



CENTRE FOR LITERACY  
IN PRIMARY EDUCATION

# RHYMES FOR TRICKY TIMES

By Roger McGough

\*  
Crisis? What crisis?  
At school we're all  
prepared \*  
We're not going to  
worry

\*  
There's no need to be  
scared

\*  
We've lots of sanitizer  
And tissues by the  
score \*  
score

If our noses run, we'll  
wipe them  
Isn't that what noses  
are for?

\*  
\*  
By Roger McGough \*


Little Jack Horner  
Sat in a corner  
When a covid bug flew  
by

He pulled out a tissue  
To catch the a-tishoo  
And said 'What a good  
boy am I.'

Girls and boys  
Don't share your toys  
Or towels, whatever you  
do

Don't share your  
sneezes  
And wash your hands  
Whenever you go to the  
loo.

## *Safety in Numbers*



Safety in numbers?  
Not any more  
If the room gets  
crowded  
Make for the door


By Roger McGough


*To help prevent the  
spread of the virus  
Here's a list of things  
that you must do...*

- (i) Cover your mouth when you cough
- (ii) Cover your nose when you sneeze
- (iii) Cover your knees in custard
- (iv) Cover your head when you freeze
- (v) Wash your hands when you've been to the loo
- (vi) Wash them before every meal-time too
- (vii) If possible, avoid overcrowded places
- (viii) And remember, bugs hate smiling faces!

But remember,  
However careful you are  
Whatever you do  
There's still a chance  
Of catching it too

So if you're one  
Of the unlucky few  
Go to bed, take it easy  
Don't get in a stew  
Couple of days rest  
You'll be good as new.




**If someone is off sick  
in your class  
Don't worry if you  
catch it   
It will pass.**




Doctor Foster went to  
Gloucester

On a crowded train  
He forgot to wear a  
face-mask


So he's never been  
there again.



Incey Wincey virus  
Climbing up the spout  
Along came a sneeze  
And blew the virus out



Out came a tissue  
To catch the little pest  
Incey Wincey spider  
Now gone to rest.



Ring-a-ring o' roses  
A row of runny noses  
A-tishoo! A-tishoo!  
What shall we do?

By Roger McGough

**Polly use a tissue  
please**

**Polly use a tissue  
please**


**Polly use a tissue please  
You're going to sneeze**


**Polly put it in the bin  
Polly put it in the bin  
Polly put it in the bin  
We'll all have tea.**

**A-tishoo?  
Use a tissue**


**Bad things in it  
So bin it.**

**By Roger McGough**



Mary, Mary, quite  
contrary  
Never used soap or  
water  
'I won't catch it' she  
said 

But she's been in bed  
For a week since Corona  
caught her.



Georgie Porgie, pudding  
and pie  
Kissed the girls and  
made them cry  
'I may have the bug,'  
one advised  
Now Georgie Porgie's  
hospitalised.

*To help prevent the  
spread of the virus  
Here's a list of things  
you must NOT do...*

i) Cough without covering your mouth

ii) Sneeze without covering your nose

iii) Hide without covering your tracks

iv) Suffer in silence (Let somebody know)

v) Kiss someone under the mistletoe

vi) Hug the one who scores the goal

vii) Snorkle in a goldfish bowl.



## ***Saving your blushes***



**The best thing about  
Staying a metre apart  
Is that no one can hear  
If you suddenly....burp.**

**By Roger McGough**