

# Animals for All Seasons

## Rhymes & Resources

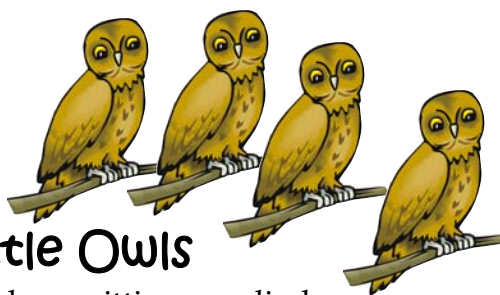
Compiled by  
Mary G. Marshall  
&  
Sue Eilers



## I'm a Little Groundhog

(McKinnon/ *Busy Bees Winter*)  
Tune: "I'm a Little Teapot"

I'm a little Groundhog,  
Fat and brown, [*hold arms in large circle at waist level*]  
Popping up above the ground. [*pop up*]  
I sure hope my shadow doesn't show, [*shake head "no"*]  
'Cause if it does, we'll have more snow. [*move fingers from above head to the ground*]



## Five Little Owls

This little owl was sitting on a limb.  
This one flew over to play with him.  
This owl was calling, "Who? Who? Who?"  
This one answered, "I wish I knew."  
"The sun's coming up!" this one said.  
And five little owls went to bed.

## Five Little Robins

(*Ring A Ring O'Roses*)

Five little robins lived in a tree.  
Father [*hold up thumb*]  
Mother [*hold up little finger*]  
And babies three. [*hold up three fingers*]  
Father caught a worm. [*make catching motion*]  
Mother caught a bug.  
The three little robins  
Began to tug. [*make tugging motion*]  
This one got a bug.  
This one got a worm.  
This one said, "Now it's my turn."



# Robin Pokey

(Sue Eilers & Mary Marshall)

You put your right wing in. [*put bent arm in towards center of circle*]

You put your right wing out.

You put your right wing in,

And you flap it all about.

You do the robin pokey

And you fly yourself around. [*twirl with arms outstretched*]

That's what it's all about.

You put your red breast in. [*puff chest out and lean in*]

You put your red breast out.

You put your red breast in,

And shake it all about.

You do the robin pokey

And you fly yourself around. [*twirl with arms outstretched*].

That's what it's all about.

You put your small beak in. [*put nose in*]

You put your small beak out.

You put your small beak in,

And you bop it all about.

You do the robin pokey

And you fly yourself around. [*twirl with arms outstretched*]

That's what it's all about.

You put your brown tail in. [*put backside in*]

You put your brown tail out.

You put your brown tail in,

And shake it all about.

You do the robin pokey

And you fly yourself around. [*twirl with arms outstretched*]

That's what it's all about.

You put your Robin in.

You put your Robin out.

You put your Robin in,

And shake it all about.

You do the robin pokey

And you fly yourself around.

[*twirl with arms outstretched*]

That's what it's all about.



## Five Little Squirrels

(Patti's Preschool Resources)

Five little squirrels sitting by the door.  
One ran away and then there were four.  
Four little squirrels climbing a tree.  
One ran away and then there were three.  
Three little squirrels with coats so new.  
One ran away and then there were two.  
Two little squirrels warming in the sun.  
One ran away, leaving only one.  
One little squirrel wasn't having any fun.  
He ran away and then there were none.

*This rhyme may be done with finger puppets or a flannel board.*



## Little Brown Squirrel

(Sue Eilers)



A little brown squirrel lived in a tree.  
He'd hide in his hole, and peek at me.  
When I'd call him out to play,  
"Hey, Squirrel!"  
Oddly enough, he'd run away.

A little brown squirrel lived in a tree.  
He'd hide in his hole, and peek at me.  
When I'd sit still, then without fail,  
He'd creep from his hole and wag his tail.

