

The Big Universe

Goal	Rhyming song describing our place in the Universe with gestures mimicking the shapes and movements found in space.
Age	3 – 5
Difficulty	Easy
Skills	Coordination, Memory
Materials	Not mandatory: Images of our place in the Universe (See below), possibly an Earthball
Pre-requisites	None

Introduction

This short rhyming song tells of our place in the Universe. It is fun to learn, to imitate, to perform. It can be done sitting down or standing up, accompanied by images or not. The possibilities for extension are numerous.

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See the attached sheet with the gestures. A couple of videos of children in Grahamstown carrying out the activity and performing the song can be found on the UNawe resource website:
<http://www.unawe.org/materials> .

Suggestions for implementation:

- First, tell the story of the song with images.
- Perform the song with the children repeating after you. Do not fear to do it many times until the children know the song and take ownership of it.
- If they know the song by heart, they can perform it while you show the images. Eventually the images will also be a reminder of each line and each sentence will be associated with each image.

Extension

This can be included in a play for example. You can give each child one line to say, while another child shows the corresponding image. The group can then perform it in the right order, each child saying their line in turn.

Feel free to place this activity in a wider context and to extend it. We would appreciate any additions you may have.



Evaluation

You will see from the beginning if they enjoy the song. Try to note what they hesitate about (e.g. finishing the sentences). You will also see that they take ownership of the song when they anticipate each line.

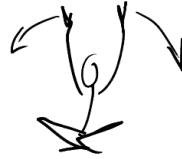
If you are concerned about their understanding you can tell them more about it, although we do not emphasize understanding but entertainment in this activity.

Source: UNAWE International



The Big Universe

In the big Universe,



there are lots of GALAXIES



In every GALAXY



there are lots and lots of STARS



One little STAR



we call our SUN



Our home is on a PLANET



that goes around the SUN



We call it planet EARTH



in the big UNIVERSE!







