

Name:

Teacher:

Class:

Date:

Nursery



RHYME THEATRE

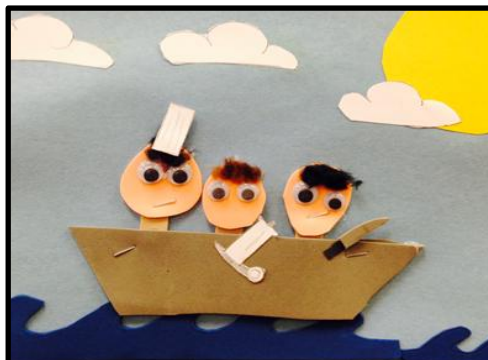
Nursery Rhymes were often used to parody the royal and political events and people of the day. The humble rhyme was used as a seemingly innocent vehicle to quickly spread subversive messages, opinions that could not be spoken freely. Some seemingly silly rhymes included political statements which if they had been spoken straightforward, would have been punishable by death.

Because **Nursery Rhymes** are believed to be at least 200 years old and their messages a little outdated, you and your group members will be creating your own modern-day **Nursery Rhymes**.

Since **Nursery Rhymes** were often used to spread gossip, you will be choosing a modern-day topic to address in your rhyme. Topics may be about current world events or local high school news. Below are the guidelines for this project.

1. Write a modern-day **Nursery Rhyme** modeled after a classic one that your group has previously read. Your **Nursery Rhyme** should follow the same rhyme pattern and length as the original. Although modern-day topics may be serious or grownup in nature, your **Nursery Rhyme** should be playful and appropriate for children.
2. Create finger puppets to perform the classic version of your **Nursery Rhyme** and your modern adaptation.
3. Create backdrop scenery to make both performances come to life (see pictures below).
4. Video record your **Nursery Rhyme** performances. Voices should be audible, clear, and entertaining – sing songy and fun. All performances will be shown to the class.

EXAMPLE



Modern-day Topic: _____

Classic Nursery Rhyme: _____

Title: _____

RUBRIC		8 Stellar	7 Good	6 Adequate	5 Inadequate
Nursery Rhymes	– Classic version stays true to original. Adaptation modeled after the original rhyme, discusses modern-day event, playful and childlike in nature.				
Finger Puppets	– Neat and creative.				
Scenery	– Neat and colorful. Helps performances come to life.				
Video Recording	– Voices should be audible, clear, and entertaining.				