Objective

The student will segment sentences into words.
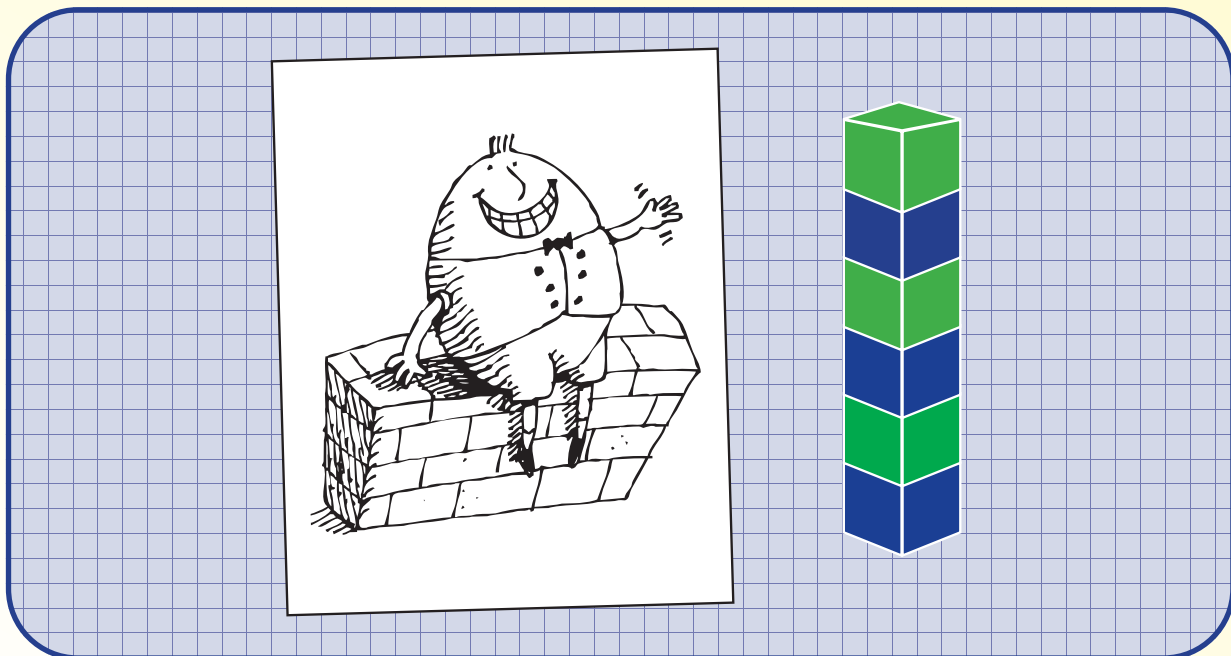
Materials

▶ Nursery rhyme picture cards
   Write the number of words in the first sentence of each rhyme on the back of each card.
▶ Interlocking cubes

Activity

Students count the words in sentences and stack interlocking cubes to equal the number of words counted.

1. Place nursery rhyme picture cards face up in a stack. Place the cubes on a flat surface.
2. The student selects the top nursery rhyme picture card and says the rhyme.
3. Repeats the first sentence and stacks the number of cubes to equal the number of words (e.g., "Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall." There are six words in the sentence and the student stacks six cubes).
4. Places the stack of cubes below the matching picture.
5. Turns card over and checks the number on the back to see if it corresponds to the number of cubes.
6. Continues until all nursery rhyme cards are used.
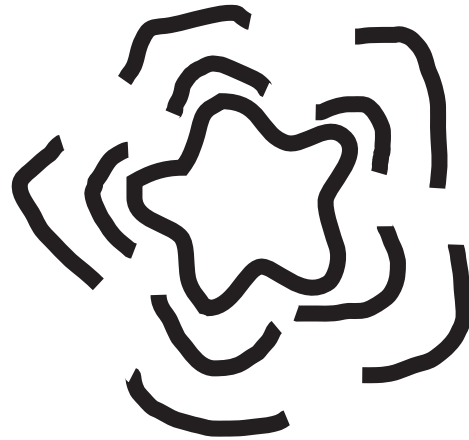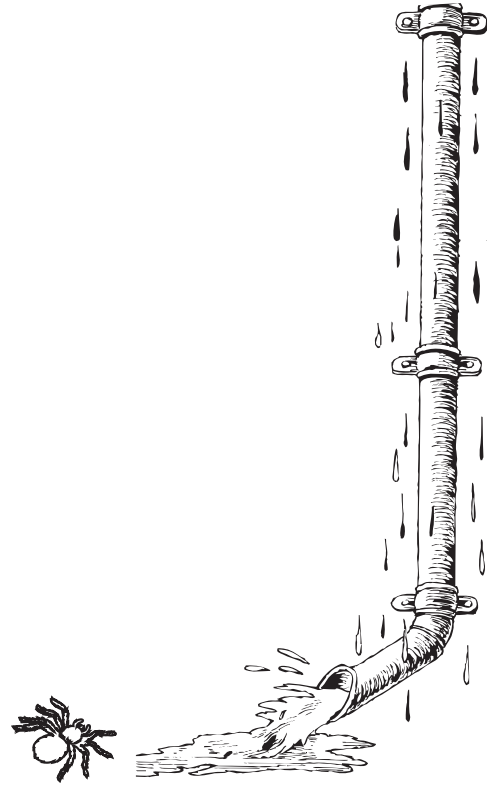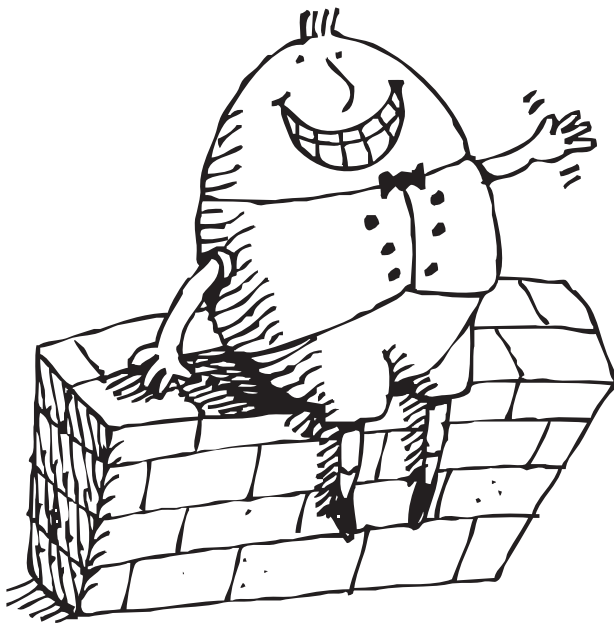7. Self check

