



## Activity ideas to support Learning at Home 2-5 year olds

### Early Years Service, Children's Services

#### Buckinghamshire Council

### Rhyme Time 'The Moon'

Play a game with me, Mr. Moon.  
Can you look like a white balloon?  
Can you hide half of your face  
and move around high up in space?  
Can you look like a smile on its side?  
I can't see you where do you hide.

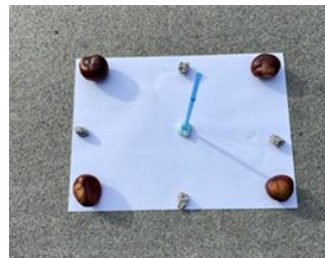
**Can you hide your face with your hands and repeat the rhyme?** Can you look out of your window at night and see the moon? Does it look the same every-day? The moon appearance changes on a cycle. Perhaps use paper or paper plates to re-create the phases of the moon. Find out more - [moon phases](#)



### Did you know a Sundial was the first way to tell the Time?

To make your own sundial you will need; a sunny spot, paper, pen or chalk, a straw or a stick, plasticine or blue-tac. Set up like the picture and draw a line to record the shadow, each hour. The surface of a sundial has markings for each hour of daylight. As the Sun moves across the sky, another part of the sundial casts a shadow on, this is telling the time. Use words like later, earlier, hour, time.

For more Information visit [Met Office](#)



### Space Fun



### Chatter Together

I wonder where light comes from .....  
Ask your child?

Chat about different lights and bring new words into your conversation, stars, moon sunlight, lightbulb, torch, fireworks, fire, light and dark, shadow, silhouette.

When is it dark and light, when is it sunrise and sunset?



### Story Time

Listen to [Winnie in Space](#)

by Valerie Thomas & Korky Paul

Or take a trip to the local [library](#) to locate the book.

**Create your own space rocket,**

Use an empty kitchen towel holder, decorate your rocket with felt pens, paints or stick coloured paper, wrappers to it.

Can it blast into space? Or Use it in your Den?

Or **create a telescope?** Cover the end with some clingfilm and decorate. Look out your window at night and explore the dark sky, do you see any stars? What else can you see?



### Create a Den

Collect a blanket, towel or sheet. Hang it over or peg it over a table, chair or sofa to **build a Den**.

This will create a small space that

Your child will love. Perhaps use a torch or a mobile phone torch and explore light patterns, shadows and the DARK! To find out more about creating shadows and [silhouettes](#) [to see some examples](#).

Could you pretend you are in a space rocket like Winnie the Witch? Or visit the moon or another planet.

Use this space to read other stories by torch light. Maybe you could plan a space picnic and have a snack inside. You could invite some favourite toys to join you.

## Top Tips

Allow children to create their own dens and artwork and encourage them to use their own imagination to develop their play, could they visit the moon, can they pretend they are following an adventure in a book?

You may have some ideas and could assist your child on the journey, by asking prompting questions such as 'what should be taken on our journey?' And 'where should we go in our rocket?'

Creating a den or quiet space is the perfect place to pretend and make believe. Helping your child to show an understanding of the world they live in.

## Chatting Matters

Vocabulary and increasing the number of new words your child hears every day is very important for future learning. **Use words like crescent, moon, full or half-moon, candle, sunlight, lightbulb, torch, stars, fireworks, fire, light and dark, silhouette, and shadow.**

## Find out more about your Child's development

[What to expect when – Developmental Guide for Parents](#)

If you have any concerns about your child's development the first thing you can do is chat to your Child's Key Person at their Setting

## Information for Parents/ Carers



## Find out More

[Space Website – CBeebies](#)

[BBC Tiny Happy People](#)

[Small Talk - ideas for Parents](#)

[Hungry Little Minds Campaign](#)



## Communication and Language

**30-50 months**

**You might notice that your child can:**

Use simple sentences with 3-4 words to talk about what they are doing or what is happening.

Talk about what we are doing now, and what might happen later.

## Expressive Arts and Design

**30-50 months**

**You might notice that your child can:**

Use different things like scissors, masking tape, sticky tape, hole punches and string to join and fix things together.

Show you their ideas by drawing or painting pictures, making models using boxes, singing songs, dancing to music, and pretending to be other people and telling you stories.

## Physical Development

**30-50 months**

**You might notice that your child can:**

Use different things like scissors, paintbrushes, pens, hammers or bricks to make the things I want.

Choose to use either my left hand or my right hand more to hold things like a pen, pencil, paintbrush or scissors. Use a pen, pencil or paintbrush I am beginning to be able to make anti clockwise circle marks and lines that go down and up and up and down.