## Squirrel Play

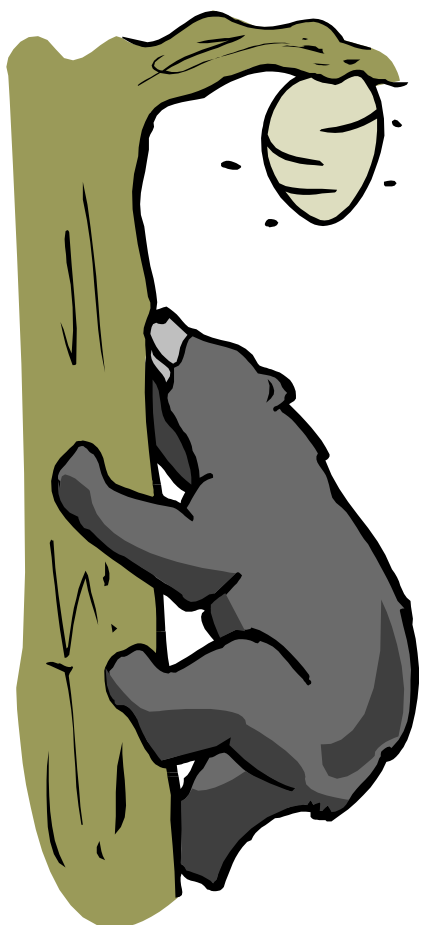
(Stetson & Congdon/ *Little Hands Fingerplays & Action Songs*)

Here's a squirrel, with eyes so bright, [*form circles around eyes with fingers*]  
Hunting for nuts with all its might. [*shade eyes with hand and look around*]  
Here's its hole, where day by day, [*cup one hand to make a "hole"*]  
Nut after nut it stores away. [*poke finger on other hand into the hole*]  
When winter comes with the cold and storm, [*arms across chest, shivering*]  
Squirrel sleeps curled up, all snug and warm. [*head on hands, eyes closed*]

# Crunchy Food for Winter

(Patti's Preschool Resources)

Where is gray squirrel? *[hands behind back]*  
Where is gray squirrel?  
Here I am. *[fist in front, wiggle thumb]*  
Here I am. *[other fist in front, wiggle thumb]*  
How are you today squirrel? *[fist in front, wiggle thumb]*  
How are you today squirrel? *[other fist in front, wiggle thumb]*  
Busy, busy. *[roll fists around]*  
Busy, busy. *[roll fists around]*  
Where are your acorns?  
Where are your acorns?  
Here they are! *[wiggle four fingers]*  
Here they are! *[wiggle four fingers]*  
Crunchy food for winter.  
Crunchy food for winter.  
Hide them quickly. *[hide hands behind back]*  
Hide them quickly. *[hide hands behind back]*



# Little Bear

(Best of Mailbox Songs, Poems, and Fingerplays)

Tune: "Frere Jacques"

Are you eating, *[pretend to eat with paws]*  
Are you eating,  
Little Bear? Little Bear?  
Eating nuts and berries, *[hold hand down, palm flat]*  
For the long, hard winter, *[shiver and rub arms]*  
Little bear. Little bear.

Are you sleeping, *[lay head on hands]*  
Are you sleeping,  
Little Bear? Little Bear?  
Sleeping through the winter, *[lay head on hands]*  
You are hibernating  
Little bear. Little bear.

Are you waking, *[stretch and pretend to yawn]*  
Are you waking,  
Little bear? Little bear?  
Now that it is springtime *[hop up and down]*  
Sleeping time is over,  
Little bear. Little bear.

# Bear in a Cave

(Cooper/ Too Many Rabbits)

Here is a cave, inside is a bear, *[hold up fist, thumb inside]*

Now he comes out to get some fresh air. *[keep fist, pop thumb out]*

He stays out all summer in sunshine and heat.

He hunts in the forest for berries to eat.

*[spread fingers of one hand to create "forest," move "bear" through it]*

When snow starts to fall *[use "forest" hand to sprinkle on "bear"]*

He hurries inside.

His warm little cave and there he will hide. *[put thumb back in fist]*

When spring comes again, the snow melts away

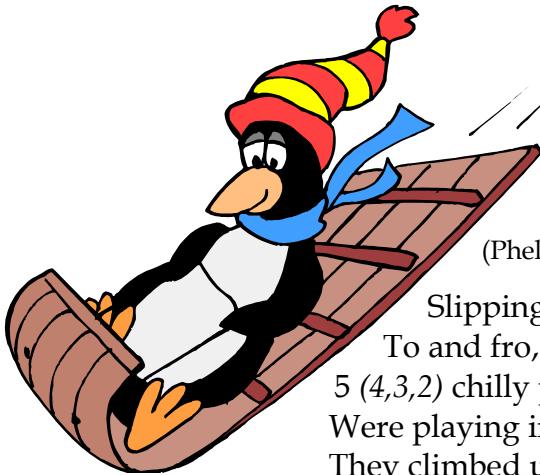
*[cross open hands on chest, swish down to sides]*

And out comes the bear ready to play. *[pop thumb out of fist]*

He stays out all summer in sunshine and heat.

