

# Circle Time Lessons & Centers

## Unit overview

### Day 1 Jack and Jill

Introduce the nursery rhyme:

#### Jack and Jill

Recite the nursery rhyme. Reenact the rhyme.

### Day 2 Rhyming

Recite the nursery rhyme and replace the words to make a silly rhyme.

### Day 3 Beginning Sound Sort

Sort the pictures into 2 groups: things that start with the letter J and things that do not start with the letter J.

### Day 4 Chip Clip Poem

Work on number recognition and addition with this Jack and Jill chip clip poem.

### Center Pre-Writing Paths

Trace the lines from one object to another.

### Bonus Take Home Mini Book

Foldable emergent reader book.

**Jack and Jill**  
Nursery Rhyme

**Day 1**  
Lesson plans

A nursery rhyme is a traditional rhyming poem or song. Teaching nursery rhymes helps young children to develop auditory skills and helps with speech development.

**Objective:**

- The students will develop listening and speaking skills by reciting a poem.

**Activities:**

- Read the poem to the students and invite the children to join you in reading it again.
- Act it out by pretending to walk up a hill, get a pail, then tumble down.
- Print and laminate the smaller pail pictures. Make them into a pile. Invite students to draw a pail picture and replace "water" in the poem.

**Jack and Jill**  
Beginning Sound Sort

**Day 3**  
Lesson plans

Classifying and sorting activities help children to develop a range of thinking skills and build the foundations for problem-solving. Letter-sound knowledge is critical skill for young pre-readers.

**Objective:**

- The students will begin to make letter-sound connections.
- The students will sort objects by property (size, shape, color, use).

**Activity:**

- Print the pages. Mat and laminate as directed.
- Students pick up a picture and say the word. They listen to the beginning sound and then place it on the correct sorting mat: Does the picture begin with **J like Jack**, **Jack and Jill** or not?

**Starts with**  
**J** like Jack and Jill

**Strive to:**

- Students find a crown to replace the girl's head.
- Print a crown for each student (optional).
- Challenge the students to cut out the crown or make one from pipefoam or paper. Add some glitter or sequins to add some extra sparkle.

**Jack and Jill**  
Rhyming

**Day 2**  
Lesson plans

Rhyming is an essential skill for young children. Rhyming helps children improve their oral language skills and is a building block for young readers.

**Objective:**

- The students will identify rhyming words.

**Activities:**

- Spread out the rhyming pictures. (Depending on the age of the students, start with just a few.)
- Read the rhyme to the students. Start with "Jack and Jill" as an example.
- The students find the rhyming picture to complete the verse.

Jack and Dan rode in the van.  
Jack and June went to the moon.

**Pre-Writing Paths**  
Fine Motor Center

**Objective:** The students will understand the purpose of writing.

**Preparation:** Copy each page and place into a plastic sleeve (or print on cardstock and laminate).

**Procedure:** The students trace the path between the picture on the left to the picture on the right.

Trace the paths:

**Jack and Jill**  
Chip Clip Poem

**Day 4**  
Lesson plans

Math skills are the foundation for logic and critical thinking. Number sense is the first step in math awareness. Counting and addition help children understand the meaning of numbers.

**Objective:**

- The students will identify numbers.
- The students will count sets to 5 and make combinations of objects to create each set.

**Activities:**

- Print a poem for each child.
- Read the poem to the students.
- Invite students to point to the words and recite the memorized poem.

