heard".

--

Keywords: advice
Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1338
Date: 1960s
Title: What about the breezes
Gender: Male
Classification: Word Play
Rhyme:

What about the breezes,
That blows through the treezes,
And blows the chemises,
Right up past their kneezes.

(Rotorua, 1960s)

--

Background Info: Lowenstein, 1974:22 records:

Here's to the breezes
That blow through the treezes
And lifts the chemises
From old ladies kneezes
And shows us what prickles
And tickles and teases,
And gives us diseases
By Jesus!

(Melbourne, 1947)

--

Keywords: bawdy
Location: Rotorua
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1339
Date: 1970s
Title: War must cease
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Chant
Rhyme:

War must cease,
Or all life ceases.
Live in peace,
Or die in pieces.

(Auckland, 1970s)

--

Background Info: Used as an anti-war chant in 1970s.

--

Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1340

Date: 1950s-1990s

Title: While shepherds

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Parody

Rhyme:

While shepherds washed their socks by night,
All gathered by the fire,
An angel of the Lord came down,
And said, "God is a liar."

(NZ, 1970s)

--

While shepherds washed their socks by night
All seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down,
And they all had a Christmas bump.

(NZ ex UK, 1954)

--

While shepherds washed their socks by night,
All seated round the tub,
The angel of the Lord came down,
And gave them all a scrub.

(Gore, 1960s; Wellington, 1990s)

--

While shepherds washed their socks by night,
All seated round the tub,
A bar of Sunlight soap came down
And they began to scrub.

(Wellington, 1970s)

--

Background Info: Recorded in Turner, 1978:153:

While shepherds washed their socks by night,
All seated round the tub,
The angel of the Lord came down,

And gave them all a scrub.

(Melbourne, 1964)

--

Keywords: religion,
Location: Various NZ, UK
Group size: 2
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1341
Date: 1960s
Title: What do you do?
Gender: Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

What do you do when you want to go to the loo,
In an English country garden?
Pull down your pants and sterilize the ants,
In an English country garden.

(Christchurch, 1960s)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1342
Date: 1960s
Title: We all say
Gender: Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

We all say, you'll agree,
Jockey Juniors are for me.
With a hey ho, pull 'em down,
What do you see?
Two black balls and one stiffee!

(Christchurch, 1960s)

--

Keywords: commercial product, NZ culture
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1343
Date: 2000
Title: What you say
Gender: Male
Classification: Tease
Rhyme:

What you say is what you are,
No returns so ha, ha, ha!

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1344
Date: 1960s
Title: Willy went to Chile
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Willy went to Chile, with his little sister Lilly,
She'd a frock all pink and frilly,
He'd a small enamel billy.
They met their cousin Milly,
Who said, "Well you are silly,
To come all the way to Chile,
For the country here is hilly.
And you cannot gather blackberries at all."

(Auckland, 1960s)

--

Keywords: word play

Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1345
Date: 1970s
Title: We're going to Kentucky
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

We're going to Kentucky,
We're going to the fair,
To see a seniorita, with flowers in her hair.
So shake it baby, shake it,
Shake it if you can.
Shake it like a milkshake,
To find yourself a man.
Rumba to the bottom,
Rumba to the top,
Turn around and turn around,
Until you have to stop,
1, 2, 3, 4..

(Christchurch, 1970s)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 3
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1346
Date: 1960s
Title: When I awoke one morning
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

When I awoke one morning,
When all good things were born,
A sparrow perched upon my sill,
To welcome in the dawn.
It was spry and young and friendly,
And sweetly it did sing,
Sweet thoughts of joy and happiness

Into my heart did spring.
I smiled at the sparrow,
And leaning from my bed,
Gently closed the window,
And squashed its stupid head!

(Auckland, 1960s)

--

Keywords: violence,
Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1347
Date: 1960s
Title: When you grow up
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

When you grow up
And have children,
1, 2, 3,
One to do the dishes,
One to sweep the floor,
One to rock the cradle,
For if there's any more.

(Te Aroha, 1960s)

--

Location: Te Aroha
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1348
Date: 2003
Title: Would you like
Gender: Male
Classification: Word Play
Rhyme:

Would you like something to eat, Mrs Eight?

No thank you, I just ate!

(Christchurch, 2003)

--

Location: Christchurch

Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1349

Date: 1970s

Title: When you grow up

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Bawdy

Rhyme:

When you grow up and think you've got class,
Pull down your pants and smell your arse!
When you grow up and think you're sweet,
Take off your shoes and smell your feet.

(Gisborne, 1970s)

--

Keywords: taunt

Location: Gisborne

Group size: 2

Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1350

Date: 1940s

Title: When the Fuhrer

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Topical

Rhyme:

When the Fuhrer says, "We are der Master Race."
We'll sing, "Heil (blow a raspberry), Heil, (blow a raspberry)"
Right in the Fuhrer's face.
Not to love der Fuhrer is a great disgrace,
So sing, "Heil, (raspberry,) Heil (raspberry)"
Right in der Fuhrer's face.

(Wellington, 1940s)

--

Keywords: WW 2, war, Hitler,
Location: Wellington
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1351
Date: 2000
Title: When God was
Gender: Female
Classification: Tease
Rhyme:

When God was giving out brains,
You thought he was giving out free milkshakes,
So you asked for a thick one.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Background Info: Variations from Schwartz:1992:7:

When God gave out noses,
I thought he said 'roses',
So I asked for a big red one.
When he handed out legs,
I thought he said 'kegs',
So I asked for two big round ones.
When he gave out looks,
I thought he said 'books',
So I said I didn't want any.
When he handed out brains,
I thought he said 'trains',
And I missed mine.

--

Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1352
Date: 1990s-2000

Title: Well I never
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Well I never, did you ever,
See a monkey dressed in leather?
Leather eyes, leather nose,
Leather breeches to his toes.
Well I never, did you ever,
See a pig without a feather?

Well I never, did you ever,
See your mother, in the gutter,
Making butter (for her supper)?

(Greymouth, 1990s; Christchurch, 2000)

--

Background Info: Classified as "Stale Jokes and Stale News" by Opie, 1967:54.
Includes variations:

Well I never did you ever,
See a monkey dressed in leather?
Leather eyes, leather nose,
Leather breeches to his toes.

(Middlesex, 1950s)

Hif ye efer seen the like
O yer grannie oan a bike
And yer mither oan the handlebars?

(Luncarty, 1950s)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1353
Date: 2002
Title: We are the Martians
Gender: Male
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

We are the Martians,
We are the Martians,
The Butt-ugly Martians.

(Auckland, 2002)

--

Background Info: Sung to the tune, "We are the Champions", by Queen.

--

Location: Auckland
Group size: 3
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1354
Date: 2002
Title: We are the Boys' Brigade
Gender: Male
Classification: Graffiti
Rhyme:

We're the Boys' Brigade,
That's our name.
We can eat with tap and really, really rap.
And if you're in trouble,
And you need our aid,
Just call our name,
The Boys' Brigade,
The Boys' Brigade.

(Auckland, 2002)

--

Background Info: Seen as a piece of graffiti in Otara, Auckland.

--

Location: Auckland
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1355

Date: 2000
Title: Women glow,
Gender: Female
Classification: Oral legislation
Rhyme:

Women glow,
Men perspire,
Horses sweat.

(Northland, 2000)

--

Background Info: Comment made in response to father saying "I'm sweating..".
(Personal informant)

--

Location: Northland
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1356
Date: 2003-2006
Title: Who stole the cookie?
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun, skipping, clapping
Rhyme:

Who stole the cookies from the cookie jar?
[Erica] stole the cookie(s) from the cookie jar.
Who me?
Yes you.
Couldn't be!
Then who?
[Caitlin] stole the cookies from the cookie jar..(continues repeating)

(Auckland, 1968; Hokitika, 1970s; Christchurch, 1970s; Lower Hutt, 1998;
Christchurch, 2000; Whangarei, 2000; Te Atatu, 2002; Timaru, 2003; New Plymouth,
2004; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Background Info: American origins from early 1950s. Opie, 1988:448.

--

Onwuchekwa, 2003:127 records this beginning to the rhyme from urban black America:

1-2-3 and a zing, zing, zing,
Who stole the cookie from the cookie jar?
Number 1 stole the cookie from the cookie jar.
Who me, stole the cookie from the cookie jar?
Yes, you stole the cookie from the cookie jar.
Not I, stole the cookie from the cookie jar.
Then who stole the cookie from the cookie jar?
Number?...

(Each child has an assigned number before the game begins and must remember her number, not knowing when it will be called.)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 6
Incidence: 10

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1357
Date: 2000-2006
Title: Where's the sugar, sugar?
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Where's the sugar, sugar?
Where's the honey, honey?
Where's the tea, bag?

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Pass the honey, honey.
Pass the sugar, sugar.
Pass the tea, bag!

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Keywords: word play
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1358
Date: 1960s-1990
Title: Wolfie, wolfie
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Game
Rhyme:

Wolfie, wolfie, what's the time?
One o'clock, two o'clock..
It's supertime (dinner time!)

What's the time Mr Wolf?
One o'clock
What's the time Mr Wolf?
(repeated until six o'clock, then it's dinner time!)

(Rotorua 1960s; Dannevirke,1970s; Timaru, 1990)

--

Background Info: From Opie,1969:102-103:
One person, selected to be wolfie, faces the wall. Others try to move up to wolfie, taking a step each time and asking him the time. On the cry of 'supertime' the wolf chases the children, trying to catch one, who then becomes the new wolf.

--

Further details of this game can be found in Bauer, 2002, Sect.16:4-5.

--

Location: various Nz
Group size: 6
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1359
Date: 1990s
Title: Went to a party
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Went to a party at a county jail,
Ripped my balls on a rusty nail.
Went to the doctor,
The doctor said,
"Sorry, son, your nuts are dead."

(Waitakere, 1990s)

--

Location: Waitakere
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1360
Date: 1970s
Title: Why?
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Word Play
Rhyme:

Why?
Cos.
Cos lettuce.
Let us what?
Let us be joyful.

(Auckland, 1970s)

--

Background Info: Fun repartee used within a family when a child asks why, usually why they had been asked to do a particular task.

--

Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1361
Date: 2000
Title: We're off
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

We're off, we're off,
We're off in a motorcar,
Fifty bobbies are after us
And we don't know where we are.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Background Info: Said as walking along in a group at the Canterbury A&P show.
(Personal informant)

--

The same verse is recorded in Opie, 1967:297, in relation to a traveller's chant when off on holiday.

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 5
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1362
Date: 1990s
Title: Want to fight?
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Tease
Rhyme:

Want to fight? Marmite.
Bring it on, Tampon.
To the max, Tampax.
I'll push you in the gutter, peanut butter.

(Greymouth, 1990s)

--

Wanna fight? Marmite.
If you wish, jelly fish.
Bring it on, Tampon.

(Tauranga, 2000)

--

Wanna fight? Marmite.
Bring it on Tampon.
Wanna bash? Toe rash.
In the loo, shampoo.
In the gutter, peanut butter.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Wanna fight, Marmite?
Bring it on, ding, dong.

(Rotorua, 2002)

--

Wanna fight, Marmite?
Bring it on, Tampon,
Think you're tough, bum fluff?
Smack you over, pavalova.

(Howick, 2006)

--

Background Info: Used to show 'attitude.'

--

Keywords: commercial product, NZ culture, violence
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1363
Date: 1970s
Title: Where have all the flowers gone?
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Where have all the flowers gone?
Been killed by Round Up everyone.
When will he ever learn?
Or will he ever learn?

(NZ, 1970s)

--

Keywords: commercial product
Location: NZ

Group size: 5
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1364
Date: 2002
Title: The Warehouse
Gender: Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

The Warehouse, the Warehouse,
Where everyone gets the broken bits.

(Rotorua, 2002)

--

Keywords: commercial product, NZ culture
Location: Rotorua
Group size: 1
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1365
Date: 2001
Title: Walking down the road
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Walking down the road,
With a gun in my hand,
I say, "Hey, m... f...er,
I'm the pizza man."
Look up in the tree,
And what do I see?
A m..f..nigger, trying to piss on me.
I get some glass and shove it up his arse.
I've never seen a m... f.. run so fast!

(Te Awamutu, 2001)

--

Keywords: violence, gang culture
Location: Te Awamutu
Group size: 12

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1366

Date: 2000

Title: Weed is a plant

Gender: Female

Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

Weed is a plant that grows in the ground,
If God didn't want it, it wouldn't be around.
So tell all those people
Who don't want to get high,
To shut the fuck up, and give it a try.

(Nelson, 2000)

--

Keywords: drug culture, bawdy

Location: Nelson

Group size: 10

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1367

Date: 2004

Title: Ummpa, bumpa

Gender: Male

Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

Ummpa, bumpa, bambidydo,
I saw a kaka come from you.

(Paparaumu, 2004)

--

Keywords: Maori, nonsense

Location: Paraparaumu

Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1368

Date: 2000
Title: Up and down
Gender: Male
Classification: Game
Rhyme:

Up and down,
Touch your toes,
Turn around,
Pick your nose.

(Kaiapoi, 2000)

--

Background Info: Rhyme chanted while juggling balls.

--

Location: Kaiapoi
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1369
Date: 2000
Title: Up your bum
Gender: Male
Classification: Retort
Rhyme:

Up your bum,
Round the corner,
All the way to California.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1370
Date: 1940s-1970s
Title: Up on the mountain
Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Up on the mountain,
Green grew the grass,
Down came a billy goat,
Sliding on his - overcoat.

(Coromandel, 1940s; Christchurch, 1990)

--

There once was a billy goat,
Playing in the grass,
He went slipping down the hillside,
Sliding on his..
Don't be mistaken,
Don't be misled,
This little billy goat was sliding on his head.

(Taradale, 1970s; Porirua, 2000)

--

Background Info: Opie, 1967: 94 records a similar verse beginning:

Up in the mountains,
Lying in the grass,
I saw a Chinaman,
Sliding on his..
Ask no questions!

