

Old Mother Hubbard

LISTEN to
your child read
this poem aloud.

Old Mother Hubbard
Went to the cupboard
To get her poor dog a bone.
But when she came there
The cupboard was bare,
And so the poor dog had none.

She took a clean dish
To get him some tripe,
But when she came back
He was smoking his pipe.

She went to the fishmonger's
To buy him some fish,
And when she came back
He was licking the dish.

She went to the hatter's
To buy him a hat,
But when she came back
He was feeding her cat.

She went to the barber's
To buy him a wig,
But when she came back
He was dancing a jig.

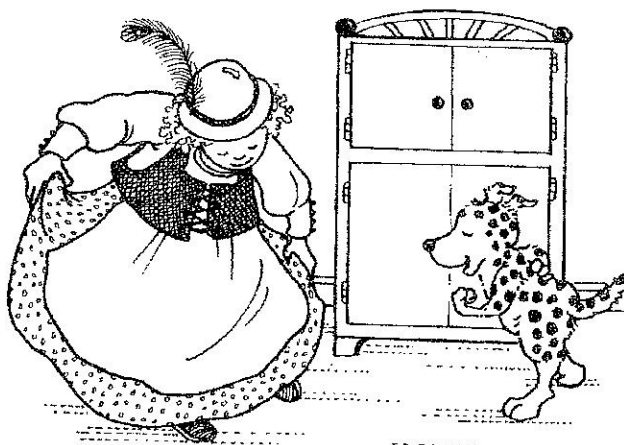
She went to the fruiterer's
To buy him some fruit,
But when she came back
He was playing the flute.

She went to the tailor's
To buy him a coat,
But when she came back
He was riding a goat.

She went to the cobbler's
To buy him some shoes,
But when she came back
He was reading the news.

She went to the hosier's
To buy him some hose,
But when she came back
He was dressed in his clothes.

The dame made a curtsy,
The dog made a bow;
The dame said, "Your servant,"
The dog said, "Bow, wow."



A Mother Goose rhyme

Dear Parents,

This timeless rhyme speaks to everyone, but perhaps best to the pet owners among us, who can surely relate to this story of an old lady and her dog. How many doting owners have "bent over backwards" to make a pet happy? Discuss with your child who is in charge here by examining the final verse and the meanings of unfamiliar words like *dame* and *curtsey*. Read this poem several times with your child. Try omitting the final word in each stanza, encouraging your child to guess at it by supplying a rhyming word.

In addition to focusing on rhyming words, this lesson highlights another, quite different skill—recalling specific facts. This key ability needs to be developed in all genres of literature, including poetry.

Skill

Identifying Rhyming Words;
Factual Recall

We completed this
assignment together.

(Child's Signature)

(Parent's Signature)

The Questions

1. Name three things that Old Mother Hubbard did for her dog.

2. Name three things the dog did.

3. What do you think is the meaning of the word *dame*?

4. What is the meaning of the word *curtsey*?