**Take-Home Mini Book**  
Foldable Emergent Readers

**Objective:** The students will understand the purpose of writing.

**Preparation:** Copy each page and place into a plastic sleeve (or print on cardstock and laminate).

**Procedure:** The students trace the path between the picture on the left to the picture on the right.

Trace the paths:

# Jack and Jill

## Nursery Rhyme

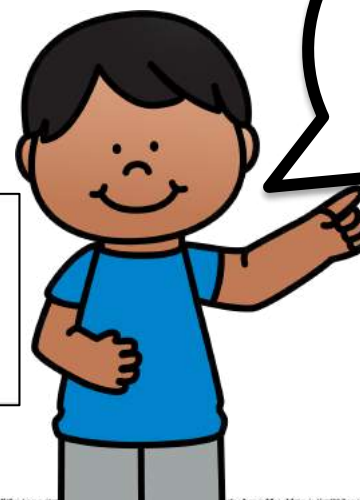
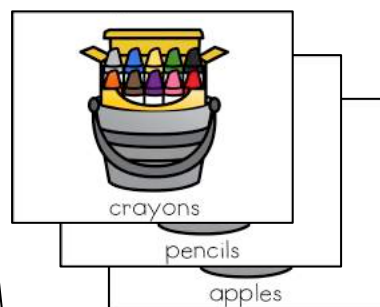
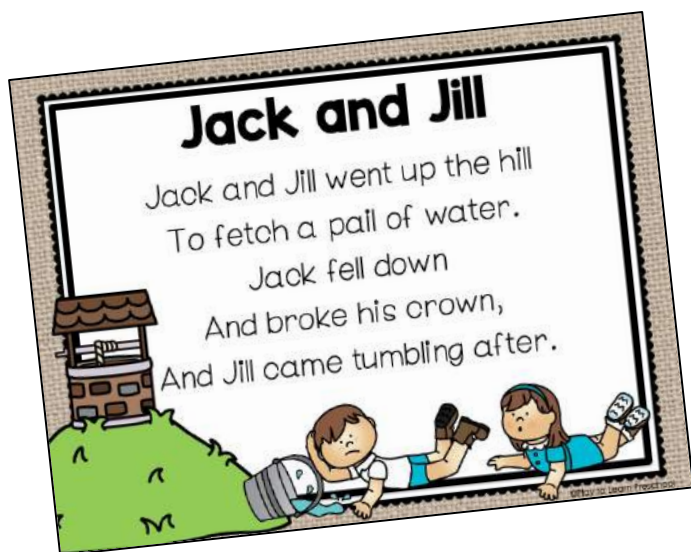
A nursery rhyme is a traditional rhyming poem or song. Teaching nursery rhymes helps young children to develop auditory skills and helps with speech development.

### Objective:

- The students will develop listening and speaking skills by reciting a poem.

### Activities:

- Read the poem to the students and invite the children to join you in reading it again.
- Act it out by pretending to walk up a hill, get a pail, then tumble down.
- Print and laminate the smaller pail pictures. Make them into a pile. Invite students to draw a pail picture and replace “water” in the poem.



Jack and Jill  
went up the hill  
to fetch a pail of  
crayons !

# Jack and Jill

## Silly Rhymes

Day 2  
lesson  
plans

Rhyming is an essential skill for young children. Rhyming helps children improve their oral language skills and is a building block for young readers.

### Objective:

- The students will identify rhyming words.

### Activities:

- Spread out the rhyming pictures. (Depending on the age of the students, start with just a few.)
- Read the rhyme to the students. Start with "Jack and Jill" as an example.
- The students find the rhyming picture to complete the verse.

Jack and  
**Jill**  
went up the

**hill**



Jack and  
**Dan**  
rode in the

**van**



Jack and  
**Mike**  
rode on a

**bike**



Jack and  
**June**  
went to the

**moon**



# Jack and Jill

## Beginning Sound Sort

Classifying and sorting activities helps children to develop a range of thinking skills and build the foundations for problem-solving. Letter sound knowledge is critical skill for young pre-readers.

### Objectives:

- The students will begin to make letter sound connections.
- The students will sort objects by property (size, shape, color, use.)

### Activity:

1. Print the pages. Mat and laminate as desired.
2. Students pick up a picture and say the word. They listen to the beginning sound and then place it on the correct sorting mat: Does the picture begin with a **J** like **Jack and Jill** or not?