(UK, 1950s)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 4

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1371
Date: 1950s
Title: Up the long ladder,
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Partisan
Rhyme:

Up the long ladder,

Down the short rope,
To hell with King Billy,
And God bless the Pope.

(Coromandel, 1950s)

--

Location: Coromandel
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1372
Date: 1950s-2000
Title: Vote, vote
Gender: Female
Classification: Counting-out
Rhyme:

Vote, vote, vote for little [X,
In comes someone at the door.
[X] is the one with the ugly bum.
We don't need [X] anymore.

(Hamilton, 2000)

--

Vote, vote for [Susan Jones]
Charcoal!
[Susan] is a lady,
And she plays the ukulele
So we don't need [Susan] any more.
Shut the door.
Vote, vote for [Mary Smith].

(NZ ex UK, 1950s - skipping rhyme where named players move in and out of the long rope)

--

Background Info: Sung to the tune of the American Civil War song, "Tramp, tramp, tramp, the boys are marching", 1865. Opie, 1997:270 -272, includes many variants of this rhyme.

--

Onwuchekwa, 2003:123 records this version from urban black America:

Vote, vote, vote for [Donna,]
In comes Cookie at the door, door, door,
She's the only one that can have a lot of fun,
So we don't need [Donna] anymore.
Vote, vote, vote for Cookie,
In comes [Gloria] at the door, door, door,
She's the only one that can have a lot of fun,
So we don't need Cookie anymore.

--

Keywords: parody
Location: Hamilton
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1373
Date: 1940s-1990s
Title: We three kings
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

We three men from Orient are,
One in a tractor, one in a car.
One on a scooter, tooting his hooter,
Following yonder star.

(Owaka, 1980s; Papakura, 1990s)

--

We three Kings of Orient are,
One in a taxi, one in a car.
One on a scooter, honking his hooter,
Chasing a fallen star.

(Christchurch, 1970s; Rotorua, 1970s)

--

We three Kings of Orient are,
Tried to smoke a rubber cigar.
It was loaded, it exploded,
We three Kings of Orient.

(Dunedin, 1940s; Auckland, 1970)

--

We three Kings of Orient are,
Trying to smoke a rubber cigar.
It exploded, we reloaded,
Following yonder star.

(Christchurch, 1970s)

--

Background Info: Recorded by John Clark (Fred Dagg)

--

Interesting variations from Turner, 1978:133 include:

We three Kings from Harrington Square,
Selling ladies underwear,
So fantastic, no elastic,
Only eighty cents a pair.

(Melbourne, 1965)

We three Jews of Orient are,
Selling soap at two pence a bar,
Matches are seven pence,
Fags are eleven pence,
That's what the prices are.

(Melbourne, 1967)

--

Opie, 1967:88 mentions other Christmas carols that are parodied, including:
O' come all ye faithful;
Hark the herald angels (jelly babies) sing;
Good King Wenceslas.

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 7

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1374

Date: 2003-2006

Title: www dot
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

www dot,
www dot,
Getting warm, getting hot,
www dot.

(Lumsden, 2003)

--

www dot,
Warm, cold, getting hot,
www dot,
Somebody likes you, they like you a lot,
www dot.

(Christchurch, 2006)

--

Keywords: modern culture, computer,
Location: Lumsden
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1375
Date: 2004
Title: I'm going to the loo
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Bawdy, parody
Rhyme:

I'm going to the loo, loo, loo,
To do a big poo, poo, poo,
You can come too, too, too,
I'm going to the loo, loo, loo.

(Blenheim, 2004)

--

Background Info: Parody of the song, 'We're going to the zoo, zoo, zoo'.

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Blenheim
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1376
Date: 1980s
Title: Why are we waiting
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Why are we waiting?
We are suffocating.

(NZ ex UK, 1980s)

--

Location: NZ (ex UK)
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1377
Date: 1980s
Title: Food, glorious food
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Food, glorious food,
By the time it arrives,
Everyone would have fainted.

(NZ ex UK, 1980s)

--

Location: NZ (ex UK)
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1378

Date: 1990s
Title: When you're feeling hungry
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

When you're feeling hungry,
Make no mistake.
Only half a dollar more,
That's all it's gonna take.
Give yourself a break,
For your tummy's sake.
Dogs go wackos for smackos!

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Based on television advertisement. (Personal informant)

--

Keywords: media culture
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1379
Date: 1994
Title: Well
Gender: Male
Classification: Word Play
Rhyme:

Well.
A hole in the ground.
Well, well, well,
Three holes in the ground!

(Auckland, 1994)

--

Background Info: Used as a retort to the general remark or question "Well!?"

--

Location: Auckland

Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1380
Date: 2000
Title: We want a pitcher
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Partisan
Rhyme:

We want a pitcher,
Not a belly itcher.
We want a batter,
Not a belly scratcher.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Background Info: A form of team rallying and throwing down the gauntlet (plus response) of two opposing sports teams about to engage in battle.

--

Location: Auckland
Group size: 12
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1381
Date: 1990s-1994
Title: When I was one
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

When I was one I sucked my thumb,
Going out to sea,
I climbed aboard a pirate ship,
And the captain said to me,
"A bottle of rum, to fill my tum,
And that's the life for me."

When I was two, I buckled my shoe,
Going out to sea..

When I was three I climbed a tree, (I married Mary)

Going out to sea..

When I was four, I opened the door,
Going out to sea..

When I was five, I stole a hive,
Going out to sea..

When I was six, I picked up sticks,
Going out to sea..

When I was seven, I went to heaven,
Going out to sea..

When I was eight, I opened the gate,
Going out to sea..

When I was nine, I broke my spine,
Going out to sea..

When I was ten, I started again,
Going out to sea..

(Coromandel, 1990s; Auckland, 1994)

--

Auckland version chorus:

We're going north, south, east, west,
And up the Irish Sea,
A bottle of rum, to warm my tum,
Now that's the life for me!

--

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 6

Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1382

Date: 1960s-1980

Title: Why was he born

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

Why was he born so beautiful?

Why was he born at all?
He's no bloody use to anyone,
He's no bloody use at all.

(Rotorua, 1960s)

--

Why was she born so beautiful?
Why was she born at all?
She's no bloody use to anyone.
She's no bloody use at all.

(Mt Maunganui, 1980)

--

Background Info: Often sung at birthday parties.

--

Keywords: occasional rhyme
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1383
Date: 2000
Title: When I die
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

When I die, bury me,
And hang my nuts up a cherry tree,
When they're ripe, take a bite.
Don't blame me when you fart all night.

(Taradale, 2000)

--

Keywords: scatological, fart lore
Location: Taradale
Group size: 3
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1384
Date: 2003
Title: Who put the overalls
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun, parody
Rhyme:

Who put the overalls in Mrs Murphy's chowder?
Nobody answered so she said it all the louder..
Who put the overalls in Mrs Murphy's chowder?

(Dunedin, 2003)

--

Background Info: Based on the chorus of a comic Irish song.

--

Location: Dunedin
Group size: 15
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1385
Date: 2000
Title: Why is everybody
Gender: Female
Classification: Tease
Rhyme:

Why is everybody always picking on me?
Because you haven't cleaned your teeth since 1983.
Why is everybody always picking on me?
Because you run like a girl, and sit down to pee.

(Hamilton, 2000)

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Hamilton
Group size: 5
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1386

Date: 2000
Title: We hate our sisters
Gender: Male
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

We hate our sisters,
We hate our sisters,
Fatae, fatae, sisters, fatae, fatae sisters,
If they cannot hear us,
We'll shout a little louder,
2,4,6,8, who don't we appreciate?
Our sisters!

(Hamilton, 2000)

--

Background Info: Chanted by a gang of boys in the playground.

--

Keywords: partisan
Location: Hamilton
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1387
Date: 1990
Title: When you laugh
Gender: Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

When you laugh,
The world laughs with you,
When you fart, you stand alone.

(Christchurch, 1990)

--

Keywords: bawdy, scatological, fart lore
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1389
Date: 1990s
Title: Ci, ci Sionara
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Ci, ci Sinonara,
My sister Belinda,
She pissed out the window,
And ruined my brand new sombrero!

(Auckland, 1990s)

--

Keywords: Mexican, scatological
Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1533
Date: 1967
Title: Fatty, Fatty
Gender: Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Fatty, fatty, broomsticks.

(Auckland, 1967)

--

Background Info: Used as a playground insult.

--

Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1534
Date: 1968
Title: I saw a horse

Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

I saw a horse,
Eating gorse,
Halfway round the racecourse.

(Auckland, 1968)

--

Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1535
Date: 1973
Title: Married in red
Gender: Female
Classification: Half belief
Rhyme:

Get married in red,
And you'd rather be dead.
Get married in green,
And you'll never be seen.

(Auckland, 1973)

--

Background Info: Based on the wedding lore verse:

Married in white, you have chosen all right.
Married in green, ashamed to be seen.
Married in red, you will wish yourself dead.
Married in blue, you will always be true.
Married in yellow, ashamed of your fellow.
Married in black, you will wish yourself back.
Married in pink, of you he'll think.
From www.snopes.com/weddings/customs/dress.asp
(accessed 15 January, 2007)

--

Keywords: marriage
Location: Auckland

Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1536
Date: 1995
Title: Crispie, crunchie
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Crispie, crunchie,
Munchie, scrunchie,
Corny, popsy,
Cleasy, cheesy,
Yum, yum,
Twisties are for me.

(Dunedin, 1995)

--

Keywords: nonsense, word play, commercial product, NZ
Location: Dunedin
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1537
Date: 1970s
Title: Ziggy, ziggy
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: School chant
Rhyme:

Ziggy, Ziggy, Ziggy,
Oi, oi, oi,
Ziggy oi,
Ziggy, oi,
Ziggy, Ziggy, Ziggy,
Oi, oi, oi.

(Auckland, 1970s)

--

Background Info: Based on the Australian patriotic chant "Aussie, Aussie, Aussie, oi, oi, oi".

--

Keywords: partisan
Location: Auckland
Group size: 10
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1538
Date: 1990s
Title: Zucchinis
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Zucchinis in bikinis,
Are coming down the stairs.
Green beans in blue jeans,
Are coming down the stairs.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Sung to the tune of "Bananas in Pyjamas".

--

Keywords: media, television
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1539
Date: 1995
Title: Savalivali
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Action
Rhyme:

Savalivali means go for a walk,
Tautalatala means too much talk.
Alofa ia te oe means I love you.
Take it easy, faifailemu.

(Auckland, 1995)

--

Background Info: Samoan game played in a circle with appropriate hand movements.

--

Keywords: Samoan, NZ culture, Pacific
Location: Auckland
Group size: 5
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1540
Date: 1995
Title: Loloto, lautele
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Action
Rhyme:

Loloto lautele, loloto, lautele,
Le puna vai au tafe mai
Ua tafe mai
Loloto lautele, loloto lautele,
Le puna vai ua tafe mai.

Deep and wide, deep and wide.
There's a fountain flowing deep and wide.
Deep and wide, deep and wide,
Deep and wide,
There's a fountain flowing deep and wide.

(Auckland, 1995)

--

Background Info: Samoan action song sung by children in a circle.

--

Keywords: Samoa, NZ culture, Pacific
Location: Auckland
Group size: 5
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1541
Date: 1990

Title: Huti a taliga
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Action
Rhyme:

Huti a taliga,
Huti a taliga,
Ula hina,
Ula hina.

Pulling your ears,
Pulling your ears,
Grey hair,
Grey hair.

(Auckland, 1990)

--

Background Info: Tokelauan action song.

--

Keywords: Tokelau, NZ culture, Pacific
Location: Auckland
Group size: 5
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1542
Date: 1990
Title: Langa toi kumi toi
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Game
Rhyme:

Langa toi, kumi toi,
Ofa pa keu iloi,
Ae tama oku toi,
I he lalo moho koi
Alu koe o toi.

Hide and seek,
Wish I could find,
This one who hides,
Under the mohokoi tree,
You go and hide.

(Auckland, 1990)

--

Background Info: Tongan hide and seek verse chanted in a monotone. Players form a circle and the leader points to a different member of group with each syllable. The person who is pointed to on the last syllable of the verse must leave the circle and go and hide. This continues around the circle until there is only one person left, who consequently becomes the seeker for the game.

--

Keywords: Tonga, NZ culture, Pacific, hide and seek

Location: Auckland

Group size: 5

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1543

Date: 1990

Title: E fanga kuma

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Action

Rhyme:

E fanga kuma. E fanga kuma,
Mou lele ki fe?
O kai e ma ae patele,
Ke osi osinga malie.

Rats, rats,
Where are you running to?
We are running there,
To eat the priest's bread,
Until finished.

(Auckland, 1990)

--

Background Info: A Tongan circle game/dance involving children moving clockwise on the first verse, then anti-clockwise when the verse is repeated, continuing on until the circle breaks. (Personal informant)

--

Keywords: Tonga, NZ culture, Pacific

Location: Auckland

Group size: 5

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1544
Date: 2001
Title: Tip top tall
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Tip top tall,
Tip top tall,
Timmy I
Timmy A
Timmy tip top tall.

(Mangakino, 2001)

--

Location: Mangakino
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1545
Date: 1920
Title: Bell Horses
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Game
Rhyme:

Bell horses, bell horses,
What time of day?
One o'clock, two o'clock,
Three and away.

(Hawkes Bay, 1920, cited in Sutton-Smith, 1959:12)

--

Background Info: A unison circle game involving children joining hands in a circle and 'galloping round'. On the word 'away', children would fling loose their hands and run off in all directions. (Sutton-Smith, 1959:12)

--

Recorded in Gullen, 1950:55. Additional verses:

Bell horses, bell horses,
What time of day?
Two o'clock, three o'clock,
Four and away.

Bell horses, bell horses,
What time of day?
Five o'clock, six o'clock,
Seven and away.

