



## Playground

I slide.

I hide.

I swing.

I sing.

I laugh.

I jump.

I stomp.

I clap.

I snap.

I wish I could play all day!

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## **Playground**

**(Grade Level: Pre-K - Kindergarten)**

**Materials:** Overhead Projector or SMART Board, copies of poem, copies of writing and drawing activity, pencils, crayons or colored pencils. **\*Note\*** If you choose to use the SMART Board you may go to ***Mightybook.com*** and pull up the lesson online.

**Goal of Activity:** The rhyming poem can be used as an additional resource to reinforce rhyming words and sharpen listening skills. The activity can also be used to talk about playgrounds and things you may find on one. The activity will also reinforce the letter “l” and when we use it. There are two teacher notes in the lesson for you to follow. One is for Kindergarten and the other is for Preschool. You know your students best, so please choose the option that will work successfully for your students. **\*\*Note\*\*** **There are two words in the poem, *Playground* that do not have a rhyming pair. The words are laugh and day. This was intentional for the purpose of identifying rhyming words.**

1. **Picture Walk:** Begin with a picture walk by asking students what they see in the picture. Use the picture as a prompt for discussing the objects as well as the colors used.
2. **Discuss Title:** Discuss the title of the poem. You might ask, for example, “what is a nature trail and where can we find one?” **\*Teacher Note\*** The poem was written to engage students about the importance of playgrounds and why they enjoy them.
  - Talk to students about playgrounds. This discussion will cause a lot of excited chatter as well as wiggly and giggly moments around the room.
  - A few sample questions may be, “Why do we have playgrounds? Where can we find them? Why do kids like them?”
3. **What is Poetry: Preschool **\*\*Teacher Note\*\*** You will want to make this a very short introduction for your students.** You might want to check out a book of poetry for kids at the library. There are many great poetry books that you may be familiar with. Two recommendations are, *The Random House Book of Poetry for Children*, and *Ride a Purple Pelican* by Jack Prelutsky. This is a book full of exciting rhymes that are fun and age appropriate.
  - Ask students if they know what a poem is. You might explain that poems are fun when you juggle your words, patterns and rhythms together to make them exciting. They come in many different forms and can be about

anything you want. Below are a few examples of poetry types to discuss with your students.

- **Rhyming Poems:** use the repetition of the same or similar sounds for two or more words at the end of the lines.
  - **Free Verse Poetry:** written in either rhyming or unrhymed lines that have no real rhythm or pattern.
- If you decided to check out a book, this is a great time to read one very short poem (for this age group) to your students. This way you can get their brain juice valves warmed up for rhymes.
4. **Rhyming Poetry Warm-Up:** Tell students that “*Playground*” is a rhyming poem. Ask students if they understand what rhyme means. You may need to give a brief example if there aren’t many hands raised.
- First, choose a simple word to write on the board. Then ask students for a word that rhymes with the one you wrote. For example, you may write “hat.” A student might answer with “cat.”
  - Pick two more words that you make up and repeat the step above.
  - Make sure to call on students whose hands are not raised so you can see who may need a little extra support with the lesson.
5. **(Kindergarten Only) Pass Out Copies of Poem:** Ask a student to pass out the “Playground” poem. As they are distributing the poem remind all students they will need to listen very closely for rhyming words.
- Kindergarten \*\* Teacher Note\*\*:** *students will likely need you to read the poem. If this is the case ask students to wake up Ms. Pointer Finger to help them track the words as you read.*
- *Pause at the end of the second line and ask students if they hear the rhyming words.*
  - When students hear the rhymes ask them to repeat the words after you. Then circle the rhyming words on your Overhead or SMART Board and ask them to do the same. You might even ask them to use a crayon or colored pencil to circle the rhyming words.
  - Ask students which two words do not rhyme with any other words in the poem.
6. **Preschool \*\* Teacher Note\*\*:** *Your students will identify rhyming words by working with you as you use your Overhead Projector or SMART Board. You won’t need to distribute the poem to students.*
- Read the poem the first time alone, emphasizing the rhyming words. As you read be sure to point to each word.

- Read the poem the second time, and ask students to repeat the words after you say them.
  - At the end of the poem ask students to if they heard any rhyming words. Work with them and circle the rhyming words on your Overhead or SMART Board.
  - Ask students which two words do not rhyme with any other words in the poem.
7. **Read Poem:** Read *Playground* and ask students to follow along with you. Pause at the end of each line for a few seconds and look around the room to see if students are following along. You should be able to see their brain valves moving.
8. **(Kindergarten Only) Circle Rhyming Words:** Using your Overhead Projector or SMART Board, have students read along with you the second time.
- When students hear the rhymes ask them to repeat the words after you. Then circle the rhyming words on your Overhead or SMART Board and ask them to do the same. You might even ask them to use a crayon or colored pencil to circle the rhyming words.
9. **Writing and Drawing Activity:** There are two writing and drawing activities for students for you to explain and distribute to students. One is for Kindergarten and the other is for Preschool. Students will write the rhyming words and the non-rhyming words and draw a picture of a playground. Make sure they include a picture of themselves and their friends playing.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## **“Playground”**

### **Kindergarten Writing and Drawing Activity**

**Write four rhyming word pairs from the poem.**

1. The word \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ rhyme.
2. The words \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ rhyme.
3. The words \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ rhyme.
4. The words \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ rhyme.

**Write two words that do not rhyme in the poem.**

5. The word \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ do not rhyme.

**Draw a picture of you and your friends on a playground.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## **“Playground”**

### **Preschool Writing and Drawing Activity**

**Write four rhyming word pairs from the poem.**

1. The word \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ rhyme.
2. The words \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ rhyme.

**Write two words that do not rhyme in the poem.**

3. The word \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ do not rhyme.

**Draw a picture of you and your friends on a playground.**

***\*\* Students have completed "Playground" Poetry Activity. Tell them to kiss their brains! Great work today! \*\****