

▶ Two Little Dickie Birds

Two little dickie birds sitting on a wall. One named Peter, one named Paul.
Fly away, Peter. Fly away, Paul. Come back, Peter. Come back, Paul.
Two little dickie birds sitting on a wall. One named Peter, one named Paul.

Two little fishes swimming in a lake. One named Jessie, one named Jake.
Swim away, Jessie. Swim away, Jake. Come back, Jessie. Come back, Jake.
Two little fishes swimming in a lake. One named Jessie, one named Jake.

Two little butterflies flying through the air. One named Colin, one named Claire.
Fly away, Colin. Fly away, Claire. Come back, Colin. Come back, Claire.
Two little butterflies flying through the air. One named Colin, one named Claire.

Chords CFG/GFG/CFG/GGGC

Hand rhyme – actions

Fun to sing with puppets, or with hand actions, encouraging the children to copy you.
Open and close thumb and forefingers making birds' beaks. As each bird flies away, the hand goes behind the back and then returns. If you are singing unaccompanied, you can include some tweeting or a 'parrot call' as the bird says 'goodbye' and 'hello' on return.
Weave hands like swimming fishes. As each fish swims away, the hand goes behind the back then returns. If you are singing unaccompanied, include 'fish sounds' as the fishes say 'goodbye' and 'hello'.
Wave hands and flutter fingers like fluttering butterflies. As each butterfly flies away, the hand goes behind the back then returns. If you are singing unaccompanied, try including some butterfly sounds or encourage the children to think how a butterfly might say 'hello' and 'goodbye'.



Musical Activities for Preschool and Families

SINGING WITH BABIES: Baby lies down, looking up at you. Sing with puppets or your hands. Remember how babies love to be stroked and tickled. Tweeting birds can flutter and tweak parts of the body. Fish swim over the tummy and baby can watch your wriggly fingers as they become butterflies.

STANDING: With your baby in your arms, face another adult with a baby and 'fly' each baby away and bring them back to say 'boo.'

SWINGING GAME: Hold your toddler's hands rocking side to side. As birds appear, hide your face - one named Peter - 'boo'. As they fly away, spin the child around. 'Fly away Peter' - 'whee'.

SINGING GAME WITH PUPPETS: You and your child can hold the finger puppet or you can use a soft toy. Introduce different voices for the animals. Saying 'boo!' as they come back guarantees a giggle.

PERCUSSION INSTRUMENTS: At an early age, encourage babies and children to play and listen to instruments. They can start to feel the beat and be aware of the tempo (playing quickly, playing slowly) and the dynamics (playing loudly and softly). Encourage children to play the instruments at particular times then keep them still. Play as the animals go away and then come back and also on the last line. Encourage them to choose a percussion instrument to play for each animal.

CAR JOURNEY CHALLENGE: This is a fun song to write new words and explore different names e.g 'Two little rabbits sitting on a hill, Jessie/Jill' Replace 'little' with alliteration e.g 'two friendly fishes.'

RAINY DAY GAME. Hide soft toys or pictures of each animal around the room/house. Each time the birds/fishes/butterflies 'go away', ask the children to go and look for them. They then bring them back to finish each verse. Once they have played that game - on another occasion you could not hide anything and they will be hunting for hours. - giving you time for a lovely cup of tea - Hee Hee.