--

Location: Hawkes Bay
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1546
Date: 1875
Title: Oka ball Day
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Game
Rhyme:

Oka Ball Day,
The twenty-seventh of May,
If we don't get a holiday,
We'll all run away.

(Christchurch, 1875)

--

Background Info: Circle dancing game described by Sutton-Smith, 1959:12, as being played as a ring game similar to ring-a-rosies.

--

Keywords: traditional game
Location: Chritschurch
Group size: 5
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1547
Date: 1870s -1904
Title: Here we come Lubyloo
Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Action game

Rhyme:

Here we come lubyloo,
Here we come lubylyay,
Here we come lubyloo,
All on a summer's day.

(Auckland, 1870; Christchurch, 1904)

--

Background Info: Sutton-Smith, 1959:13. The game is described as a circle game where children all start facing inwards; with each round, a player faces out until the whole group ends up facing outwards.

The second verse follows with the individual player performing the actions as described:

Shake your right hand a little,
Shake your left hand a little,
Shake your right foot a little,
And turn you round about.

Also played in early 1900s was:

Baloo baloo balight,
All on a Saturday night.
Put your right hand in,
Put your right hand out,
Shake it a little a little,
And turn right about.

--

Known as Hoki Toki in 1940s dance halls, and performed by adults and still current today (Personal informant)

--

Recorded by Opie, 1985:391-2 as perhaps the most enduring circle game. Known as the "Okey Kokey". Performed by both adults and children, accompanied by much hilarity.

--

Also recorded by Halliwell, 1970:117.

--

The Irish version from Belfast, 1974 begins:

Here we go loobity loo
Here we go loobity lie
Here we go loobity loo
All on a Saturday night..

(Butler, 1989:193)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 5
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1548
Date: 1885
Title: Jenny Jones
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Game
Rhyme:

We've come to see Jenny Jones, Jenny Jones,
How is she now, how is she now?
Jenny Jones is ill in bed,
Can't see her now.

What shall we dress her in, dress her in?
Shall it be blue, shall it be blue?
No, blue's for the sailors, the sailors,
That will not do.

Continues on with red for the soldiers, black for the mourners and ends with:

What shall we dress her in, dress her in?
Shall it be white, shall it be white?
Yes, white's for the dead people, dead people,
And that will just do.

(Nelson, 1885 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:18))

--

Jenny Jones is dead and gone,
Jenny Jones is dead and gone.
Everyone comes to see Jenny Jones,
But Jenny Jones is dead and gone.

(Wellington, 1890 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:18))

--

Background Info: A circle game including elements of marriage and burial. Players in a circle and at the appropriate time the chosen one faces outwards, signifying death.

--

Detailed description in Opie,1985:254.

Version given begins:

"We've come to court Jinny Jo.. Is she within?"

with similar discussions of the colour she should be buried in

--

Scottish version recorded in Gullen, 1950:62-63 relates the first verses to telling of the time and associated tasks, prior to her death:

We've come to see poor Jenny Jones (x 3)

How is she today?

Poor Jenny is washing, washing, washing,

Poor Jenny is washing, washing hard today.

What time can we see her?

At one o'clock.

Poor Jenny is starching.

When can we see her?

At two o'clock.

Poor Jenny is ironing..

Poor Jenny is poorly..

Poor Jenny is dying.

Poor Jenny is dead..

You can't see her today.

What colour will you have for the funeral of Poor Jenny Jones?

Red (for the soldiers)

Blue (for the sailors)

Pink (for the babies)

White (for a wedding)

Black (for the mourners, and that will do)

--

Keywords: marriage, death

Location: Nelson

Group size: 5

Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1549

Date: 1900

Title: Wallflowers
Gender: Female
Classification: Game
Rhyme:

Wallflowers, wallflowers,
Growing up so high.
And all the pretty maidens,
Have got to die.
Except (Mary),
For she's the fairest flower.
For she can dance and she can sing,
And she can turn round in a ring.

(Palmerston North, 1900 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:18))

--

Background Info: Detailed description in Opie, 1988:244.
The final 2 lines differ from above version with:

Fie for shame, fie for shame,
Turn your back on the wall again.

--

Opie, 1988:143-145 records an alternative version:

Wallflowers, wallflowers, growing up so high,
All young ladies they are sure to die;
Except [X] she shall live,
Turn your back against the wall,
And tell me who your sweetheart is.
[Y] is a nice young man,
He came to the door with his hat in his hand;
He took off his glove and he showed her the ring,
Tomorrow, tomorrow, the wedding will begin.

(Opie compares this rhyme to "Green Gravel".)

--

From Toronto, Canada, 1976:

Wallflower, wallflower,
Growing up so high.
All the little children,
Are all going to die.
All except for [X]
She's the only one.

She can dance,
She can sing,
She can show her wedding ring.

(Butler, 1989:183)

--

Keywords: courtship
Location: Palmerston North
Group size: 5
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1550
Date: 1900
Title: In and out the Windows
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Chain game
Rhyme:

In and out the windows,
In and out the windows,
In and out the windows,
As we have done before.

Round and round the village (x 3)
As we have done before.

Go and face your lover (x 3)
As we have done before.

Follow her to London (x 3)
As we have done before.

(Moeraki, 1900 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:23))

--

Background Info: Detailed description in Opie, 1988:360- 364.
Additional verses include:

Shake hands before you leave her (x 3)
As you have done before.

I kneel because I love you (x 3)
For we have won the day.

I measure how much I love you (x 3)

For we have won the day.

My ma won't let me marry (x 3)
Until I am twenty four.

--

Compare with rhymes beginning; In and out the dusty bluebells, Follow me to London,
Round and round the village. (Sutton-Smith, 1959:23)

--

Keywords: marriage, courtship
Location: Moeraki
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1551
Date: 1911
Title: Apple pip
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Half belief
Rhyme:

Apple pip, apple pip,
Fly over my head.
Bring me another apple,
Before I go to bed.

(Blenheim, 1911 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:42))

--

Background Info: A rhyme said while twisting the stem of an apple, in the hope of
getting another apple.

--

Location: Blenheim
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1552
Date: 1890
Title: Navy, navy, nick
Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

Navy, navy, nick, nack,
Whit hand will ye tak?
Tak the right or tak the wrong,
And I'll beguile yee if I can.

(Amberley, 1890 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:42))

--

Background Info: A fun chant said by a child wanting to give something away and hiding it behind his/her back.

--

Keywords: archaic language

Location: Amberley

Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1553

Date: 1900

Title: May I go out to swim?

Gender: Female

Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

Mother, mother, may I go out to swim?
Yes, my darling daughter.
Hang your clothes on the gooseberry bush,
And don't go near the water.

(Palmerston North, 1900 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:43))

--

Background Info: Opie, 195:314-5:

Mother, may I go and bathe?
Yes, my darling daughter.
Hang your clothes on yonder tree, (hickory limb)
But don't go near the water.

More commonly known in America than in England and may have been the inspiration for the song, "Mother, may I go dancing?".

--

From Withers, 1948:23 as a companion to the above rhyme:

"Father, may I go to war?"
"Yes you may, my son,
But wear your woollen underwear,
And don't shoot off your gun."

--

Keywords: word play, war
Location: Palmerston North
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1554
Date: 1900
Title: Down in the duck pond
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Down in the duck pond,
Learning how to swim.
First he does the over arm,
Then he does the slide,
Now he's under water,
Swimming against the tide.

(Palmerston North, 1900 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:43))

--

Background Info: Lowenstein, 1974:34 records this variation: (Tune - Soldier's Chorus, Faust)

Oh Jemimah, look at your Uncle Jim,
Diving in the piss pot, teaching himself to swim,
First he's doing the breast stroke,
Now he's doing the side,
Now he's under water,
Swimming against the tide.

(West Victoria, 1930s)

--

Similar variations in Turner,1978:122-123.

--

Location: Palmerston North
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1555
Date: 1890
Title: Queen's Birthday
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Occasional Custom
Rhyme:

Hip hip hooray,
For the Queen's birthday,
On the twenty-fourth of May.

(Westland, 1890 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:43))

--

Hip, hip hooray,
For the Queen's birthday,
If you don't give us a holiday,
We'll all run away.

(Dunedin, 1890 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:43))

--

Background Info: Until the death of Queen Victoria, Queen's Birthday was always a holiday on 24th May.

--

Keywords: occasional rhyme
Location: Dunedin
Group size: 4
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1556
Date: 1900-1920
Title: April Fool
Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Half belief
Rhyme:

April Fool's day is past,
And you're the April Fool at last.
Four farthings make a penny,
And you're a bigger fool than any.

(NZ, 1900-1920. Used as a retort if a trick is played after the midday limit
(Sutton-Smith, 1959:44))

--

A duck in the pond,
A fish in the pool,
Whoever reads this
Is a big April Fool.

(NZ, 1900-1920 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:45))

--

Background Info: Opie, 1967:243-247, outlines a variety of April Fool's Day traditions. The trick of telling someone, 'Your shoelace is undone,' is universal. In Scotland it is known as 'Huntigowk Day', where the joke is that a person is sent on a hunt for something that, while it sounds plausible enough, doesn't actually exist, such as a left-handed screwdriver, a box of straight hooks, striped paint, smooth sandpaper.

--

Opie, 2000:147 records these rhymes:

Fool, fool, April Fool,
You learnt nought by going to school.

and

April Fool's gone past,
You're the biggest fool at last;
When April Fool comes again,
You'll be the biggest fool then.
(Said after midday)

Also in Halliwell,1970:244

--

April-day is come and gone,
Thou art a gosling and I am none.

(Said on 2nd April)

Also known as the Feast of the Folly , observed in many countries. Possibly related to when Noah first sent the dove from the ark to search for the land of the fruitless. (Opie, 2000:156)

--

Information regarding other April Fool's Day tricks can be found in "Play And Folklore", Issue 1, September, 1981:3-4.

--

From the USA, Botkin, 1944:788 records:

April fool's a-coming,
And you're the biggest fool a-running.

April fool is past,
And you're the biggest fool at last.

Up the ladder and down the tree,
You're a bigger fool than me.

--

Keywords: occasional rhyme, guile
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1557
Date: 1900
Title: Shivery grass
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Half belief
Rhyme:

Shivery grass will make you pass,
A rusty nail will make you fail.

(Nelson, 1900 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:45))

--

Background Info: Used by children to fortify themselves against school examinations.

--

Keywords: school, half belief
Location: Nelson
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1558
Date: 1910-1930s
Title: Pounds, shillings
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Pounds, shillings and pence,
The monkey jumped the fence;
He went so high, he reached the sky,
Pounds, shillings and pence.

(Collingwood, 1910 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:74))

--

Pounds, shillings and pence,
The elephant jumped the fence,
Sat on a lady,
Who squashed out a baby,
Pounds, shillings and pence.

(Blenheim, 1930s)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 3
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1559
Date: 1910
Title: Draw a bucket
Gender: Female
Classification: Action
Rhyme:

Draw a bucket of water,
For a lady's daughter,

One in a bush,
Two in a bush,
This little lady goes under.

(Leeston, 1910 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:84))

--

Location: Leeston
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1560
Date: 1900-1970s
Title: Giddy, giddy gout
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Tease
Rhyme:

Giddy, giddy gout,
Your shirt's hanging out,
Half a mile in,
And half a mile out.

(Ashburton, 1960)

--

Giddy giddy gout,
Your shirt's hanging out,
Ten miles in, ten miles out.

(Gore, 1960s; Timaru, 1970s)

--

Giddy, giddy gout,
Your shirt's hanging out,
Five miles in,
And ten miles out.

(Wellington, 1900 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:93))

--

Dicky, dicky doubt,
You'll never be a scout,
With your shirt hanging out.

(Springfield, 1960s)

--

Background Info: Opie, 1967:47, records the use of the name Dicky, Dicky Doubt to begin this rhyme.

--

Sutton-Smith, 1959:93, describes the rhyme used as a universal tease in NZ in early 1900s. It is reported: "Every effort was made, at the first sign of disaster, to make the relative distances more or less correct. We would pull their shirt out as far as we could get it. A whole mob would rush around after the boy chanting aloud the rhyme.

Giddy giddy gout, your shirt's hanging out.
Five miles in and ten miles out."

(Wellington, 1900)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1561
Date: 1910
Title: Andy, pandy
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Andy pandy sugary candy,
French almond nuts.

(Auckland, 1910 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:73))

--

Anzy panzy sugary canzy,
French almond nuts.

(Wellington, 1910 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:73))

--

Background Info: Alternative versions in Turner, 1978:11, including;

Andy Pandy sugar and candy,
French almond, raisin rock,
Bread and butter for my supper,
That's all my mother's got.

(Victoria, 1909-1973)

--

Discussion in Turner, 1969:19, related to the antiquity of this rhyme, tracing it back to the time of Aristotle, Plato and Aristophanes.

--

Keywords: food
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1562
Date: 2000
Title: Slinky Malinky
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Slinky Malinky long legs,
Fat banana feet.
Went to a drive-in
And sat on a seat.
Sat behind a lady,
And out popped a baby.
Slinky Malinky long legs,
Fat banana feet.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Keywords: pregnancy
Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1563

Date: 2006
Title: Miss Moore
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Miss Moore, Miss Moore,
From Cal-i-forn-ia,
Sitting on the dunny,
Watching Bugs Bunny,
Listening to the clock go
Tick-tock, tick-tock,
Twirly-whirly, tick-tock,
A, B, C, D..
Wipe the boy's germs off of me,
Moonshine, moonshine, moonshine,
Power,
Moonshine, moonshine, moonshine,
Freeze.

(Tinwald, Ashburton, 2006)

--

Background Info: Similar to the rhymes beginning, Miss Muff, My Soup, Miss Mew, My Sue in this collection.

--

Bauer, 2002, Sect. 70:19, recorded similar versions beginning with 'Miss Mew..' from Hamilton and Invercargill.

Miss Mew from Alabama - Invercargill version.

