

Cumbria County Council
Chat Play Share
Rhymes and songs

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/nursery-rhymes-five-little-men-in-a-flying-saucer/z6qgscw>



Five little men in a flying saucer

Five little men in a flying saucer
flew round the world one day.
They looked left and right but
they didn't like the sight
So one man flew away.
Wheeeee!

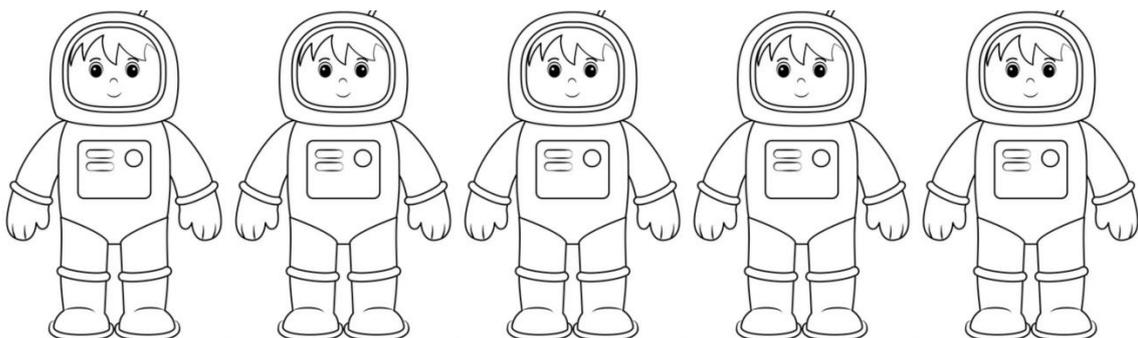
Four little men...
Three little men...
Two little men...
One little man...

Younger Children

Sit your child facing you on your knee. Sing the song to them and gently bounce them along to the rhythm as you sing. Gently tip them to the left and to the right when you get to that part. Depending on the age/size of your child lift them up as you say 'Wheeeee' or use your hand as though showing a spaceman flying away.

Hold up 5 fingers and show your child as you slowly count down 'Five, four, three, two, one...blast off!' When you reach blast off, lift them up into the air or if they are older encourage them to run around. See if they start to anticipate you saying, 'blast off' and make them wait for varying amounts of time (not too long!) after reaching one as this is good for developing listening and attention skills.

Have a go at making different voice sounds together that make it sound like you are travelling in a rocket e.g. whoosh, roar, beep, clickety clack.



Older children

Cut out (encourage older children to have a go at cutting them out themselves) the five spacemen from over the page and use them to act out the song. A plate, bowl or frisbee would make a good flying saucer to put them on. Place all the spaceman together at the start of the song and encourage your child to take one away and count how many are left at the end of each verse. Talk with your child about what they think it might feel, look, smell or sound like in space. It's great for children to consider questions such as this even if they don't come up with the same answers as adults might! How about making a rocket out of an old box and pretending to go to space? This would be a great chance for introducing new space related words to your child.



Chat Play Share...Other ideas you could try....

Share a story together about space and chat about the pictures and story. Examples of stories:

How to catch a star by Oliver Jeffers

Man on the moon by Simon Bartram

The Smeds and the Smoos by Julia Donaldson

The Darkest Dark by Chris Hadfield

Whatever next by Jill Murphy