



Little Red Balloon

Finger play Traditional, Author Unknown
Backing Music by the Fun Music Company

This simple finger play is a quick little introduction to balloons.

The idea with these fingerplays is that we're introducing the theme in a very gentle way. Of course you'll want to remind children that we don't really want Balloons to pop! However, doing this finger play will prevent tears in the event that it actually happens during the blowing up of balloons later in the lesson!

To introduce it, you might say something like:

'Can you guess what we're going to do in our lesson today?'

And then just start with the poem without any further introduction. The idea is that we get the children interacting, and doing the 'blowing' and the 'growing' with their hands. The children won't say the poem at this stage, so don't expect that they'll say anything at first.

You can do this also with percussion, an instrument like castanets will work well, or anything red! Feel free to do it over a couple of weeks as a warmup if you would like to. There is a backing track supplied for this purpose. We would recommend doing it without backing at first, then adding the backing and the percussion for variety.

Vocal	Action
I had a little red balloon	<i>Pretend to hold up balloon</i>
And I blew, and I blew, and I blew!	<i>Hold both hand up near mouth and pretend to blow up the balloon</i>
And it grew, and it grew, and it grew!	<i>Spread hands farther apart each time you say "grew"</i>
I tossed it in the air,	<i>Hold hands palms up and pretend to toss the balloon up</i>
And didn't let it drop.	<i>I bounced it on the ground, hold hands palms down and pretend to bound the balloon down</i>
And it went POP!	<i>Clap hands together to pretend to make the balloon pop.</i>