Miss Moo from California - get those dirty gruts off me (Hamilton)

--

Discussion on www.cocojams.com (accessed 15 January, 2007) records versions from United States contributors:

Miss Sue, clap, clap,
Miss Sue from Alabama.
Her real name's Suzanna,
Sittin' in a rockin' chair,
Eating Betty Crocker bread,
Watchin' the clock go,
Tick, tock, tick, tock, banana rock..

Ms Sue, clap. clap,
Ms Sue from Alabama,
Alaska, Nebraska,

Sitting in a rocking chair,
Eating peanut butter.
Watching the clock go,
Tick, tock, tick, tock, chihuahua,
Tick, tock, chihuahua..

--

Keywords: gender differences
Location: Ashburton
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1564
Date: 1950s
Title: One a pecker
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

One piece for the master, this will soon be sold,
One a pecker, two a pecker, bright fine gold.

One piece for the mistress, for her hands to hold,
One a pecker, two a pecker, bright fine gold.

One piece for the serving girl, for her hips so bold,
One a pecker, two a pecker, bright fine gold.

One piece for old Crabby, now the tale is told,
One a pecker, two a pecker, bright fine gold.

CHORUS
Bright fine gold, bright fine gold,
One a pecker, two a pecker, bright fine gold.

(Auckland, 1951- from www.folksong.org.nz/bright_fine_gold/brfigold3.html)

--

Background Info: Sung to the tune of the nursery rhymes, "Hot Cross Buns" or "Three Blind Mice". Compare with verse in this collection beginning "One a penny".

--

Details re origins and variants can be found on the following website;
www.folksong.org.nz/bright_fine_gold/index.html
(accessed 15 January, 2007)

--

The verse appears in a novel by Ruth Park, "One-a-pecker, two-a pecker" (1957), which includes the following verses:

One-a-pecker, two-a-pecker, bright fine gold,
Spend it in the summer and you die in the cold.
It cannot light a lantern, or ever ease a pain
And yet we go on searching tho' we search in vain.
One-a-pecker, two-a-pecker, send me home,
To my sweetheart waiting far across the foam,
I'm weary of Otago, I'm weary of the snow,
But let me make one lucky strike, before I go.
One-a-pecker, two-a-pecker, years go by,
All the gold I'll ever find is in the sky.
Some are sons of fortune, but I have come to see,
There's riches in the river, but they're not for me.

--

Keywords: traditional folk song, NZ culture
Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1390
Date: 2000
Title: Witches are bitches
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Witches are bitches,
Ghosts are hosts.
Fairies are hairies,
And ghouls are posts.

(Rotorua, 2000)

--

Keywords: nonsense, word play
Location: Rotorua
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1391
Date: 2000
Title: Wonder woman
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Wonder Woman lost her bra,
And blew up the USA - hey!!

(Kerikeri, 2000)

--

Keywords: media culture
Location: Kerikeri
Group size: 3
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1392
Date: 2000
Title: What's your favourite ice cream
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

What's your favourite ice cream?
Strawberry.
Strawberry ice cream is so sweet,
How many spoonfuls can you eat?
1,2,3..

(Nelson, 2000)

--

Keywords: food
Location: Nelson
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1393
Date: 2000
Title: We break up
Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Counting-out
Rhyme:

We break up,
We break down,
We don't care,
If the school falls down.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Background Info: Children in a circle with one in the middle, who touches each fist as the rhyme is chanted and whoever is touched on the last rhyme is out.

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1394
Date: 2004
Title: Why was the Egyptian
Gender: Male
Classification: Jokes & Riddles
Rhyme:

Why was the Egyptian emperor's son confused?
Because his daddy became a mummy.

(Tauranga, 2004)

--

Location: Tauranga
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1395
Date: 1990
Title: What are you
Gender: Female
Classification: Jokes & Riddles
Rhyme:

What are you going to do for a face
When the monkey wants his bum back?
Tell him I gave it to you.

(Christchurch, 1990)

--

Keywords: tease
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1396
Date: 1990
Title: Ten green hand grenades
Gender: Male
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Ten green hand grenades sitting on the wall,
If one green hand grenade should accidentally fall,
There'd be one big boom, and no bloody wall!

(Ashburton, 1990)

--

Background Info: Sung at Boy Scout gathering to the tune of "Ten Green Bottles".
Variation:

Ten sticks of dynamite
Hanging on a wall,
Ten sticks of dynamite,
Hanging on a wall,
Well, if one stick of dynamite
Should accidentally fall
There'd be no sticks of dynamite
And no bloody wall.

(Melbourne, 1973; Wellington, 1970)
(Turner, 1978:151)

--

See also "Ten bottles of beer" in this collection.

--

Location: Ashburton
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1397
Date: 1990s-2000
Title: Ten little sausages
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Ten little (fat) sausages sizzling in the pan,
One went pop and the other went bang.

(Rangiora, 2000)

--

Ten little sausages, sitting in a pan,
The oil got hot, one went pop,
And the others went bang.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Often accompanied by clapping actions.

--

Opie, 1997:239, records the variant from Britain:

Five little sausages frying in a pan,
One got burnt, the other said, 'Scram.'

--

Keywords: food,
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 6
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1398
Date: 1994-1998
Title: There were ten in the bed

Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

There were ten in the bed
And the little one said,
"Roll over, roll over."
So they all rolled over and one fell out-
And hit the ground,
And you hear him shout,
"Please remember to tie a knot in your pyjamas",
Single beds were never meant for 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,
(Single beds were only made for 1,2,3,4,5,..
There were nine in the bed, and the little one said..

(Auckland, 1994, Masterton, 1998)

--

Background Info: Sung to the tune of "Rule Britannia".

--

Keywords: continuous
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 20
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1399
Date: 1990
Title: These days
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

These days all you see,
Is violence in movies,
And sex on TV.

(Tauranga, 1990)

--

Keywords: media culture, modern culture
Location: Tauranga
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1400
Date: 1990s-2006
Title: Ten kids jumping
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Ten kids jumping on a bed,
One fell off and bumped his head.
They called for the doctor, the doctor said,
'No more kids jumping on the bed.
Nine kids jumping on the bed..

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Five little monkeys jumping on the bed,
One fell off and bumped his head.
Mummy called for the doctor, the doctor said,
'No more monkeys jumping on the bed.
Four little monkeys jumping on the bed..

(Gisborne, 2001; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1401
Date: 1990s
Title: We're Roosies
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Partisan
Rhyme:

We're Roosies, we're Roosies.
A long way from home.
We're bloody bedondered, (bad tempered)
So leave us alone.
We drink rum and whiskey,
We smoke to get high,
And if you don't like it,
Then fuck off and die!

(NZ ex South Africa. Sung on school trips, Roosevelt High School)

--

Keywords: partisan
Location: NZ ex South Africa, Jo'berg
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1402
Date: 2003
Title: Things that make you go boom
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Things that make you go boom,
Peanut butter and raspberry jam.
Make your butt go bang!

(Dunedin, 2003)

--

Background Info: Invented by two boys and frequently chanted. (Personal informant)

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Dunedin
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1403
Date: 1940s
Title: Tiddlywinks
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Tiddlywinks the barber,
Went to shave the father,
The razor slipped,
And cut his lip,
Tiddlywinks the barber.

(Auckland, 1940s)

--

Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1404
Date: 2004
Title: Bill Bones
Gender: Male
Classification: Word Play
Rhyme:

Bill Bones went home last night,
And he wanted tea,
So he let himself in,
With a skeleton key.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Keywords: word play
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1406
Date: 2004
Title: Pam and Penny
Gender: Male
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Pam and Penny,
In the shower,
Having sex,
For half an hour.

(Oamaru, 2004)

--

Keywords: bawdy
Location: Oamaru
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1407
Date: 2002-2006
Title: No returns
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

No returns.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

[Dawn's] germs,
No returns,
For the rest of eternity,
No backs.

(Christchurch, 2002)

--

Background Info: Bauer,2003:113 refer to variations of "no backs" meaning something that can't be returned as:

No re-s (no returns)
No givings
No give backs
No backsies
No comes
No comings
No swap backs
No backs, no passes, no dirty arses.

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1408
Date: 1967

Title: Gilgren's pies
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Gilgren's pies are full of flies,
Gilgren's drinks are full of stinks.

(Gisborne, 1967)

--

Background Info: Jeering at neighbourhood children, whose family owned a bakery.
(Personal informant)

--

Keywords: food
Location: Gisborne
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1409
Date: 1964
Title: Murray Parker, did the haka
Gender: Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Murray Parker, did the haka,
On the way to Mangapapa.

(Gisborne, 1964)

--

Keywords: NZ culture, Maori
Location: Gisborne
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1410
Date: 1940s-1969
Title: X Y is no good
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Taunt

Rhyme:

[X, Y] is no good,
Chop her up for firewood.
If she is no good for that,
Feed her to the old tom-cat.

(Gisborne, 1969)

--

[X] is no good,
Chop him up for firewood.
When he's dead, boil his head,
Turn him into gingerbread.

(NZ ex UK, 1940s)

--

Background Info: Opie, 2000:33 has the insult:

Tommy Johnson is no good
Chop him up for firewood.
When he's dead boil his head
Make it into gingerbread.

--

Location: Various NZ, UK
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1411
Date: 2000
Title: Michael Chan
Gender: Male
Classification: Word Play
Rhyme:

Michael Chan,
Biscuit man,
Michael Chan,
Fake shoe man.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Keywords: Nonsense
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1412
Date: 2003
Title: Incy wincy
Gender: Male
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Ady and his friends went out to bat,
Down came the rain and washed poor cricket out,
Out came the sun,
And dried up all the rain.
So Ady and his friends went out to bat again.

(Christchurch, 2003)

--

Background Info: Sung to the tune of "Incy, Wincy Spider".

--

Keywords: NZ culture
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1413
Date: 1998
Title: Nick rulz
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Word Play
Rhyme:

Nick rulz,
Jo droolz.

(Christchurch, 1998)

--

Background Info: Trend in replacing 's' with 'z' to be cool.

--

Keywords: teenage culture
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1414
Date: 1940s
Title: X is in the kitchin'
Gender: Female
Classification: Ball bouncing
Rhyme:

[X] is in the kitchin'
Doin' a little stitchin'
Along comes a bogeyman,
And out goes she.

(Rotorua, 1940s)

--

Location: Rotorua
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1415
Date: 1990s-2000
Title: Timaru school chants
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Partisan
Rhyme:

Main the pain,
The big fat rain.

(Timaru, 2000)

--

Scared Heart did a fart,
On the way to Maori Park.

(Timaru, 1990s)

--

South, the mouth.

(Timaru, 1990s)

--

West, the pest.

(Timaru, 1990s)

--

Keywords: school loyalty, partisan, fart lore

Location: Timaru

Group size: 4

Incidence: 4

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1416

Date: 1990s

Title: H2O

Gender: Male

Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

[X] was a little boy,
But now he is no more,
For what he thought was H2O,
Was H2 S04.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Location: Christchurch

Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1417

Date: 1980s

Title: Picks his nose

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Taunt

Rhyme:

[X] picks his nose,
Rubs it in the dirt,
And has it for dessert.
[X] picks his nose,
Wraps it in salami,
And sends it to the army.

(Auckland, 1980s)

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1418
Date: 1996
Title: Rebecca, I'll tell your mother
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Rebecca, Rebecca,
I'll tell your mother.
I saw you kissing [X],
How many kisses did you give him?
5, 10, 15, 20.

(Christchurch, 1996)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 3
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1419
Date: 1990s
Title: Xena (Lisa) Warrior
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Xena, (clap) Warrior (clap)
Princess,
Came here last year!
Xena Warrior Princess,
Came here last year,
Over, over, over.
Paper, scissors, rock, stone.

(Auckland, 1990s)

--

Lisa, Warrior, (clap, clap)
Came here,
Last year,
O V E R,
Over.

(Christchurch, 2006)

--

Background Info: Based on the popular television series "Xena, Warrior Princess" (1995).

--

Keywords: media culture
Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1420
Date: 1990s
Title: You've got a bogie
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

You've got a bogie in your nose,
Oh, you probably 'nose' it already.
Don't tell anyone else,
Or they may get snotty with you.

(Tauranga, 1990s)

--

Keywords: scatological, word play
Location: Tauranga
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1421
Date: 1990s
Title: You're a
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

You're a
Supersonic,
Idiotic,
Brain affected,
Disconnected,
DUMB BELL!

(Whangarei, 1990s)

--

Location: Whangarei
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1422
Date: 1990
Title: You're really hot
Gender: Female
Classification: Tease
Rhyme:

You're really hot.
I hope you feel cool!

(Christchurch, 1990)

--

Background Info: Girls' comment to boys, usually as a tease.

--

Location: Christchurch

Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1423
Date: 1990s
Title: Yeh ha Grandma
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Yeh ha, Grandma,
Riding on a Yamaha,
Pulled a cock,
Couldn't stop,
Landed in the undie shop.

(Gore, 1990s)

--

Keywords: commercial product, modern culture, bawdy
Location: Gore
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1424
Date: 1990s
Title: You're cruising
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Tease
Rhyme:

You're cruising for a bruising.
You're riding for a hiding.

(Rangiora, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Similar taunts are recorded from America by Knapp, 1978:63-64:

Don't give me no lip, Potato Chip.
Shut up, Ketchup.
It's your fault, Garlic Salt.
Don't get wise, Bubble-eyes.
Understand, Rubber Band?

Yes I do, Tennis Shoe.

--

Location: Rangiora
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1425
Date: 1990
Title: If all the boys
Gender: Female
Classification: Tease
Rhyme:

If all the boys ate fish and chips,
Wouldn't [Kate] have greasy lips.

(Christchurch, 1990)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1426
Date: 1980s
Title: You remind me
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Word Play
Rhyme:

You remind me of a man.
Who do?
You do.
What?
Remind me of a man.
What man?
Man with power.
What power?
Hoo Doo.
Who do?
You do.
What?
Remind me of a..

