

NON-READERS and READERS

Colored shapes: Write the words on shapes of different colors. Remove one shape at a time each time you say the verse.

Symbol verse: Draw or cut out a symbol for each word of the verse. Erase one symbol each time you say the verse.

Choral speaking: Divide the children into several groups. Each group says part of the verse, taking turns.

Crossing the river: Cut out paper stones. Have each stone represent a word of the verse. Line them up on the floor and have a child step on the stones while everyone says the verse.

Follow the Leader: The children repeat the verse as they follow the movements the teacher makes. Examples – jump on one foot, move one arm in a circle.

Pass the ball: Pass a ball around. Say a word each time the ball is passed. Once the verse is learned: the person holding the ball at the end of the verse say the whole verse.

March-a-verse: Repeat the verse as everyone marches around the room around obstacles.

The next word: The class repeats the verse several times. The teacher begins to repeat the verse. When he stops, the children say the following word. If desired, after the verse is well known, the teacher chooses a child who can go to the front and lead the class.

Choose a friend: Once there is a child who knows the verse, have the child repeat the verse in front of the class. Then he chooses another child to go to the front of the class to repeat it with him. The second child then chooses another and all three repeat the verse together.

Meaningful movements: Create movements that relate to the meaning of the words, or that are sign language words.

Volleyball: Line up the class in two rows facing each other or divide into two teams. One team says the first word then the second team says the next word. Or, you may toss a bean bag back and forth while each word is said.

Crazy stand ups: Those wearing green stand up and say the verses, then those who are six years old, those who have brown hair, those who have a pet, etc.

Voice changes: Say the verse using different voices, i.e. loud, soft, whisper, slow like turtle, fast as you can, like old lady, high voice, low voice, while jumping etc.

READERS

Erase-a-word: Erase the word one at a time and let the children guess what is missing and then have them say the verse.

Use a pocket chart: Put one word in each pocket. Remove the word and have the children guess what is missing. Say the verse each time the missing word is guessed.

Scramble the verse: Write one word or a phrase on index cards, pieces of paper, blocks, etc. Have the children unscramble the verse once it is mixed up. Say the verse each time it is unscrambled.

Flip strips: Print the verse on the back of wordstrips that are fastened to the flannel board with tape as hinges. Open the strips to learn the verse and then close each part as it is learned.

Clothesline: Cut articles of clothing from paper. Write each word or phrase of the verse on an article of clothing. Scramble the words, hanging them on a clothesline. Have the class or a child put the verse in order.

Whose turn is it: Prepare the verse for the flannel board, dividing the verse into words or phrases. On the back of each piece, put instructions as to who will repeat the verse. Example: You alone, the boys, the girls, the teacher, you and a friend, etc. Ask a child to remove a word or phrase from the flannel board. The child follows the instructions and chooses another child to lead.