



The North Wind Doth Blow

The north wind doth blow and
we will have snow,

and what will the poor Robin do
then?

He'll sit in a barn, and keep
himself warm,

and hide his head under his
wing, poor thing.

<https://wordsforlife.org.uk/activities/the-north-wind-doth->



Younger children

Make eye contact as you sing the song. Hold hands and sway in time to the beat of the rhythm. Make up some actions for the words and encourage your little one to join in, either by making noises, acting it out or by using facial expressions.

Older children

Talk about the rhyme and how difficult the winter weather can be for animals. Discuss what different animals do to stay warm in winter and research which animals choose to hibernate. Support your child's ability to express feelings orally by discussing a time when they were cold. How did this make them feel? What physical changes did they notice e.g., nose and fingers going red and feeling numb.

Why not join in with the Big Garden Birdwatch 2022. Simply count the birds you see in your garden, from your balcony or in your local park for one hour between 28 and 30 January 2022. Talk about and name the different varieties of birds you spot. For more information on how to get involved and ways to encourage birds to visit your garden, click on the link:

https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch/?sourcecode=BWMITH0230&utm_source=google&utm_medium=ppcad&utm_content=guide_request_various&utm_campaign=birdwatch2040&gclid=EAlalQobChMI-dieufiX9QIVjLHtCh11LQqZEAAAYASAAEqKZ5PD_BwE&gclid=aw.ds

Chat Play Share...Other ideas you could try....

Share a story together about wind and chat about the pictures and story. Also read some non-fiction books to explore the weather further. Examples of stories:

- The North Wind and the Sun by Aesop
- Feel the Wind by Arthur Dorros
- The Wind Blew by Pat Hutchin
- Stuck by Oliver Jeffers
- Shark in the Park on a Windy Day! by Nick Sharratt
- Gusts and Gales: A Book About Wind by Josepha Sherman

Ways to keep warm

Place a variety of winter clothes (coat, gloves, scarf, warm socks, hat, boots, etc.) inside a suitcase and have your child name each piece as you remove it. Or recite the riddles below, and when they respond with the correct answer, have him/her find the matching item in the suitcase.

In a winter storm, I keep your neck warm. What am I? (scarf)

I protect your hands from snow and ice. Fingers think I'm very nice. What am I? (gloves)

I start with the letter B, and your feet go inside of me. What am I? (boots)

I can't help your nose but, I'm very good at warming toes. What am I? (socks)

Make up some of your own riddles as clues to items of clothing.



Talk about other ways you can stay warm when the weather is cold.



Ruffling feathers

If you 'ruffle someone's feathers' it means to upset or offend them.

When a bird ruffles its feathers, it is chilled, and its ruffled feathers trap a layer of warm air around the bird. Some duvets for beds or winter jackets use feathers to keep us insulated.