(Auckland, 1980s)

--

Keywords: circular tale

Location: Auckland

Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1427

Date: 1950s

Title: Yellow Rose of Texas

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Parody

Rhyme:

Oh the yellow rose of Texas,
And the man from Galilee,
They went to Davy Crockett's,
To have a cup of tea.
The tea was so delicious,
They had another cup.
Then they left poor Davy Crockett,
To do the washing up.

(Wellington, 1950s)

--

Background Info: Based on the American folk hero, Davy Crockett.

--

Location: Wellington

Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1428

Date: 2002

Title: Ants go marching by

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

Ants go marching by, hurrah, hurrah,

Ants go marching by, hurrah, hurrah,
The little one stopped to scratch his bum.
And they all went marching down to the town,
To get out of the rain.

(Auckland, 2002)

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Auckland
Group size: 10
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1429
Date: 1998
Title: A, B, C
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

A,B,C,D,E,F,G,H,I,J,K, LEMONADE,
O,P,Q,R,S,T,U,V,W,X,Y,Z.

(Dunedin, 1998)

--

Location: Dunedin
Group size: 7
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1431
Date: 1990s
Title: Bananas in pyjamas
Gender: Female
Classification: Ball bouncing
Rhyme:

Bananas in pyjamas,
Are coming down the stairs.
Bananas in pyjamas,
Are chasing teddy bears.
Bananas in pyjamas
Are tumbling down the stairs.
Bananas in pyjamas

Without their underwears.

(Nelson, 1990s; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Background Info: Based on children's television programme of the same name.

--

Keywords: media culture,

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 4

Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1432

Date: 2000

Title: Bananas unite

Gender: Female

Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

Bananas unite.

Peel banana, peel, peel banana,

Peel banana, peel, peel banana,

Eat banana, eat, eat banana,

Go banana, go, go banana.

(Timaru, 2000)

--

Background Info: Chanted by group while peeling and eating bananas.

--

Keywords: food

Location: Timaru

Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1433

Date: 2002

Title: Wordless

Gender: Male

Classification: Action

Rhyme:

A clapping and action game played by boys only. It involves the actions of handling a gun, loading a gun and a shield. No words are used with these actions.

--

Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1434
Date: 1950s
Title: Oh Chester!
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Word Play
Rhyme:

Oh CHESTer, did you hear about Harry?
He just got BACK from the ARMy
I HEAR he KNOWS how to wear a rose,
HIP, HIP, hooray for the ARMy.

(Gestures are used for the highlighted words, relating to the specific body part indicated.)

(NZ ex USA, 1950s)

--

Location: NZ (ex USA)
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1435
Date: 1960s
Title: Chasing with the hares
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Proverb
Rhyme:

Chasing with the hares,
And hunting with the hounds.

(Christchurch, 1960s)

--

Background Info: Used to describe a fence sitter.

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1467
Date: 1960s
Title: Hay makes
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Retort
Rhyme:

Hay makes the bull fat,
Bull makes the cow fat!

(Masterton, 1960s)

--

Background Info: Spoken in response to someone calling out "Hey!"

--

Opie, 1967:188 records this taunt:

Hay is for horses,
Straw is for cows,
Milk is for babies,
That cry out loud.

(UK, 1950s)

--

Keywords: retort,
Location: Masterton
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1468
Date: 1970s-2002
Title: High, low

Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

High,
Low,
Jolly,
Pepper

(Blenheim, 1970s; Auckland, 1980s; Christchurch, 2002)

--

Background Info: Skip, chanting the rhyme, until skipper trips. The words describe the skipping actions.

High = the rope is turned above the ground.

Low = the turners and skipper crouch down to turn the rope and jump.

Jolly = the skipper skips with floppy arms like a rag doll.

Pepper = the rope is turned as fast as possible.

--

Variations in Turner, 1969, p27:

Dolly = skip with stiff limbs like a puppet.

Scissors = skipper crosses and uncrosses her legs.

Duck = skipper squats

Blind = skipping with eyes closed.

--

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 4

Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1469

Date: 1990s

Title: I see dog

Gender: Male

Classification: Bawdy

Rhyme:

I see dog,
He sees tree,
He does nothing but p-p-p.

(Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1470
Date: 2000-2002
Title: I saw you
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

I saw you at the pub last night,
Kissing [X]
True / false / true / false.

(Napier, 2000)

--

I saw you,
Kissing in the loo,
How many kisses can you do?
1, 2, 3, 4..

(Kerikeri, 2002)

--

Keywords: romance, divination
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 3
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1471
Date: 1930s
Title: I'm a navvy
Gender: Female
Classification: Topical rhyme
Rhyme:

I'm a navvy,
I'm a navvy,
Working on the line,
Four and twenty bob a week,

And all the overtime.
Peas, puddin' and faggots,
Every dinner time.
That's what a navvy gets
For working on the line!

(NZ ex UK - Cockney, 1930s)

--

Background Info: Navvy = railway worker.
Variation from www.warrenfahey.com: (Accessed 15 January, 2007)

I'm a navvy,
I'm a navvy, I'm a navvy on the line,
Four and twenty bob a week,
And all the overtime.
Roast beef, boiled beef,
Puddings made of eggs,
Up jumps a navvy with a pair of sausage legs.

(Australia, 1960s)

--

Turner,1978:116:

I'm a navvy, you're a navvy,
Working on the line,
Four and twenty bob a week,
Besides our overtime.
Roast beef, boiled beef,
Pudden' made of eggs,
Up came a copper,
With a pair of sausage legs.

(Queensland, Aust, 1925 - railway settlers' camp)

--

Opie, 1967:261:

I'm a navvy by trade,
I can wield a pick and spade,
I can shove a little barrow up a brew;
I get thirty bob a week,
And my wife and kids to keep
And that's what a navvy has to do.

(Sung by group of Manchester boys, called Molly dancers)

--

Location: NZ (ex UK)
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1472
Date: 1990s
Title: Ice cream, soda
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Chant
Rhyme:

Ice cream, soda pop, banana split,
We think (name of school house) is up to it.
Shift to the left,
Shift to the right,
Stand up, sit down,
Fight, fight, fight.

(NZ ex South Africa, 1990s)

--

Keywords: partisan
Location: NZ (ex South Africa)
Group size: 10
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1473
Date: 2006
Title: I hate you
Gender: Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

I hate you, you hate me,
We're a dysfunctional family,
With a great big punch,
And a great big kick,
You are such a stupid dick.

(Arrowtown, 2006)

--

Keywords: violence, bawdy, family
Location: Arrowtown
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1475
Date: 1970s
Title: Jimmy Withers
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Jimmy Withers,
Stands and shivers.

(Dannevirke, 1970s)

--

Background Info: Repeated continuously in a taunting tone.

--

Location: Dannevirke
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1476
Date: 1990s
Title: Jump, jump
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Jump, jump, jump little fella,
In comes [X] at the door.
[X's] got an itchy bum,
So we don't need [X] any more!
Knock, knock, knocking at the door.
In comes [Y] at the door.
[Y] is the one with the itchy bum,
And we don't need [Y] any more!

(Titahi Bay, 1990s)

--

Location: Titahi Bay
Group size: 3
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1477
Date: 1950s-2000
Title: John Brown
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

John Brown's body lies a mouldering in the grave. (x 3)
Then we scarpd him off the tarmac like a lump of strawberry jam (x 3)
And he ain't gonna march no more.
Glory, glory, what a helluva way to die, (x 3)
And he ain't gonna march no more.
John Brown's body lies a mouldering in the grave. (x 3)
He jumped from 40 000 feet without a parachute (x 3)
And he ain't gonna march no more.

(NZ, 1950s)

--

John Brown's baby has a cold upon its chest (x 3),
And he rubbed it with camphorated oil.
CHORUS:
Camphor amphor amphorated (x 3)
So they rubbed it with camphorated oil.

(Christchurch, 1990s; Auckland, 2000)

--

Background Info: Based on the Union marching song of the American Civil War, written by William Steffe in 1850s.

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 5
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1479

Date: 1950s
Title: Green gravels
Gender: Female
Classification: Circle game
Rhyme:

Green gravels, green gravels, the grass is so green,
The fairest young lady that ever was seen.
We'll wash her in milk and dress her in silk,
And we'll write down her name in a gold pen and ink.

(Invercargill, 1950s)

--

Background Info: Classified by Opie, 1988:240 as a witch dance. Players join hands in a ring as they walk around and sing. In the second verse a player is named, who then re-links hands and faces outwards. This continues on until all players are facing out.

Verse 2:

Oh, Mary, oh Mary, your true love is dead,
He sent you a letter to turn round your head.

The 'turning of the head' may be related to the Scottish tradition of re-entering a death chamber by walking in backwards after a corpse has been laid out. 'Green gravel' may come from green graff, meaning green grave, or be a mistranslation of green greet or grit.

--

Newell (1903) in the United States reported the game beginning with all children facing outwards, and then turning in as named.

--

Sutton Smith recorded this as being played in Wanganui in 1900.

--

Also described by Opie, 1997:253 as a courtship game, along with the version:

Green gravel, green gravel,
Your age is sixteen,
Your true love sent a letter
Complaining of the weather.
Turn your back, you saucy cat
And say no more to me!
All right [Kathleen]
I'll tell your mother

That you kissed [Duncan]
In the parlour last night.
How many kisses did you give him?
5, 10, 15..
(UK, 1972)

--

Location: Invercargill
Group size: 8
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1480
Date: 2002
Title: Kiss me
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Kiss me, kiss me Johnny. (x 3)
Good Johnny, good, Johnny,
You kissed me.

(Christchurch, 2002)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1481
Date: 1900s -2000
Title: Don't care
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Retort
Rhyme:

Don't care was made to care,
Don't care was hung.
Don't care was put in the pot,
And boiled till he was done.

(Palmerston, 1900 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:101); NZ ex UK, 1950s; Auckland, 1960s; Gore, 1980s; Gore, 2000)

--

Background Info: Recorded in Opie, 1967:50 as a juvenile corrective.

--

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 2

Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1482

Date: 1970s

Title: Do you like pears?

Gender: Female

Classification: Bawdy

Rhyme:

Do you like pears?

Do you like plums?

Do you like sniffing doggies' bums?

(Wairoa, 1970s)

--

Keywords: scatological

Location: Wairoa

Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1483

Date: 2000-2006

Title: Dot, dot

Gender: Female

Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

Dot, dot, line, line,

Spider crawling up your spine,

Tight squeeze, gentle breeze,

Have you got the shivers?

Line, line, dot, dot,

Electric, shock, electric shock.

(Tauranga, 2000)

--

Criss cross apple sauce
Spider crawling up your back,
Cool breeze,
Tight squeeze.
Now it's time for a tickle.

(Wellington, 1998)

--

Dot, dot, line, line,
Spider crawling up your spine,
Cool breeze, (blow on neck) tight squeeze,
Now you've got the shiveries!

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Line, line, dot, dot,
Spider crawling up your top.
Tight squeeze,
Warm breeze,
Now you've got the shiveries!

(Christchurch, 2002)

--

Background Info: While chanting this rhyme child draws and blows on other child's back to get a 'shiver' response. (Personal observation)

--

Keywords: action,
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 4

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1484
Date: 1970s
Title: Deliver de letter
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Deliver de letter,
De sooner de better,
De later de letter,
De sadda I getta.

(Christchurch, 1970s)

--

Keywords: word play
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1485
Date: 1960s
Title: Do you like butter?
Gender: Female
Classification: Half belief
Rhyme:

Do you like butter?
(Holding a buttercup or yellow flower under a child's chin will determine whether or not they like butter, depending if the yellow colour is reflected.)

(Ashburton, 1960s; NZ ex UK, 1960s)

--

Keywords: half belief
Location: Ashburton, UK
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1486
Date: 1990s
Title: Ding, dong
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Ding, dong, daily,
Sizzie ole, ole, oh,
Gimmie, gimmie, coco pops,
Coconut, coconut,
Gimmie, gimmie, coconut,

Coconut is out.

Christchurch, 1990s)

--

Ding, dong, daily,
S-s-say, ole, ole, oh.
Ding, dong, daily,
S-s-say, ole, ole, oh.
Give me, give me, chocola, chocola, chocola,
Chocola goes out.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Background Info: An elimination circular hand-slapping game with the person receiving the 'out' slap moving into the centre of the circle. (Personal informant)

--

Keywords: Pacific culture, commercial product

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 5

Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1487

Date: 1990s

Title: Mrs Flippy Floppy

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Counting-out

Rhyme:

Mrs Flippy Floppy,

Fell down the toilet.

How many miles did she fall? (Otago, 1990s)

(Child gives a number then counts out around circle, using feet, to see who is put out.)

Poor Mrs [X],

Fell down the toilet,

How many metres did she fall?

1, 2, 3..

(Hamilton, 1990s - skipping rhyme)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 6
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1488
Date: 1990s
Title: Mr Clickety
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Action
Rhyme:

Mr Clickety Clack plays a silly game,
All the kids in the street like to do the same.
Wash your face with orange juice. (echo - clap, clap)
Brush your teeth with bubble gum. (echo - clap, clap)
Belly flop in pizza, (echo - clap, clap)
Fix the fence with sticky tape. (echo - clap, clap)

(Christchurch, 1990s; Auckland, 1990s)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1489
Date: 2000
Title: My mother is as old
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

My mother is as old as you (one)
My mother is as old as you (two)
My mother is as old as you (three)
One, two, three, freeze!

(Gisborne, 2000)

--

Location: Gisborne
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1490
Date: 1990s-2003
Title: My mother says
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Counting-out
Rhyme:

My mum says to count to ten,
1, 2, 3, 4,..10.
You are out.

(Christchurch. 1990s x 2; Fairlie, 2003)

--

My mum says to count to ten,
1, 2, 3, 4,..10
Pig's snout.
You're out!

(Timaru, 1990s)

--

Background Info: Bauer, 2002, Sect. 17:6, notes the version, "Pig's chin, you are in".

