

Rhymes for FEBRUARY



Wee Willie Winkie
runs through the town,
Upstairs and downstairs
in his night-gown,
Rapping at the window,
crying through the lock,
“Are all the children in their bed,
for it’s past eight o’clock?”

Pat your child on the knees or feet for ‘runs through the town.’ Use your index and middle finger as ‘legs’ and run them up and down your child’s arm for ‘upstairs and downstairs’. Knock on a table or wall for ‘rapping at the window’ and then say the last line in a loud voice, as if ‘crying through the lock.’ You could finish by clapping and counting to eight with your child.

Two little aliens jumping on a planet,
One called Zig and one called Janet.
Fly away, Zig! Fly away, Janet!
Come back, Zig! And come back Janet!

This is adapted from ‘Two Little Dicky-birds’. Use your thumbs for the aliens, ‘fly’ each thumb away behind your back and then bring them back again. Or try a tactile version – use

your fists as the aliens, very gently make them ‘jump’ on the back of your child’s hands or on their knees, each ‘alien’ disappears in turn and then ‘lands’ back on your child’s hands or knees again.

Tickle the stars
Tickle your toes
Turn around and tickle your nose
Reach down low
Reach up high
Story time’s over —
Wave good-bye!

This is a good rhyme for last thing at night. Reach up and ‘tickle the stars’, then tickle your child’s toes and nose. Reach down and up again with your child and then give a wave.

TRADITIONAL RHYMES
WITH ADAPTATIONS
BY AILIE FINLAY
flotsamandjetsam.co.uk

ILLUSTRATED BY KATE LEIPER
kateleiper.co.uk

