

There Was a Little Turtle

Name of Song or Rhyme

“There was a little turtle”

Fingerplay

First line of song or rhyme (text only)

Song type

Use a checkmark (✓) or “X” in appropriate boxes

Melodic	Melodic/Cultural Analysis		Rhythmic/Uses Analysis		Rhythmic
M1. CSP	Source's Starting Pitch:				R1. Meter
M2. Scale					R2. Metronome
M3. Toneset					R3. Note values
M4. Range			☐ Outer:	☐ Inner:	R4. Upbeat
M5. Mel. Form			☐ Iso	☐ Hetero	R5. Rhy. Form
M6. Cadences					R6. Beats/phrase
M7. Intervals			☐ Iso	☐ Bi	R7. Podia
			☐ Hetero	☐ Tetra	
M8. Target Phrases					R8. Target Phrases
M9. M. Diffic.					R9. R. Diffic.
M10. Other					R10. Other
Cultural					Classroom Use
C1. Context	Fingerplay		Actual Verses on Page 2	3	U1. # of verses
C2. Ethnicity	American				U2. Improv.
C3. Geographic	United States				U3. Listening
C4. Source: Where did this version come from?	Feierabend, J. M. (2020). <i>The Book of Fingerplays & Action Songs: Revised Edition</i> (p. 43). GIA Publications, Inc.		Additional Room on Page 2 See page 2		U4. Game Directions/ Movement
C5. Source info	☐ Primary	☐ Secondary	☒ Tertiary	Finger play	U5. Ped. Uses
C6. Research Notes	Additional Room on Page 2 See page 2				U6. Roles
C7. Holiday			Animals		U7. Themes

There was a little turtle
Who lived in a box.
He swam in the water,
He climbed on the rocks.

He snapped at a minnow,
He snapped at a flea,
He snapped at a mosquito
And he snapped at me!

He caught the minnow.
He caught the flea.
He caught the mosquito
But he didn't catch me!

There Was a Little Turtle

Name of Song or Rhyme

Stick Notation:

As spoken

C6. Additional Research Notes

This rhyme appears in the 1937 book “The Child Activity Readers: Let’s Read” by Amelia McLester. In the book, it credits *Congo and Other Poems* by Vachel Lindsay as a source. After obtaining this source, I can confirm that it does not appear in it.

U1. Additional Verses

U4. Game/Dance/Movement Instructions

Verse 1:
-Make a fist with one hand.
-Cover the fist with the other hand.
-Swimming motion alternating hands.
-Make a fist with one hand and walk across the knuckles with the fingers of the other hand.

Verse 2:
On the word “snapped” reach out and quickly put all fingertips together.

Verse 3:
On the word “caught” clap hands once.
On last line, point to yourself and shake head “no”.