

# Bathtime Rap

This amusing poster has delightful images and fun text based on the rhyme, *Bathtime Rap*, taken from the *Leapfrog Rhyme* series (Franklin Watts). Read the text aloud in a rap style to raise awareness of rhythm and rhyme

## Activities to support the Early Years Foundation Stage framework

### Personal, Social and Emotional Development

- Explore the images of the boy getting undressed. Does he need any help? Do the children need help at bathtime? What did the boy forget to do before getting out of the bath? Do the children ever forget to wash because they are busy playing?
- Search the poster images to find the boy's bath toys. Make comparisons with the bath toys that the children play with. Draw their attention to the way that the boy puts his toys back on the shelf after he gets out of the bath. Discuss why it is important to tidy up after we finish playing.

### Literacy

#### Communication and Language

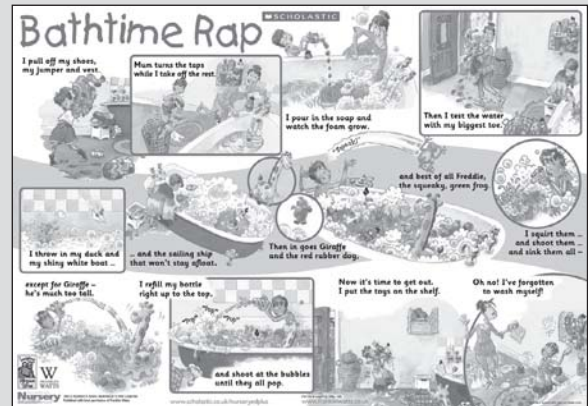
- Read the poster title, 'Bathtime Rap'. Explain that a rap is a rhyme that is often chanted while clapping, tapping, clicking or stamping out the rhythm with the body, or by beating an instrument. Read out two rhyming sentences and encourage the children to join in, beating out the rhythm with their hands or feet, or tapping an instrument.
- Take two rhyming words from the text and encourage the children to invent and chant a new rap, for example, 'As I get older I stretch and grow, from the top of my head to the tip of my toe'.

### Mathematics

- Read the sentence ending, 'He's much too tall' and look at Giraffe in the bath. Which body parts are above the water and which are below? Invite the children to arrange some small-world animals in height order, from shortest to tallest.
- Read the rhyming sentence, 'I pull off my shoes, my jumper and vest'. Ask the children, 'What does the boy take off first?' and 'What might he take off last?'. Invite the children to sort a set of clothes into the order that they would put them on when getting dressed. Encourage use of appropriate language, such as 'first', 'next', 'then' and 'last'.

### Understanding the World

- Explore the images on the poster of the running taps. Why are there two taps? What would happen if there was just a hot or cold tap? Why did the boy test the water with his big toe?
- Read the sentence about the sailing ship that would not stay afloat. Why might it sink? Float some toy boats on a water tray and let the children try to sink them in different ways, for example, add more small-world characters to them. The boy's boat may have sunk because it had a hole in it. Make boats using small plastic bottles and experiment with punching holes in them to see if they sink.



### How to use the poster

Create an interactive display with a bathtime theme using the poster as an informative centrepiece. Surround it with the children's artwork depicting their personal routines, and add appropriate children's comments and EYFS links.

On a table below, provide fiction and non-fiction books about bathtime, washing resources and bath toys similar to those on the poster for the children to explore.

Download the 'Bathtime Rap' from [www.scholastic.co.uk/nurseryedplus](http://www.scholastic.co.uk/nurseryedplus) so that the children can listen to it as they explore the poster.

Alternatively, display the poster alongside the water tray or in the role-play area to encourage the children to play with bath toys and re-enact bathtime routines.

### Physical Development

- Look at the first image of the boy on the poster. What is he wearing? Why do the children think he is so muddy? What physical activities do the children enjoy? Explain the importance of physical activities in keeping the body fit and healthy.
- Read the text slowly, one sentence at a time, while the children make up appropriate actions linked to the words.

### Expressive Arts and Design

- Talk about how the boy made his bubbles. Make some bubbles in a bowl using bubble bath, water and powder paint. Create coloured bubble prints by gently pressing a sheet of paper face down on to the bubbles.
- Record sound effects associated with bathtime routines, such as running taps, water draining out of a plughole, and children splashing and pouring water. Invite the children to guess what is happening by the sound that they hear.

**Jean Evans** is an early years consultant and author.