He hunts in the forest for berries to eat.

*[spread fingers of one hand to create "forest," move "bear" through it]*



# 5 Chilly Penguins

(Phelps/ Finger Tales)

Slipping and sliding

To and fro,

5 (4,3,2) chilly penguins

Were playing in the snow.

They climbed up high *[slowly raise hand or penguin]*

To the top of a hill,

And one slid down *[remove one penguin and "slide" it down]*

Oh what a spill!

Slipping and sliding

To and fro,

One chilly penguin

Was playing in the snow.

He climbed up high *[slowly raise hand or penguin]*

To the top of a hill,

And he slid down *[remove one penguin and "slide" it down]*

Oh what a spill!

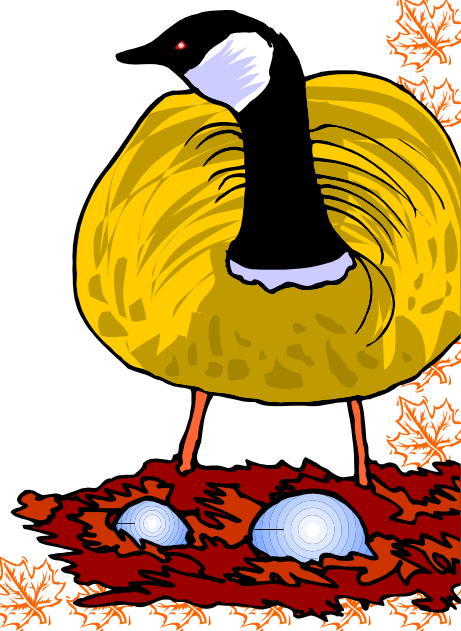
*This can be done with a finger puppet or a flannel board.*

## Selected Books on Animals

- Arnosky, Jim. *Raccoons and Ripe Corn*. New York: Lothrop, 1987.  
Birnbaum, Abe. *Green Eyes*. New York: Golden, 1953.  
Chorao, Kay. *Little Farm by the Sea*. New York: Holt, 1998.  
Cox, Judy. *Go to Sleep, Groundhog*. New York: Holiday, 2004.  
Crebbin, June. *Danny's Duck*. Cambridge, MA; Candlewick, 1995.  
Dabcovich, Lydia. *Sleepy Bear*. New York: Puffin, 1985.  
Day, Nancy Raines. *A Kitten's Year*. New York: HarperCollins, 2000.  
Ernst, Lisa Campbell. *Wake Up, It's Spring!* New York: HarperCollins, 2004.  
Fox, Mem. *Sleepy Bears*. San Diego: Harcourt Brace, 1999.  
George, Jean Craighead. *Dear Rebecca, Winter Is Here*. New York: HarperCollins, 1993.  
Grindley, Sally. *What Will I Do Without You?* New York: Kingfisher, 1999.  
McMillan, Bruce. *Puffins Climb, Penguins Rhyme*. San Diego: HarcourtBrace, 1995.  
Moon, Nicola. *Penguins in the Fridge*. London: Pavilion, 1995.  
Murphy, Mary. *Here Comes Spring, and Summer and Fall and Winter*.  
New York: DK, 1999.  
Pitcher, Caroline. *Are You Spring?* New York: Dorling Kindersley, 2000.  
Rockwell, Anne. *My Spring Robin*. New York: MacMillan, 1989.  
Rockwell, Anne. *Ducklings and Pollywogs*. New York: Macmillan, 1994.  
Rockwell, Anne. *Two Blue Jays*. New York: Walker, 2003.  
Rucki, Ani. *When the Earth Wakes*. New York: Scholastic, 1998.  
Simont, Marc. *The Goose That Almost Got Cooked*. New York: Scholastic, 1997.  
Waddell, Martin. *Snow Bears*. Cambridge, MA: Candlewick, 2002.  
Wallace, Nancy Elizabeth. *Leaves! Leaves! Leaves!* New York: Cavendish, 2003.  
Walters, Catherine. *When Will It Be Spring?* New York: Dutton, 1998.  
Wilson, Karma. *Bear Snores On*. New York: McElderry, 2001.

