



Ideas for sharing *Five Little Ducks* with your child...

You will think of many ways to share **Five Little Ducks** with your infant, toddler or preschooler. Here are a few ideas to get you started. When you read, say, sing or act out this book with your baby, toddler or preschooler, you are preparing your child to become a good reader and a successful student.

- As you read, pause to let your child fill in some of the words. To begin, encourage your child to chime in with Mother Duck's "Quack, quack, quack, quack!"
- Look closely at the pictures with your child. In each, find the baby ducks (they might be hiding!) and count them.
- Talk about things you and your child do when you are separated from each other. Talk about things you do when you are together.
- Young children love the 3 R's of early fun and learning: Rhythms, Rhymes, and Repetitions. **Five Little Ducks** has plenty of all three! Tap your feet to the beat of the rhythm. Emphasize with your voice the rhymes and repetitions of words and phrases.
- Pretend your left hand is Mother Duck. Holding your fingers together, open and close your fingers and thumb to imitate her quacking. Pretend the five fingers on your right hand are the baby ducks.

Hold up five "ducks" and then move them up and down (for "over the hills"), and hide them behind your back (for "far away"). Next, bring your left hand out as Mother Duck, quacking for her children, but hold up only four fingers on your right hand. Follow the story until no ducks return. And then ALL of them come back – with families!

If you have access to the internet, you can see and hear a version of **Five Little Ducks** as a song and a "fingerplay" at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D3ny3jru-mk>