Pig's snout used as a quick counting-out ritual in a group situation. For example in a game of tag all players will say 'pig's snout' in conjunction with the thumb on the forehead - last one becomes 'it' in the game.

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 4

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1491
Date: 2000
Title: My mother said
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Counting-out
Rhyme:

My mother said to pick this one,
Pig snout,

Pig snout,
You are out.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 3
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1492
Date: 1990s
Title: My name is
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

My name is Alphobetsy,
Girls are sexy,
Kissing in the garden,
Whoops.

(Auckland, 1990s)

--

Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1493
Date: 1990s-2000
Title: Why did Piglet
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Jokes & Riddles
Rhyme:

Why did Piglet look in the toilet?
Because he wanted to see Pooh.

(Auckland, 2006)

--

Why did Tigger look down the toilet?

He was looking for Poo!

(Auckland, 1990s)

--

Keywords: scatological, riddle
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1494
Date: 2006
Title: Dr Who
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Dr Who did a poo,
In the Tardis toilet.
What a ph..eeew!
Lock Dr Who,
In the Tardis toilet.

(Auckland, 2006)

--

Keywords: media influence, scatological
Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1495
Date: 1950s-2000
Title: OUT
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Counting-out
Rhyme:

O - U - T spells out,
And out you must go.

(Lawrence, 2000)

--

O - U - T spells out,
And out you must go.
Because the King and Queen say so.

(NZ ex UK, 1950s)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1496
Date: 1970s
Title: Open your mouth
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Open your mouth,
And close your eyes,
And you will get,
A big surprise.

(Masterton, 1970s)

--

Location: Masterton
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1497
Date: 1950s
Title: Oh wa ta na Siam
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

O wha ta na Siam
(Words sung to the tune of God save the Queen)

(Hamilton, 1950s)

--

Location: Hamilton
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1498
Date: 1930s
Title: Onward Christian
Gender: Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

Onward Christian soldiers,
Marching off to war,
With the cross of Jesus,
Left behind the door.

(Masterton, 1930s)

--

Keywords: religious
Location: Masterton
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1499
Date: 2000
Title: One a penny
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

One a penny, two a penny,
Three a penny, four,
Five a penny, six a penny,
Seven a penny, NO MORE!

(Rotorua, 2000)

--

Background Info: Related to the rhyme "Hot Cross Buns", originally a London street cry:

Good Friday comes this month, the old woman runs

With one or two a penny hot cross buns. (1733)

--

Also similarities to the counting-out rhyme, "One potato, two potato":

Hot cross buns, hot cross buns,
One a penny, two a penny,
Hot cross buns.
If you have no daughters,
Give them to your sons,
One a penny, two a penny,
Hot cross buns.

--

Variant in the form of folk chant related to New Zealand gold rushes, 1861, in Wangapeka (Nelson) and Tuapeka River (Otago):

Bright fine gold, bright fine gold,
Wangapeka, Tuapeka, bright fine gold. (1874)

Became transformed to first a lullaby and then the children's rhyme:

Bright fine gold, bright fine gold,
One a pecker, two a pecker, bright fine gold.(1880s-1950s)

--

Details re origins and variants can be found on the following website:
www.folksong.org.nz/bright_fine_gold/index.html
(accessed 15 January, 2007)

--

For further details see entry beginning; "One a pecker".

--

Location: Rotorua
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1500
Date: 2000
Title: Over the moon
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping

Rhyme:

Over the moon,
Catch a cone,
Hands up,
Stick them up,
Drop your guns,
And pick them up.
O - U - T spells out.

(Ashburton, 2000)

--

Background Info: Bauer, 2002, Sect. 68:4-5, describes this game where 1st skipper does one jump, 2nd skipper does two jumps, 3rd skipper does three..

--

Keywords: counting-out
Location: Ashburton
Group size: 3
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1501
Date: 2000
Title: My Sue
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

My sue, boom, boom, boom,
My sue, boom, boom, boom.
My super mella,
Bambi, bambi.
Sitting in the rocker,
Eating bala cocker,
Watching the time go by.
Tick, tock,
Tick, tock,
Shindlar rock,
Tick, tock,
Tick, tock,
Banana rock,
A B C D E F G, wash those body germs off of me.
Moonshine, moonshine, bubble freeze.
Bubble gum, bubble gum, set me free.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

My soup, boom, boom, boom,
My soup, boom, boom, boom,
Sitting in the old bamba, bamba, bamba,
Eating bread and butter,
Tick tock, la, la, la, la,
Tick, tock, la, la, la, la,
Tick, tock, shh, shh, freeze.

(Auckland, 2000)

--

Background Info: Compare with Miss Sue, Miss Moore, Miss Mew in this collection.

--

Location: Auckland
Group size: 20
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1502
Date: 2000
Title: Pilot, pilot
Gender: Male
Classification: Game
Rhyme:

Pilot, pilot in the plane,
Please come down
'Cos I'm waiting for you.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Background Info: Chasing game where one person is the pilot and the others chase that child. When he is caught he says, "Oh no, I'm falling", and falls to the ground. Another child takes his place as pilot.

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 8
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1503
Date: 1930s
Title: Pop bottles
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun, tongue twister
Rhyme:

Pop bottles pop-bottles,
In pop shops
The pop-bottles Pop bottles
Poor Pop drops.
When Pop drops pop-bottles
Pop-bottles plop.
Pop-bottle-tops topple.
Pop mops slop.
Stop! Pop'll drop bottle!
Stop, Pop, stop.
When Pop bottles pop-bottles,
Pop-bottles pop.

(Waipukurau, 1930s)

--

Location: Waipukurau
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1504
Date: 1970s
Title: Put your finger
Gender: Female
Classification: Finger game
Rhyme:

Put your finger in foxy's hole,
Foxy's not at home.
Foxy's at the backdoor,
Picking on a bone.

(Wellington, 1970s)

--

Background Info: Scottish version reported in Gullen, 1950:7:

Put your finger in the corbie's hole,
The corbie's no at hame;
The corbie's at the back door,
Pykin' at a bane.

--

Location: Wellington
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1505
Date: 1990s
Title: Peace makes
Gender: Male
Classification: Retort
Rhyme:

Peace makes the world
Go up and down.
War makes it shake
Up and down.

(Timaru, 1990s)

--

Location: Timaru
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1506
Date: !970s
Title: Punch and Judy
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Punch and Judy fought for a pie,
Punch gave Judy a knock in the eye.
Says Punch to Judy,
"Will you have anymore?"
Says Judy to Punch,
"My eye's too sore."

(Timaru, 1970s)

--

Background Info: Related to puppet plays. Punch and his wife (Joan or Judy) have been referred to since 1707. Punch is a shortened form of Punchinello, giving rise to the riddle:

Oh mother, I shall be married to:
Mr Punch,
Mr Joe,
Mr Nell,
Mr Lo,
Mr Punchinello.

--

Keywords: violence
Location: Timaru
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1507
Date: 2003
Title: Postman
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Postman, postman knocking at the door,
In comes [X], from next door,
How many letters did she bring?
1, 2, 3..

(Auckland, 2003)

--

Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1508
Date: 1970s-2000
Title: Pig's snout
Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Counting-out
Rhyme:

Pig's snout,
You must walk out,
If I say so.

(Ashburton, 1970s; Whanganui, 1970s; Timaru, 2000)

--

Background Info: A form of 'dip' or counting-out ritual that can be extended or adapted to:

Pig's snout, walk out.
Boy Scout, walk out.
Girl Guide, step aside.
Boy Scout, walk out,
With your breeches inside out.
(Opie, 1984:31)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1509
Date: 1910-2006
Title: Pease pudding
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping, clapping
Rhyme:

Pease pudding hot,
Pease pudding cold,
Pease pudding in the pot,
Nine days old.
Some like it hot,
Some like it cold,
Some like it in the pot,
Nine days old.

(Palmerston, 1910 -(Sutton-Smith, 1959:85); Christchurch, 1970s x 2; Australia, 1990s; Gisborne. 2002; Auckland, 2002; Christchurch, 2006)

--

Background Info: Sutton-Smith, 1959:85, indicates that this verse often followed on

after the rhyme beginning, "My mother said, I never should.. ", along with hand-clapping actions.

--

Opie, 1992:345 notes variants:

Mince pies hot, mince pies cold,
Mince pies in addition, nine days old. (Street cry)

and

Mince pies hot, mince pies cold,
I'll send you to the devil till he's nine days old.

--

Opie, 2000:152 records the ending line of:

Pease porridge in the pot nine days old,
Spell me that in four letters.
(To which the response is T.H.A.T.)

or

Spell me that without a P and a clever scholar you will be. (1765)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 3
Incidence: 7

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1510
Date: 2006
Title: Boogey, boogey
Gender: Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Boogey, boogey nana,
You're a fat banana.

(Timaru, 2006)

--

Location: Timaru

Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1511
Date: 2006
Title: Miss Muff
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Miss Muff, Miss Muff,
Miss Muff from California,
Sitting in her rocking chair,
Eating sticky underwear,
Watching the clock go,
Tick, tock, tick, tock,
Chew-ah-wa-ah-wa,
Chew-ah-wa-ah-wa.

(Timaru, 2006)

--

Location: Timaru
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1512
Date: 2006
Title: Barney
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

Barney is a dinosaur,
With no imagination,
Stuck his finger up his arse,
And died of constipation.

(Timaru, 2006)

--

Keywords: scatological, media,
Location: Timaru
Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1513

Date: 1980s

Title: Mata me

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

Mata mata me, mata mata me,
Ta le Tonga, ta ia pe,
Ta le samoa, ta e sese.

(Auckland, 1980s)

--

Background Info: Legend about the wars between Samoa and Tonga.

--

Keywords: Pacific culture

Location: Auckland

Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1514

Date: 1960s

Title: Never leave

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Half belief

Rhyme:

Never leave your egg shells,
Unbroken in the cup,
Think of us poor sailor men,
And always smash them up.
For witches come and find them,
And sail away to sea,
And make our lives a misery
For sailor men like me,
So never leave..

(Auckland, 1960s)

--

Background Info: Never-ending rhyme.

--

Keywords: circular rhyme, continuous

Location: Auckland

Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1515

Date: 2001

Title: Ringa ringa

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Fun

Rhyme:

Ringa ringa little finger, clap, clap,

Ringa, ringa, where is my hand?

Here, in my bum, bum.

(Gisborne, 2001)

--

Keywords: bawdy

Location: Gisborne

Group size: 3

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1516

Date: 1980s-2006

Title: Red light

Gender: Female

Classification: Handstands

Rhyme:

Red light,

Orange light,

Green light,

Go!

(NZ ex UK, 1980s; Auckland, 1980s; Christchurch, 1990; Auckland, 1990s; Christchurch, 2006)

--

Background Info: On the word 'go', children compete for the longest handstand.

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 5

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1517
Date: 2000
Title: They had a needle
Gender: Male
Classification: Bawdy
Rhyme:

They had a needle,
It went for the thigh,
He kicked them in the groin,
And pissed in his eye.

(Christchurch, 2000)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1518
Date: 2001
Title: The moon is so bright
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

The moon is so bright,
I will call it a light,
It is always out at night,
It is such a sight.
The air is so clean,
The grass is so green.

(Tauranga, 2001)

--

Location: Tauranga
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1519
Date: 1946-1990s
Title: There's music
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping, autograph
Rhyme:

There's music in the horseshoe,
There's music in the nail,
There's music in the tom cat,
If only you pull its tail.

(Hawarden, 1990s)

--

There's music in a jam jar,
There's music in a pail,
There's music in a tom cat,
If you only pull his tail.

(Temuka, 1946)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 5
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1520
Date: 1990s
Title: Thou art
Gender: Male
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Thou art a dicky bird,
Thou art a fool,
Tho art the biggest ass,
That ever went to school.

(Auckland, 1990s)

--

Keywords: tease
Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1521
Date: 1990s-2002
Title: The sky
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping, counting-out
Rhyme:

The sky is blue,
How old are you?
1, 2, 3..

(Wellington, 1990s; Rotorua, 2002)

--

Background Info: As a counting rhyme, the ritual involves the leader organising the participants in a circle with clenched fists into the centre. Starting by touching her own chin with her clenched fist, she then counts around the circle until she comes to the person who has the word 'you' - they then give their age and this is counted around the circle and the person who lands with the age is out. The game then continues until only one player is left. (Personal informant)

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1522
Date: 1990s
Title: The black cat
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

The black cat piddled in the white cat's eye,
The white cat said, "Cor blimey,"

"I'm sorry mate to piddle in your eye,
I did not see you behind me."

(Hamilton, 1990s)

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Hamilton
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1523
Date: 1920s-2006
Title: Twelve plus twelve
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Twelve and twelve is twenty four,
Kick the teacher out the door,
If she says, "Don't do that!"
Hit her on the head with a cricket bat.
Teacher, teacher, I declare,
What colour is your underwear?
Is it brown or is it white?
Oh my gosh, it's dynamite!

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Twelve plus twelve is twenty four,
Throw the teacher out the door,
Has she got pink underwear, or white?
Oh my god, they're dynamite!

(Wellington, 2000)

--

Twelve plus twelve is twenty four,
Throw the teacher out the door,
When it's time to let her in,
Sit her on a safety pin.

(Oamaru, 2004)

--

Four and four are twenty four,
Kick the teacher out the door.
If she squeals, bring her in.
Hang her on a safety pin.

(1920-1950s (Sutton-Smith, 1959:45))

--

Two plus two is four,
Kick the teacher out the door,
If she says, don't do that,
Hit her on the head with a baseball bat.
I don't care, I don't care,
I can see her underwear,
Are they red?
Are they white?
Oh my gosh,
They're dynamite!

(Blenheim, 2000; Seddon, 2000)

--

Background Info: Turner, 1978:74 - 75 for variations:

Twelve and twelve are twenty four,
Kick the teacher out the door,
If she tries to come back in,
Throw her in the rubbish bin.
If she says, "Don't do that."
Hit her with a cricket bat.

