

# Kings & Queens



## Sing | Noble Duke of York

For this song, parents and caregivers should place their baby on their knees or lap and bounce along to the song. To see the actions and listen to the song, visit <http://bit.ly/2srOVfD>

Oh, the noble duke of York, (bounce baby on your knee)  
He had ten thousand men.  
He marched them up to the top of the hill, (lift baby up high)  
And marched them down again. (bring baby back down)  
Oh, and when they're up, they're up. (lift baby up high)  
And when they're down, they're down. (bring baby back down)  
And when they're only half way up, (hold baby only half as high)  
They're neither up nor down. (hold baby up, bring baby down)  
He marched them to the left. (lean baby to the left)  
He marched them to the right. (lean baby to the right)  
He even marched them upside down. (gently turn baby upside down)  
Now wasn't that a sight! (bring baby back up)

### Early Literacy Tip:

*Doing bouncing or clapping rhymes helps babies, toddlers and young children feel the rhythm of the rhyme. This skill will help them pick up on syllables in words, which will help them learn to read.*

## Talk | Five Queens

In this wiggle rhyme, parents and caregivers should lay baby on the floor or in their lap facing them. Gently do the actions with the rhyme. Wiggle rhymes can be done using baby's hands or feet.

There were five queens on a quest. (hold up baby's hand)  
To see who was the very best. (wiggle baby's fingers)  
The first queen went to take a test. (wiggle baby's thumb)  
The second queen said, I'll go out west. (wiggle baby's index finger)  
The third queen climbed Mount Everest. (wiggle baby's middle finger)  
The fourth queen made a beautiful vest. (wiggle baby's ring finger)  
The fifth queen said, I'll just take a rest. (wiggle baby's little finger)

## Read | The Princess and the Pea

Share this simple tale with the children.

Once upon a time, there was a prince who was looking for a princess to marry. One stormy evening, there was a knock on the castle door. When the prince opened the door, he saw a girl all wet from the rain. Her clothes and hair were a mess. She told them that she was a princess who had gotten caught in the storm and needed a place to stay. The queen didn't believe that she was a true princess and decided to make a test to see if she was who she claimed to be. As the bed for the princess was prepared, a tiny pea was placed under several mattresses.



Only a true princess would be able to feel that pea under all of those mattresses. When the princess awoke the next morning, it looked as if she hadn't slept a wink. She complained that she had a terrible pain in her back. When the queen, king, and prince heard this, they knew that she truly was a princess. The prince and princess got married and lived happily ever after.

### **Play | Princess and the Pea Mattress Game**

After you have shared the story of the Princess and the Pea with your child(ren), play this game that encourages colors and taking turns. Use the templates attached to play this game:

1. Use masking tape or Scotch tape to put the mattresses on top of the bed on a board or a cookie sheet.
2. Make several different colors of mattresses.
3. Place the bed and mattresses on the board.
4. Show the children the pea and then ask them to close their eyes tight.
5. Hide the pea under one of the mattresses.
6. Say the chant below and then have the children say what mattress the pea is under.

The pea is under the mattress, the mattress, the mattress.  
The pea is under the mattress, which one can it be?

7. Remove that mattress and see if that is where the pea is hidden.
8. Repeat until the pea is found.

### **Write | Crown Lacing Cards**

In this simple activity, children will practice weaving a piece of yarn through the holes in the card.

#### **Supplies:**

1. Card Stock
2. Crown Shape
3. Yarn or Shoelaces
4. Single Hole Punch



Print out the crown or trace on cardstock. An empty cereal box also works well for this! Color the crown and cut them out. Punch holes around the outside of the crown. Demonstrate to them how to lace the yarn around the crown.

Princess and the Pea Story Pieces