#### Extension Idea:

Explain that a crown is another word for head. Print a crown for each student (included). Encourage the students to use markers or crayons to decorate a crown. Add some glitter or sequins to add some extra sparkle.

The image shows two sorting mats for the letter 'J'. The first mat, titled 'Starts with J like Jack and Jill', has a large blue 'J' and illustrations of Jack and Jill. The second mat, titled 'Does not start with J', has a large grey 'J' with a diagonal slash through it and illustrations of a jungle, a jacket, a juggling boy, a baby, and a lion. Each illustration is on a separate card with the word written below it.

# Jack and Jill

## Chip Clip Poem

Day 4  
lesson  
plans

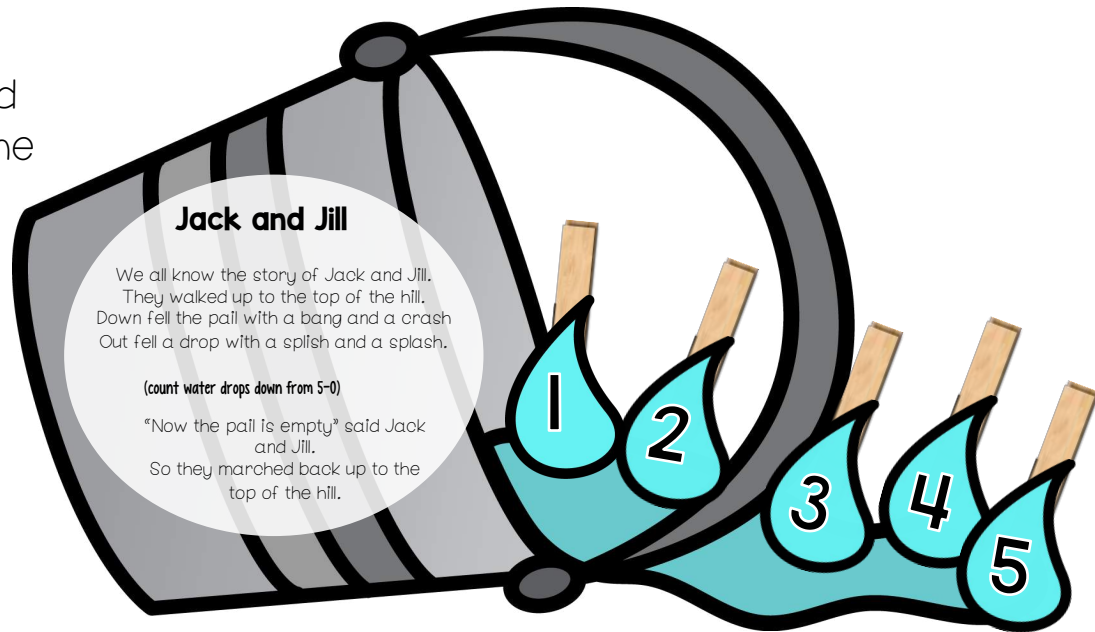
Math skills are the foundation for logic and critical thinking. Number sense is the first step in math awareness. Counting and addition help children understand the meaning of numbers.

### Objectives:

- The students will identify numbers.
- The students will count sets to 5 and make combinations of objects to create each set.

### Activities:

1. Cut out the “drops of water” and attach to clothes pins. Cut out the pail, mat and laminate as desired. Alternatively use a real bucket to attach the clips to.
2. Recite the chip clip poem, “Jack and Jill.” Remove a clip from the pail as the poem counts down.

