# **Communicating: Oral language and early literacy development**



## Learning possibilities

Text: Hutchins, P 1970, Rosie's walk, Puffin, Harmondsworth.

## **Engage**

Step 1. If you have this book at home, encourage your child/children to predict what the story is about from the cover, for example: 'Look at the cover of the book and tell me what you think this story is about.' Explain that there are very few words in the book so your child/children will need to look very closely at the illustrations. If you do not have the story use the suggested video link in the Resources box and watch the story together.

Step 2. Read/watch the story.

Step 3. Here are some questions to ask your child/children about the story.

1. Who was following Rosie the hen?

2. What do you think might happen with the rake when the fox follows Rosie?

3. What is a pond? Who are the main characters in this story?

4. Why did the fox run away?

#### Resources

#### Rhyme

'Chicken rhyme' (traditional)
Chick, chick chick, chick chick

## Video

Rosie's walk (YouTube, Nana makes videos) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E0ergbQWT\_g

## Respond

Create a small play space for retelling the story. Discuss with your child/children the materials you could use to make: Rosie, the fox, the rake, the pond, the cart, the haystack, the mill, a sack of wheat and a beehive. Ensure the construction is three-dimensional and made of materials that can be manipulated, for example: boxes, plastic cups, fabric pieces, playdough.

## **Extend**

- The story focuses on positional language: across, around, over, past, through and under, so incorporate these into some outside play e.g tie the string around the tree, place the clothes basket under the washing line.
- Talk with your child/ children about ways of moving around the back yard and set up a simple obstacle course for example, hop around the clothes line example: walk backwards along the path, jump over the skipping rope, slide between the clothes basket and the bucket and crawl through the tunnel (large cardboard box).
- Encourage your child/children to share their ideas using prepositional language and to draw the obstacle course map. You might also like to take photos of them trying these ideas out and add them to the map.
- Use cut-outs of the story sequence or play dough for children to retell the story independently.