## Puppets, Puzzles, & Music

- Birds, Beasts, Bugs & Fishes* CD (Pete Seeger)  
Barn Owl Puppet  
Bluebirds in Nest Puppet  
*A Child's Celebration of Rock 'n' Roll* CD  
Emperor Penguin Puppet  
Gray Squirrel Puppet  
Groundhog Puppet  
Penguin Puppet  
Polar Bear Puppet  
Rabbit Puppet (white)  
Rabbit Puppet (brown)  
Squirrel Puppet



## Teacher Resources

*1001 Rhymes and Fingerplays for Working with Young Children.*

Everett, WA: Warren, 1994.

A to Z Kids Stuff. [www.atozkidsstuff.com](http://www.atozkidsstuff.com).

*Best of the Mailbox Songs, Poems, and Fingerplays.*

Greensboro, NC: Education Center, n.d.

Briggs, Diane. *101 Fingerplays, Stories and Songs to Use with Finger Puppets.*

Chicago: ALA, 1999.

Charner, Kathy. *The Giant Encyclopedia of Circle Time and Group Activities for Children 3 to 6.*

Beltsville, MD: Gryphon House, 1996.

Charner, Kathy. *The Giant Encyclopedia of Theme Activities for Children 2 to 5.*

Mt. Rainier, MD: Gryphon House, 1993.

Cooper, Kay. *Too Many Rabbits and Other Fingerplays about Animals, Nature, Weather, and the Universe.*

New York: Scholastic, 1995.

Forte, Imogene. *[Month] Patterns, Projects & Plans Series [by Month].*

Nashville, TN: Incentive, 1990.

Lohnes, Marilyn. *Finger Folk.* Fort Atkinson, WI: Alleyside, 1999.

*The Mailbox* [magazine]

McKinnon, Elizabeth. *Busy Bees Fall.*

Everett, WA: Warren, 1994 [also, Spring, Summer, Winter].

Patti's Preschool Resources. [www.geocities.com/soogal99/index.html](http://www.geocities.com/soogal99/index.html).

Phelps, Joan Hilyer. *Finger Tales.* Fort Atkinson, WI: Upstart, 2002.

Raines, Shirley and Robert Canady. *Story S-T-R-E-T-C-H-E-R-S.*

Beltsville, MD: Gryphon House, 1989.

*Ring A Ring O'Roses.* 10th ed. Flint, MI: Flint Public Library, 1996.

Schiller, Pam and Thomas Moore. *Where Is Thumbkin?*

Mt. Rainier, MD: Gryphon House, 1993.

Silberg, Jackie. *300 Three Minute Games.* Beltsville, MD: Gryphon House, 1997.

Stetson, Emily and Vicky Congdon. *Little Hands Fingerplays & Action Songs.*

Charlotte, VT: Williamson, 2001.

Totten, Kathryn. *Seasonal Storytime Crafts.* Fort Atkinson, WI: Upstart, 2002.

Warren, Jean. *Animal Piggyback Songs.* Everett, WA: Warren, 1990.

Warren, Jean. *The Best of Totline.* Torrance, CA: Totline, 1995.

Warren, Jean. *More Piggyback Songs.* Everett, WA: Warren, 1995.

## Story Totes

*Animals for All Seasons* [seasons & different animals]

*"B" Is for Building* [building & construction machines]

*Beautiful Babies* [big brothers, big sisters, & new babies]

*Billions of Bugs* [all kinds of insects]

*Birthday Bonanza* [celebrating birthdays]

*Bunches of Bears* [teddy bears & real bears]

*Cool Cats & Cuddly Kittens* [cats & kittens]

*Dazzling Dinosaurs* [dinosaurs]

*Fabulous Food* [food and eating]

*Fascinating Families* [all types of families & their members]

*Fun on the Farm* [farms & farm animals]

*Helpers & Heroes* [community helpers]

*Monster Mania* [monsters]

*Pooches by the Pound* [dogs & puppies]

*Preschoolers Pretend* [imagination & play]

*Rainbows & Stars* [colors & shapes]

*Sensational Seasons* [the four seasons]

*Sing a Song of Sixpence* [music & rhyme]

*Spectacular Sea Stories* [ocean & sea creatures]

*Trips Around Town* [places to visit]

*Wacky Weather* [all types of weather]

*Wonderful World of Wheels* [transportation]

*Zoo-rific* [zoos & zoo animals]

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