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> Lizard Lou: a collection of rhymes old and new is part of the All About Reading program. For more books in this series, go to www.AllAboutReading.com.

To the reader -

buzz like a bee from rhyme to rhyme and read them aloud one at a time







Megan Has a Spoon

Megan has a spoon, Megan has a pot, Megan has some cinnamon and likes to bake a lot.

Megan has some apples, Megan has some dough, Megan puts them in a tin and fixes them just so.

Megan adds some sugar and a little nutmeg too. What does Megan bake all day? An apple pie for you!

-Renée LaTulippe





Animal Crackers

Animal crackers and cocoa to drink, that is the finest of suppers, I think.

When I'm grown up and can have what I please, I think I shall always insist upon these.

What do YOU choose when you're offered a treat? When Mother says, "What would you like best to eat?" Is it waffles and syrup, or cinnamon toast? It's cocoa and animals that I love most!

The kitchen's the coziest place that I know; the kettle is singing, the stove is aglow, and there in the twilight, how jolly to see the cocoa and animals waiting for me.

-Christopher Morley



The Ant Explorer

Once a little sugar ant made up his mind to roam to go away, far away, far away from home. He had eaten all his breakfast, and he had his ma's consent to see what he should chance to see, and here's the way he went: Up and down a fern plant, round and round a stone, down a gloomy gully where he feared to be alone, up a mighty mountain range, seven inches high, through the fearful forest grass that nearly hid the sky, out along a bracken bridge, bending in the moss, till he reached a dreadful desert, feet and feet across.

'Twas a dry, deserted desert, and a trackless land to tread; he wished that he was home again and tucked up tight in bed.

His little legs were wobbly, his strength was nearly spent, and so he turned around again, and here's the way he went: Back away from desert lands, feet and feet across, back along the bracken bridge bending in the moss, through the fearful forest grass shutting out the sky, up a mighty mountain range, seven inches high, down a gloomy gully where he feared to be alone, up and down a fern plant and round and round a stone.

A dreary ant, a weary ant, resolved no more to roam he staggered up the garden path and popped back home.

—C. J. Dennis



A Bird Came Down the Walk

A bird came down the walk: he did not know I saw. He bit an angle-worm in halves and ate the fellow, raw.

And then he drank a dew from a convenient grass, and then hopped sidewise to the wall to let a beetle pass.

-Emily Dickinson





Davey Roy

Davey Roy, little boy, clever, smart, and wise on the stair (not in a chair) sits and bats his eyes. Halfway up and halfway down in the middle, say. He's just a lad who's simply glad to sit and think all day.

—Renée LaTulippe



Bat, Bat, Come Under My Hat

Bat, bat, come under my hat, and I'll give you a slice of bacon. And when I bake, I'll give you a cake, if I am not mistaken.

—traditional English rhyme



The Gift

A crow flew down one wintry eve and sat upon my sill. He had a pinecone in his claw and a sleigh bell in his bill.

He looked at me, I looked at him, he shook his little head, as if to play a tune for me before I went to bed.

He tapped the pinecone on the sill to free a nut or two, invited me to dine with him, then up and away he flew.

His silver bell tinkled a sweet goodbye as he rose so sure and swift. He'd just come down to say hello and leave his simple gift.





The Purple Cow

I never saw a purple cow; I never hope to see one. But I can tell you anyhow, I'd rather see than be one!

—Gelett Burgess

Coward Crocodile

My snout is long, my teeth are sharp, my bite is hard and strong. But when I see a slimy eel, I squeal and scream "So long!"

I run with speed, my claws can scratch, my tail can crush a stone. So why do I cry in the dark when I am left alone?

I don't like bugs or snakes or storms, nor my cousins in the Nile! Sometimes I even scare myself— I'm just a coward crocodile.

-Renée LaTulippe



...a pink cow gives milk?

...a newt shows up in your garden?

...a vulture snacks between meals?

...a snake eats too much jelly-cake?

...a broken faucet floods the kitchen?

Find out inside!

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