

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## English - "Humpty Dumpty" - Identifying Rhyming Words

Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall  
Humpty Dumpty had a great fall

Little Miss Muffet  
Sat on a tuffet

Little Bo Peep  
Has lost her sheep.

Did you learn nursery rhymes when you were little? Some of these nursery rhymes have been around for a hundred years or more. Yet children still enjoy them today. Why do you think that is? Rhyming poems usually have a nice beat and a melody, just like a song. They are easy to learn and fun to recite.

What makes words rhyme? Generally, rhyming words belong to the same word family. A word family is a group of words, which have the same pattern of vowels (a,e,i,o,u and sometimes y) and consonants (all the rest of the alphabet).

Examples of word families are **meat, treat, beat** and **heat** and **song, long and wrong**. Although the first letter or letters are different, the middle of the words and the consonants at the end are the same.

Of course, there are always exceptions. Not all words in a word family rhyme, for example **have** and **cave**. There are also words which do not belong to the same family but which rhyme all the same. Examples of these are **peas** and **cheese** or **glare** and **stair**.

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## English - "Humpty Dumpty" - Identifying Rhyming Words Questions

### A: Mixing and matching

There are three word families mixed up in the batch of words that follow. Make three columns and list the families in them. There is also one word that rhymes with but doesn't belong to the each word family. See if you can find them and put them at the end of the columns to which you think they belong.

right   lying   all   night   crawl   trying   fall   sight   bright  
ball   frying   light   sighing   might   call   buying   crying  
kite   tall   prying   stall

### B: Poets' corner

Now that you've listed all the words, choose one of the columns and use as many of the words in it as you can to write your own poem.

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## English - "Humpty Dumpty" - Identifying Rhyming Words Answers

### Activity A

Family: ight	Family: ying	Family: all
right night sight bright light might	lying trying frying buying crying prying	all fall ball call tall stall
kite	sighing	crawl

### Activity B

Rhyming words used correctly and appropriately.