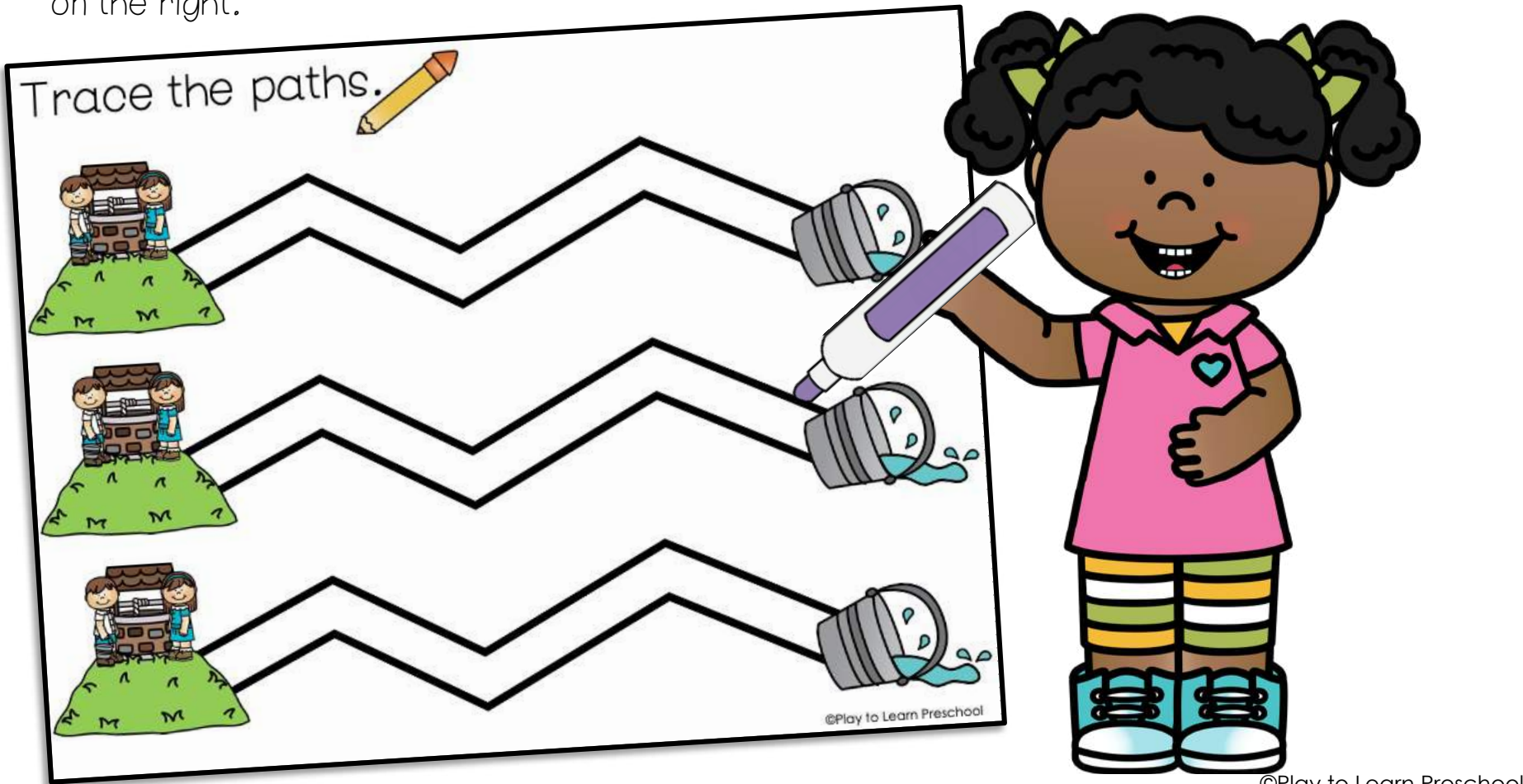


# Pre-Writing Paths

**Objective:** The students will understand the purpose of writing.

**Preparation:** Copy each page and place into a plastic sleeve (or print on cardstock and laminate).

**Procedure:** The students trace the path between the picture on the left to the picture on the right.



# Take-Home Mini Book

## Foldable Emergent Readers

1. Print a poem for each child.
2. Fold the page into fourths – landscape first, then portrait. (You might glue the page together for younger children.)
3. Invite students to point to the words and recite the memorized poem.

