

# The early years story bank

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### Early years story bank

Most of the common traditional tales are readily available. In Nursery and Reception classes, children should learn *The Little Red Hen*, *The Enormous Turnip*, *The Gingerbread Man* and *The Billy Goats Gruff*. These are simple, repetitive tales that are easily mapped and taught with actions. Because of their nature, it is easy enough to create simple innovations by changing characters, settings and key items from the story. Here are various less well-known stories that I have either adapted, written or created with teachers or children. The precise origins of some are probably lost in the mists of time, but I would want to credit those teachers, children and storytellers who sowed the story seeds for these tales. Some are well-known by storytellers, such as *Mr Wiggle*, *Gunny Wolf*, *Quackling*, *Jack and the Robbers* and *Who is the Strongest*. Others are new. Some came from surprising places. The Baby Mouse came to me when teacher Ken Holmes drew my attention to the name of a road 'Wibbly Wobbly Lane'. It actually exists! If the rhythm of my voice does not suit your voice, then alter the tale. They may be made more demanding or easier, as you see fit. However, remember that they are stories and therefore make sure that you are telling a good version. Do it with joy!

1. Mr Wiggle and Mr Waggle
2. Stuck in the Mud!
3. Old Mac's Farm
4. A Mouse Called Maisy
5. The Sleepy Cat
6. Finding a Friend
7. The Baby Mouse

8. The Rainbow Princess
9. Little Jack
10. Gunny Wolf
11. Jack and the Robbers
12. Let Me Come In
13. Quackling
14. Who is the Strongest of Them All?
15. The Magic Porridge Pot
16. The Enormous Turnip
17. The Gingerbread Man
18. Billy Goats Gruff
19. Going For a Song
20. BANG!
21. Monkey See - Monkey Do!