Extensions and Adaptations

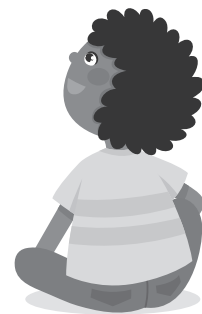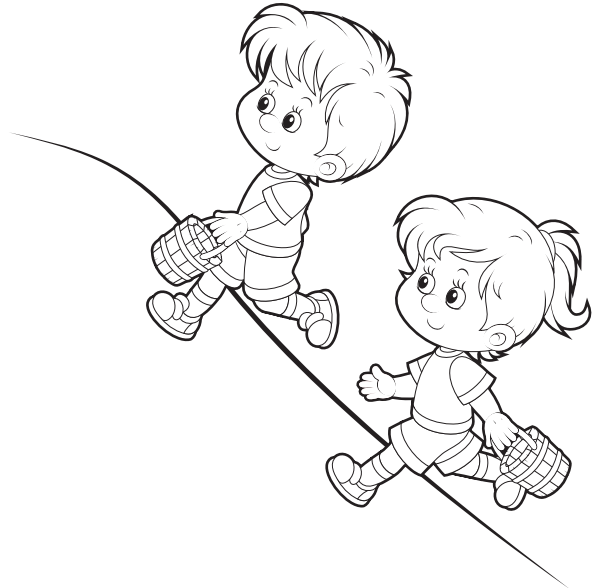▶ Name the rhyme that has the most words in the first sentence.
▶ Make other nursery rhyme cards to use in the activity.

nursery rhyme picture cards:
humpty dumpty, eency-weency spider, london bridge, twinkle, twinkle little star

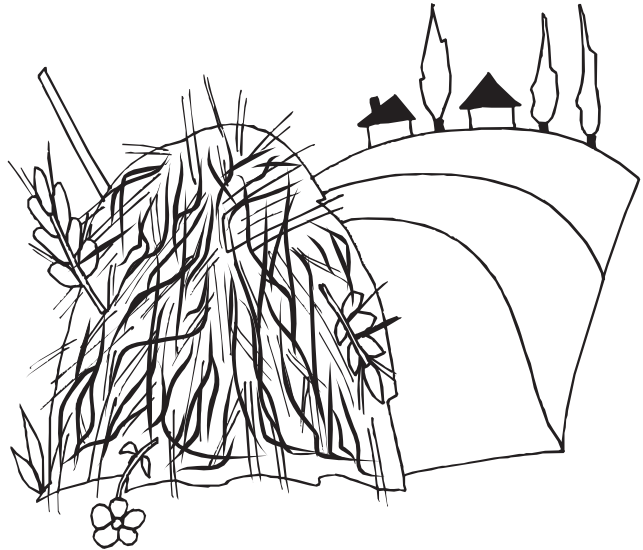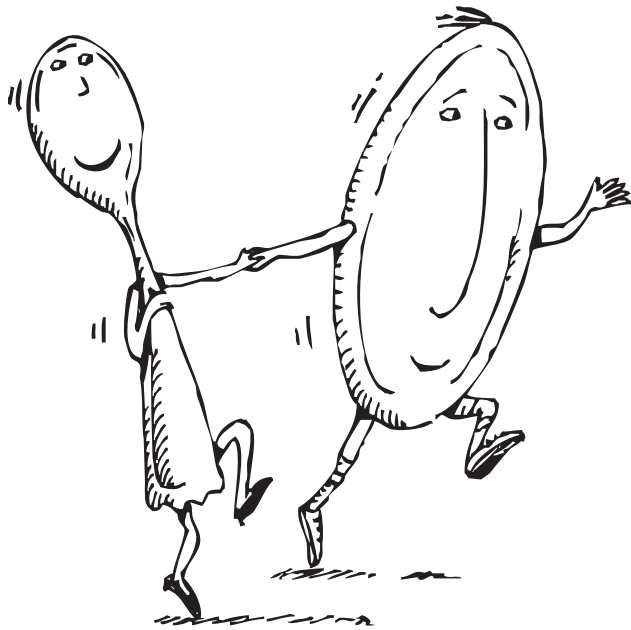nursery rhyme picture cards:
five little speckled frogs, jack and jill, jack be nimble, star light star bright

nursery rhyme picture cards: hey diddle diddle, little boy blue