(Melbourne, 1956-1973)

..If she cries, give her some honey,
And then we'll put her down the dunny.

(Melbourne, 1973)

--

Opie, 1967:43 records:

Twelve and twelve makes twenty-four,
Shut your mouth and say no more.
(Used as a response to a stupid question being asked.)

--

Keywords: school, authority,
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 6

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1524
Date: 1970s-1980s
Title: 2, 4, 6, 8
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

2, 4, 6, 8,
Bog in, don't wait.

(Wairoa, 1970s; Gore, 1980s)

--

2, 4, 6, 8,
Dig in, don't wait.

(Christchurch, 1970s)

--

Background Info: Said as an irreverent form of grace before a meal is eaten.

--

Keywords: grace
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1525
Date: 2000
Title: There was an old lady
Gender: Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

There was an old lady from Wearling,
Who had a very bad feeling.

She lay on her back,
And opened her crack,
And pissed all over the ceiling.

(Timaru, 2000)

--

Keywords: limerick, bawdy
Location: Timaru
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1526
Date: 1990s
Title: There was a
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Parody
Rhyme:

There was a pitiful story
Of a young girl called Nellie,
She sat all day watching telly,
And her brains had all turned to jelly.

(Auckland, 1990s)

--

Keywords: media,
Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1528
Date: 1940s
Title: Little man's joke
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

There was a little man and he was mad,
So he jumped into a biscuit bag.
The biscuit bag it was too full,
So he jumped into a roaring bull.
The roaring bull, it was too fat,

So he jumped into a gentleman's hat.
The gentleman's hat it was too fine,
So he jumped into a bottle of wine.
The bottle of wine, it was too thick,
So he jumped onto a broomstick.
The broomstick broke, and gave him a poke,
And that was the end of the little man's joke.

(Auckland, 1940s)

--

Keywords: word play, repetitive
Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1529
Date: 1970s
Title: Sheep in the meadow
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Sheep in the meadow,
Cows in the corn,
Jump in on the month that you were born.
January, Feb..

(NZ ex Australia, 1970s)

--

Location: NZ (ex Australia)
Group size: 3
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1530
Date: 1990s
Title: Santa says
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Handstand
Rhyme:

Santa says ho, ho, ho,
Santa says go, go, go.

(Auckland, 1990s)

--

Location: Auckland
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1531
Date: 1990s
Title: Skip along
Gender: Male
Classification: Tease
Rhyme:

Skip along Jimmy,
Skip along Bob,
You might think you're pretty,
But you're really a slob.

(Timaru, 1990s)

--

Location: Timaru
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1532
Date: 2000
Title: Skip to the market
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Skip to the market,
Skip down the street,
Skip to the store,
Skip to the beat.

(Palmerston, 2000)

--

Location: Palmerston

Group size: 3
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1565
Date: 2006
Title: Cheers, Big Ears
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Cheers, Big Ears.
Same goes, Big Nose.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Background Info: A term related to agreement or 'everything's okay'. Similar to the titles of June Factor's books, "All Right, Vegemite," and "Far Out, Brussel Sprout."

--

Location: Ashburton
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1566
Date: 1960s-2006
Title: Ladies and jellyspoons
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Ladies and jellyspoons
I come before you to stand behind you,
To tell you something I know nothing about.
On Monday, which is Good Friday,
There will be a mothers' meeting, for fathers only.
Admission is free
Pay at the door,
Bring your own seats
And sit on the floor.

(Ashburton, 1960s)

--

Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls,
I come before you to stand behind you,
To tell you something I know nothing about.
Next Monday, which is Good Friday,
We'll celebrate something
That doesn't need celebrating.
We will bring chairs and sit on the floor.
It will be free but you pay at the door.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Background Info: Turner, 1978:120 records variations beginning:

Ladies and jellyspoons, bald-headed babies.

(Victoria, 1973)

Ladies and jellyspoons, bald-headed children, I come to address you, not to undress you.

(Melbourne, 1966)

Ladies and gentlemen, tables and chairs,
Bald-headed babies with curly long hairs,
Next in the programme
Will be a female gentleman,
Sitting in the corner of a round table,
Eating the wet end of a dry carrot.

(Melbourne, 1964)

--

"Play and Folklore", Issue 8, 1985:11, records a version from 1910 Texas collected by Dorothy Howard, that she comments on as a satire of adult pomposity:

Ladies and jellyspoons, little, big and bigger,
Knives and forks, bedbug and chigger,
I stand before you, but not behind you;
I come to address you, but not to undress you.
The next Wednesday, being Good Friday,
There will be a mothers' meeting, for fathers only,
If you can come, please stay at home.
Wear your best clothes, if you have none.
Admission free, pay at the door.
Take a seat and sit on the floor.
It makes no difference where you sit,

The man in the gallery's sure to spit.
The next number on the programme will be,
The fourth corner of the round table.
We thank you for your kind attention.

--

Keywords: word play, tangle talk
Location: Ashburton
Group size: 2
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1567
Date: 1960s
Title: What's for dinner?
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

What's for dinner?

RESPONSE:

Bread and jam.

Or

Bread and scrape.

(Ashburton, 1960s)

--

Background Info: "Play and Folklore", Issue 9, 1985:3, records a variety of responses to the question "What's for dinner?":

Bread and duck under the table. (English)

Cake with honey. (Croatian)

My liver and kidneys. (Greek)

Things that people eat. (Italian)

Cold bun with pears. (German)

Bread and scrape (English)

--

Location: Ashburton
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1568
Date: 1970s

Title: Where are we going?
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Response to the question - Where are we (you) going? or Where have you been?
Timbuktu.
Or
To see a man about a dog.

(Ashburton, 1960)

--

Background Info: "Play and Folklore", Issue 9, 1985:3 records the responses:
Timbuktu. (English)
To the mountains for some monkeys. (Greek)
Somewhere you're not needed. (Croatian)

--

Location: Ashburton
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1570
Date: 2006
Title: Catch a crab
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Catch a crab,
Mind your fingers,
Mind your toes,
Catch a crab,
Let him go!

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Location: Ashburton
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1571
Date: 2006
Title: Ten bottles of beer
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Ten bottles of beer on the wall,
Ten bottles of beer,
Take one down, pass it around,
Nine bottles of beer.
Nine bottles of beer on the wall..
No bottles of beer on the wall.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Keywords: alcohol, continuous
Location: Ashburton
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1572
Date: 2006
Title: Alice the camel
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Alice the camel has one hump,
Alice the camel has one hump,
Alice the camel has one hump,
So go Sally go. (change)
Alice the camel has two humps,
Alice the camel has two humps,
Alice the camel has two humps,
So go Sally go..(continue counting up)

(Christchurch, 2006)

--

Background Info: This game is played with two pairs of clappers. Two players clap standing, while the other two kneel underneath the two standing clappers. With each new verse players change position.

--

Keywords: continuous
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1573
Date: 2006
Title: Coca Cola
Gender: Female
Classification: Skipping
Rhyme:

Coca Cola, Pepsi Cola, over to Mexicola,
Do the splits, the splits, the splits,
Turn around, around, around,
Touch the ground, the ground, the ground,
Get out of town, of town, of town.

(Christchurch, 2006)

--

Background Info: Actions match the words of the rhyme while skipping. See also the rhyme in this collection beginning: "Texico, Texico..".

--

Keywords: commercial product
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1574
Date: 2006
Title: E T
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

E.T. (clap clap)
E.T. (clap clap)
E.T. sitting in a rocket
Eating burnt (?) chocolate,
Watching the stars go twink, twink,
Walla o walla twink, twink,

Wash those cobwebs off your knees,
Sunrise, moonrise, Indian freeze.

(Christchurch, 2006)

--

Keywords: media culture, movies,
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1575
Date: 2006
Title: Itsy bitsy
Gender: Female
Classification: Clapping
Rhyme:

Itsy bitsy teeny weeny,
Ooh walla walla, walla,
Education,
Operation,
I hate school,
Dirty dishes, lazy, lazy,
Jump out the window, crazy, crazy,
Play with a dirty cap, (condom), dirty, dirty.
Robin's Hood (?) Oh walla walla walla,
Dump your boyfriend,
Ooh walla walla, walla,
Itsy bitsy teeny weeny,
Ooh walla walla, walla,
Education,
Operation,
I hate school.

(Christchurch, 2006)

--

Background Info: Compare with a version from
<http://www.mcsweeneys.net/letters/letters14.html> (accessed 15 January, 2007):

Eenie meanie Pepsi-dini
Ooh bop bopsi-dini
Education, operation,
I love you tutti-fruitti.
Down, down baby, down by the roller-coaster,

Sweet, sweet baby, no place to go.
Shamrock, shamrock, shamy-shamy shamrock.
Stole a piece of candy? Greedy, greedy.
Jumped out the window? Crazy, crazy.
Kissin' with your boyfriend? Naughty, naughty.
Didn't do the dishes? Lazy, lazy.
Tried out to be a cheerleader?
Fire cracker, fire cracker.
A on your report card? Brains, brains.
Eenie meanie Pepsi-dini
Ooh bop bopsi-dini
Education, operation,
I love you tutti-fruitti.
Bang, bang, you're dead!

(Amanda Summers, 2000)

--

From discussion on www.cocojams.com (accessed 15 January, 2007) comes the version including the lines:

Caught you with your boyfriend,
Naughty, naughty.
Didn't do the dishes,
Lazy, lazy.
Ate all the candy,
Greedy, greedy.
Jumped out the window,
Man, you're crazy!

(Washington, 1999)

--

Keywords: bawdy, school, teenage culture
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1576
Date: 2006
Title: Lemon Popsicle
Gender: Female
Classification: Counting-out
Rhyme:

Lemon, (clap, clap)

Popsicle, (clap, clap)
Do not eat, (clap, clap)
Do not touch, (clap, clap)
Lemon
Popsicle,
Do not eat,
Do not touch,
Boom
(Repeat with counting-out actions)

(Christchurch, 2006)

--

Background Info: The first verse is sung as a group with circular hand claps, then the leader punches clenched fists around the circle to select the player who is to go 'out', still chanting the rhyme.

--

Keywords: commercial product, food
Location: Christchurch
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1577
Date: 2006
Title: We're gonna kick
Gender: Female
Classification: Action
Rhyme:

We're gonna kick, (kick legs up)
Open, (legs apart)
Side to side, (cross legs to side)
We're gonna kick,
Open,
Side to side,
Kick.

(Christchurch, 2006)

--

Background Info: Children perform a dance-like routine in pairs. (Personal observation)

--

Location: Christchurch
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1578
Date: 1930-1940s
Title: It is better
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

It's better to belch and bear the shame,
Than squelch the belch and feel the pain.

(Blenheim, 1930s)

--

Background Info: Recalled by a woman from Blenheim and her friend in Taranaki,
considered quite risqué at the time.

--

Similar verse recorded by Schwartz, 1992:23:

Better to urp a burp
And bear the shame
Than to squelch a belch
And die of pain.

--

Keywords: scatological
Location: Blenheim
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1579
Date: 1960s
Title: Carted, farted
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Carted, farted, slipped and fell,

See you Friday, San Fernal (?)

(Blenheim, 1960s)

--

Background Info: Reporter of this rhyme was unable to explain the meaning, but recalled many sniggers among peers as it was said . (Personal informant)

--

Keywords: scatological, fart lore

Location: Blenheim

Group size: 2

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1580

Date: 1875

Title: Pretty Little Girl of Mine

Gender: Female

Classification: Circle game

Rhyme:

Oh, this pretty little girl of mine,
She cost me many a bottle of wine.
A bottle of wine or anything too,
To see what my little girl can do.

Down on the carpet she shall kneel,
While the grass grows in the field.
Stand upright upon your feet,
And choose the one you love so sweet.
(Partner is chosen at this stage)

Now you're married you must obey,
You must be true to all you say.
You must be kind, you must be good,
And help the wife to chop the wood.

(Tahataki, Otago, 1875)

--

ALTERNATIVE FINAL VERSES:

Now you're married we wish you joy,
First a girl and then a boy.
Seven years after, seven years to come,
Pray young couple, kiss and be done.

(Pray young couple, kiss together.)
(Play and cuddle and kiss together.)

(Christchurch, 1880; Nelson, 1890; Hawkes Bay, 1920 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:13-14))

--

Background Info: Compare with the marriage game "Poor Sally is a-weeping".

--

Keywords: marriage game, traditional game
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 6
Incidence: 4

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1581
Date: 1890s
Title: Here we go Jingo Ring
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Singing Game
Rhyme:

Here we go round a jinga-ring,
A jinga-ring, a jinga-ring,
Here we go round a jinga-ring,
Around the marry (merry) ma tanza.

The last time's the catching time,
The catching time, the catching time,
The last time's the catching time,
Around the marry ma tanza.

(Moeraki, 1890s (Sutton-Smith, 1959:16))

--

Background Info: Sutton-Smith, 1959:16 records this as possibly a tag game, related to tug of war, or alternatively a marriage game. Found only in Otago and South Canterbury.
Similar game in Christchurch known as Merry Go Tansy.

--

Sung to the tune of "Nuts and May". Similar version recorded by Opie, 1989:150 -154, as a popular Scottish marriage game with verses beginning:

Here we go round the jingo-ring..

Twice about and then we fall..
Choose your maidens, one or two..
Sweep the house till the bride comes in..
A guinea-gold ring to tell her name..
[Jeannie] is her first name..
[McDonald] is her second name..
A bottle of wine to tell his name..
[Robbie] is his first name..
[Bruce] is his second name..

--

Keywords: marriage
Location: Otago
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1582
Date: 1900-1920s
Title: Here we go round the Mulberry Bush
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Game
Rhyme:

Here we go round the mulberry bush,
The mulberry bush, the mulberry bush,
Here we go round the mulberry bush,
So early on [Monday] morning.

