



Early Years

# Early Steps to Junior Grades in Speech Step 2

## Speaking Out



This page is intentionally left blank



## Early Steps to Junior Grades in Speech Step 2 - Speaking Out

Early Years / Indicative Ages 3 – 5

**Aim: To build speaking confidence during Early Years education  
(See over for Objectives / Learning outcomes).**

### Early Steps Badge 2

**Total Group Time: approximately 45 minutes**

#### Section 1: Joining In

**Time: 5 minutes per action-rhyme FOR GROUP OF FIVE / SIX**

Join in a group action-rhyme, game or song led by your teacher, keeping together all the way through. Show the assessor how to join in too.

#### Section 2: Circle time - Speaking by Heart

**Time: 1 minute each**

Say your name, and then on your own, speak from memory a rhyme that you enjoy, of at least 4 lines. Make sure everyone can hear the words.

#### Section 3: Circle time - Talking about Something Special

**Time: 1 minute each**

Bring a photograph or a favourite toy to show the group, and on your own tell the group three things about it. Choose facts that the group cannot see for themselves.

#### Section 4: Interacting with others during the session

### Notes for Teachers:

- **PLEASE NOTE THAT THE TEACHER MUST BE PRESENT THROUGHOUT, AS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THIS ASSESSMENT. AN ASSESSOR HAS NO AUTHORITY TO CONTINUE WITHOUT THE TEACHER.**
- *The assessment is carried out with a group of six children at a time. Several groups of children may be scheduled for the assessor one after another.*
- *Sections 2 and 3 are carried out by each child in turn. Depending on numbers, you may need to do two Joining In action-rhymes.*
- *The session for each group of children may be up to 45 minutes, but the children of course can take any breaks needed during this.*
- *For children who are not yet ready to stand up on their own, consider beginning with the Early Steps Badge 1, to build confidence.*
- *Please set up the room to be as relaxed as possible, with the children perhaps sitting on cushions in a circle or semi-circle with their teacher. (The assessor does need to be able to write – possibly sitting at a table to one side to be able to see the children).*
- *The 'Join In' Game comes first to build confidence for the children by working with their teacher on something they have practised together.*

- *After the Join In Section together, children can stand in turn to say their rhymes, then one at a time Talk About what they have brought.*
- *Help the children to give some facts about their item which cannot be seen by the group e.g. NOT 'my box is brown', but 'my box is for me to keep special things in. My dad gave it to me' etc. No notes needed!*
- *Conversations and interaction can happen at any time during the assessment, but particularly after the Something Special.*
- *ESB presumption is always towards success. Nervous or shy children may be encouraged by the assessor or the teacher to take their turn whenever they feel ready to do so.*

### **1. Examples of Joining-In games to practise:**

If You're Happy and You Know it;  
 One Potato, Two Potato;  
 Old MacDonald Had a Farm;  
 I'm a Little Teapot;  
 Ten Fingers;  
 The Wheels on the Bus;  
 Incy Wincy Spider; Five  
 Fat Peas;  
 This Little Piggy Went to Market;  
 The Grand Old Duke of York

### **2. Examples of Speaking By Heart rhymes:**

Twinkle Twinkle Little Star;  
 Cats by Eleanor Farjeon;  
 Hickory Dickory Dock;  
 Some One by Walter de La Mare;  
 Humpty Dumpty;  
 Ferry me Across the Water by Christina Rossetti;  
 Jack and Jill;  
 Billy is Blowing His Trumpet;  
 Porridge is Bubbling, Bubbling Hot;  
 Outdoor Song by AA Milne

**These are only examples: teachers are free to pick any games or rhymes that they enjoy using with their classes. We look forward to learning them along with the children!**

### **Objectives:**

On completion of this assessment the early learner will be able to:

- a) interact with others, taking turns in conversation
- b) demonstrate understanding of simple verbal instructions
- c) use rhythm to support language
- d) speak to a small group and an assessor, for listeners to hear and understand
- e) recite a memorised short rhyme on his/her own
- f) respond when required with relevant comments, questions or actions
- g) listen quietly when required

This page is intentionally left blank

**The English Speaking Board (International) Ltd**

9 Hattersley Court, Ormskirk  
Lancashire L39 2AY  
Tel: (+44) 01695 573439  
Fax: (+44) 01695 228003  
Web: [www.esbuk.org](http://www.esbuk.org)  
Email: [admin@esbuk.org](mailto:admin@esbuk.org)

©English Speaking Board (International) Ltd

ESB reserves the right to change products and services periodically. Every effort has been made to ensure that Information contained in publications is fully accurate at the time of going to press, however, our most up to date versions of all publications / policies are to be found on our website [www.esbuk.org](http://www.esbuk.org)

Registered in England Company No. 01269980  
Registered as a Charity No. 272565