This is the way we scrub the floor..
This is the way we go to school..
This is the way we clean our teeth..
This is the way we wash our clothes..
This is the way we go to church..

(NZ, 1900-1920s)

--

Background Info: Referred to by Sutton-Smith, 1959:19 as a pantomime game. Children mime the relevant actions.

--

"This renowned game, which Alice found herself taking part in when she tried to shake hands with Tweedledum and Tweedledee simultaneously, is carried out in the manner of a medieval carole, the circle of performers dancing round holding hands while they sing the refrain; and standing still, releasing hands, and imitating the

action suggested, when they sing the narrative stanza." Opie, 1985:287.

--

Location: Various NZ

Group size: 6

Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1583

Date: 1890s

Title: When I was a lady

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Game

Rhyme:

When I was a lady, a lady, a lady,
When I was a lady, a lady was I.
It was this way, and that way, (curtsey to left and right)
And this way, and that way,
When I was a lady, a lady was I.

When I was a gentleman, a gentleman, a gentleman,
When I was a gentleman, a gentleman was I.
It was this way, and that way, (bow to the left and right)
And this way, and that way,
When I was a gentleman, a gentleman was I.

When I was a gardener.. (digging)
When I was a soldier.. (shooting)
When I was a washerwoman.. (washing)

(Dunedin, 1890s (Sutton-Smith, 1959:19))

--

Background Info: Forerunner to "When Sally was a baby.."

--

Opie, 1988:296, gives details of variations of this singing game going back to the 1880s in Britain.

A circle game where players amble around in a circle singing, and each time they come to "'twas this way and that way" they stop going round, face inwards and do the action felt appropriate to the type of person named. Roles included are:

a teacher, a baker, a milkmaid, a dressmaker, a nurse, a laundress, a soldier, a sailor, a washerwoman, a beggar, and fish woman.

Similar versions found in France, Italy, USA, Germany, Portugal, Sardinia, Spain, Uruguay and Holland.

--

Keywords: life passages, roles, traditional game

Location: Dunedin

Group size: 6

Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1584

Date: 1870s -1962

Title: Oranges and lemons

Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Chain game

Rhyme:

Oranges and lemons
The bells of St. Clements,
I owe you five farthings,
And when will you pay me,
Tomorrow or the next day?
Here is a light to light you to bed.
Here is a chopper to chop off your head.
Chip, chop, chip, chop.

(Christchurch, 1876)

--

Oranges and lemons
Said the bells of St. Clements,
I'd give you five farthings,
Said the bells of St. Martins.
Then I'll be rich,
Said the bells of Shoreditch.
Here comes a candle to light you to bed,
Here comes a chopper to chop off your head.

(Dunedin, 1890; Ashburton, 1962)

--

Background Info: Reported by Sutton-Smith as one of the most popular chain games of early 1900s, usually played by girls.
Sutton-Smith, 1959:21 quotes: "Two girls stood facing each other with their hands joined and their arms held upwards in an arch. All the rest filed through underneath their extended arms while singing."

--

The verse concludes with a selected player being chopped and then choosing to join either the 'orange' or the 'lemon' team represented by one of the two arch-formers. The game concludes with a tug of war contest between the two teams. (Opie, 1992:337-339)

--

Keywords: traditional game
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 8
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1585
Date: 1900s-2006
Title: Bingo
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Game
Rhyme:

A farmer's dog lay on the mat,
And Bingo was his name - oh.
B. I. N. G. O
B. I. N. G. O
B. I. N. G. O
And Bingo was his name - oh.

(Nelson, 1900s; Ashburton, 2006)

--

Background Info: Reported by Sutton-Smith, 1959:20-21, as first being played as a circle game with a leader in the middle. When an error was made with the spelling of 'Bingo', that player was then to go into the centre of the circle until the next error was made.

--

Location: Various NZ
Group size: 6
Incidence: 2

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1586
Date: 1890s -1900s
Title: Here's a prisoner we have got,
Gender: Male and Female

Classification: Game

Rhyme:

Here's a prisoner we have got,
Here's a prisoner we have got,
Here's a prisoner we have got,
Bright, young lady.
She stole my watch and broke my chain,
She stole my watch and broke my chain,
She stole my watch and broke my chain,
Nice young lady.
Off to prison she must go,
Off to prison she must go,
Off to prison she must go,
Nice young lady.

(Nelson, 1895 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:22))

--

Similarly:

What have the robbers done to you?
Done to you, done to you?
What have the robbers done to you
My fair lady?
Stole my watch and broke my chain..
Off to prison you must go..
Pull her ears and let her go..

--

Background Info: Sutton-Smith, 1959:21-22 records details of this often torturous rhyme. Associated with the rhyme, "London Bridge has fallen down".

--

Played in a similar fashion to "Oranges and Lemons" with the capture ritual. Opie, 1985:70 records the verses beginning:

Oh what has my poor prisoner done..
Gay ladies, gay.
Robbed a house and killed a man..
What will you have to set her free..
Fourteen pounds and a wedding gown..
Stamp your foot and let her go.
Gay ladies, gay.

--

Location: Nelson
Group size: 8
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1587
Date: 1900
Title: Reeds and rushes
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Game
Rhyme:

Rushes and reeds are bending,
Rushes and reeds are bowing,
My mother sits a-mending,
My father goes a-plowing,
In and out and all about,
And curtsey as we go.

(Auckland, 1900 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:24))

--

Background Info: A game similar to "In and Out the Windows", involving weaving in and out of a line formation. (Sutton-Smith, 1959:24)

--

Keywords: traditional game
Location: Auckland
Group size: 0
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1588
Date: 1900s
Title: Nuts and May
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Chain line game
Rhyme:

Here we go gathering nuts and may, nuts and may, nuts and may,
Here we go gathering nuts and may,
On a cold and frosty morning.

Who will you have for your nuts and may? (x 3)
On a cold and frosty morning.

We will have [Sally] for our nuts and may..
And who will you have to take her away..
We will have [Johnny] to take her away..

(Palmerston North, 1900 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:24-25))

--

Background Info: Sutton-Smith, 1959:24-25 records that " two lines of players danced forward to meet each other and backwards again. The lines of players sang alternate verses. After the verses were sung there was a tug of war between two players." The original English title of this game was "Nuts in May".

--

Keywords: traditional game
Location: Palmerston North
Group size: 10
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1589
Date: 1880-1920
Title: The Three Dukes
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Line Game
Rhyme:

Here comes a Duke a-riding, a-riding, a-riding,
Here comes a Duke a-riding,
To court your daughter Jane.

My daughter Jane is yet too young,
To be controlled by such a one,
Go back and back, you saucy Jack,
And clean your spurs for they are black.

My spurs are bright and richly wrought,
And in this town they were not bought.
And in this town they'll not be sold,
Neither for silver, nor for gold.

Go through the kitchen,
Go through the hall,
And choose the fairest one of all.
The fairest one that I can see,
Is [Sally Jane] you come with me.

(Variations recorded in Nelson, 1890; Dunedin, 1880; Nelson, 1920; Christchurch,

1875; Amberley, 1890; Wellington, 1890; Bay of Plenty, 1885; Auckland, 1900; Hawkes Bay, 1885 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:25-26))

--

Background Info: For earlier versions of this rhyme see Opie, 1988:76-92.
Recorded in 1820s as the version beginning:

Here come three dukes a-riding,
With a rancy tancy terry boy's horn!
Here come three dukes a-riding,
With a rancy tancy tee!

--

NZ version noted by Sutton-Smith is a combination of the rhyme beginning: "Here come three dukes" and "Three brethren out of Spain". (Opie, 1988:92-106) Also known as Saucy Sue or Saucy Jack in NZ.

We are three Brethren out of Spain,
We come to court your daughter Jane.
My daughter Jane she is too young,
And has not learnt her mother tongue.

Ending with the lines:

Turn back, turn back, thou scornful knight,
And take the fairest in your sight.
The fairest maid that I can see,
Is pretty [Nancy] come with me.

--

Similar versions to be found in Italy, Germany, Denmark, Canada, USA, Australia, Sweden, Chile and Brazil. (Opie, 1988:91-92)

--

Keywords: marriage, courtship, traditional game
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 10
Incidence: 9

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1590
Date: Pre 1900
Title: Pua
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Skipping

Rhyme:

Piua atu taku piu, wania atu taku piu,
E kohiti nuku, e kohiti rangi
E kohiti wharawhara te taieri
Taieri tau.

Also

E pui e!
Ka taha te ra ki te rua.
(pre 1900s, Tuhoe district)

--

Background Info: From Best, 1925:152-153.
Best noted that early Maori preferred group skipping games with long ropes. Seldom used shorter ropes for individual skipping.

--

Keywords: Traditional Maori,
Location: NZ
Group size: 4
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1591
Date: Pre 1900s
Title: Piki, piki
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Counting-out
Rhyme:

Piki, pika, pere, rika,
Papa, rangi,
He, hi, rate, mai,
Hau, haunga, te, hati, mai, putu,
Piki, piki.

(East Cape, Tuhoe tribe, pre-1900s)

--

Background Info: A nonsense counting-out rhyme similar to "Ena, deena,concertina", used for selecting who is 'it' in a game similar to tag. A circle called a 'wi' is marked on the ground, around which the players stand. The keeper of the 'wi' is selected by counting-out. The counting-out process continues until only one player remains and s/he becomes the base keeper, whose job is to prevent other players

entering the 'wi', by tagging them.
The counting-out process is called 'tatau tangata'.
(Best, 1925:164-165)

--

Keywords: Traditional Maori,
Location: NZ
Group size: 8
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1592
Date: 1900s
Title: The Grand Old Duke of York
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Game
Rhyme:

The grand old Duke of York,
He had ten thousand men,
He marched them up to the top of the hill,
And he marched them down again.
And when they're up they're up,
And when they're down, they're down,
And when they're only half way up,
They're neither up nor down.

(NZ, 1900s)

--

Background Info: Sutton-Smith, 1959:29, records details of this popular game - known as a processional couple game. Participants form two team lines and one couple dances up and down between the players and then leads their respective teams off around the hall and back through the raised arms of the beginning couple. This is then repeated with a new pair leading the way.

--

Keywords: traditional game
Location: Various NZ
Group size: 10
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1593
Date: 1910

Title: Old Pa..
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Taunt
Rhyme:

Old Pa Watson's a very good man,
He goes to church on Sunday.
He prays to God to give him strength,
To whack the kids on Monday.

Mr Low is a very good man,
He goes to church on Sunday,
He prays to God to make us good,
And gives us the cuts on Monday.

Mr Low is a very good man,
Who tries to teach us all he can,
Singing, spelling, arithmetic,
He never forgets to give us the stick.

(Palmerston North, 1910 (Sutton-Smith, 1959:39))

--

Keywords: school, authority
Location: Palmerston North
Group size: 2
Incidence: 3

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1594
Date: 1880s
Title: Tatai Whetu
Gender: Male and Female
Classification: Game
Rhyme:

Katahi, ka ri, ka wara, ka tikoki
Manu ki, manu ka toro, kai o, tungongo.
Kai te koata, raua riki, tara kaina, e hi
Tarera, e tika, ramako, tikina,
Kapohia, te arero, o te rangi
Wiwi, wawa, heke, heke,
Te manu ki, tai keka.

(NZ, c. 1880s)

--

Background Info: A breath-holding rhyme known as "Tatai Whetu" or "Tatau Manawa". Players recite nonsense jingles as fast as possible without taking a breath. The same rhyme was also used as a manifestation of thaumaturgy to prevent frosts that may damage crops. (Best, 1925:165)

--

Keywords: Traditional Maori,
Location: NZ
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1595
Date: 1880s
Title: Poteteke
Gender: Male
Classification: Game - counting-out.
Rhyme:

Poroteteke kauaia ma taua
I piri ki hea?
I piri ki te rua I a Te Korokoro
Koro tu ki Wai-kato
Whakarere ko te aiai
Haruhiruhi te aiai
Horoherohe ruhiruhi
Haramai ki roto..e
Tenei te hope ka tiori
He pungare koe i tiki mai
Whakakuikui aku tapa
Kuikui.

(NZ, 1880s)

--

Background Info: This rhyme is chanted by boys as they perform a ritual of standing upside down on their hands or their heads and beating a rhythm with their feet as they chant. Once he falls he is then counted out. (Best, 1925:166)

--

Keywords: traditional Maori
Location: NZ
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1596
Date: c. 1880s
Title: Piki te wahine
Gender: Male
Classification: Game
Rhyme:

Piki te wahine ki runga ki te rakau..e
Ka whatero i raro te hi arero inawa..Hei!

(NZ, pre 1900s)

--

Background Info: A chant used prior to a humming top spinning contest. On the word 'Hei!' the contest begins to see which top spins for the longest period of time.
(Best, 1925:159)

--

Keywords: traditional Maori
Location: NZ
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1597
Date: 2006
Title: Two in a car
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Two in a car,
Two little kisses,
Two weeks later,
Mr and Mrs.

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Keywords: marriage, love,
Location: Ashburton
Group size: 2
Incidence: 1

== R H Y M E ==

ID: 1598
Date: 2006
Title: Hermi the worm
Gender: Female
Classification: Fun
Rhyme:

Sitting on the fence post
Chewing my bubble gum. (sound effects)
Playing with my yoyo (sound effects)
And along came Hermi the worm.
He was th..i..s big, (exaggerated actions with each verse)
And I said, "Hermi, what happened?"
"I ate my breakfast."
(repeat including various meals including, lunch, dinner, supper, midnight feast)
The final verse ending:
Sitting on a fence post...
He was this big. (small size indicated)
And I said, "Hermi, what happened?"
I burped. (with appropriate burping sound.)

(Ashburton, 2006)

--

Background Info: Learned through Girl Guides. (Personal informant)

--

Keywords: Girl Guides
Location: Ashburton
Group size: 6
Incidence: 1