



ECO-LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS OF NURSERY RHYMES: EXPLORING THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF VOCABULARY AND WORDS ON CHILDREN CONSCIOUSNESS

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Abstract

In order to explore the field of early childhood education, this qualitative study analyses 50 nursery rhymes using ecolinguistics. This study investigates how early exposure to words related to the environment affects young children's language development. The research focuses on the frequency and contextual usage of environmental terminology, food-related objects, and bird and animal names. The study also examines the intrinsic rhythmic patterns and repetitions of nursery rhymes, which help children, become more engaged and memorable, ultimately improving their language development. The findings highlight the importance of integrating environmentally conscious language practices in early childhood learning resources and have implications for educators, parents, and curriculum designers. The study contributes to the growing field of ecolinguistics.

Keywords: Ecolinguistic Analysis, nursery rhymes, Children Consciousness

Introduction

At the nexus of linguistics and ecology, ecolinguistics is a fascinating discipline that examines the complex interplay of language, culture, and environment. The role that language plays in forming ecological consciousness has drawn more attention in recent years, especially when it comes to early childhood education. This study aims to investigate how vocabulary and words affect children's environmental awareness, acknowledging the critical role language plays in influencing how people view, interact with, and grow to feel responsible for the natural world.

Early children are a crucial time for fostering favourable ecological attitudes because of the fast language and cognitive development that occurs throughout this period. During this formative era, infants are greatly influenced by the words and phrases they hear and meet in their environment. As a theoretical framework, ecolinguistics offers a prism through which we may investigate how language becomes a means of communicating ecological themes, particularly in the setting of nursery rhymes and poetry. The investigation includes a qualitative examination of fifty well selected nursery rhymes with the goal of locating and classifying vocabulary related to the natural world, cuisine, and animals. Ecology-related words such as "sky," "stars," "sun," "clouds," and "moon" will be analysed for their frequency as well as how they are used in context within the rhymes. The study also explores how children's understanding of biodiversity is impacted by food-related phrases like "cake" and the meaning of animal and bird names like "monkey," "rat," "elephant," "dog," and "cat."

There is more to comprehending these words' effects on the environment than merely analysing language quantitatively. It requires a qualitative investigation of the ways in which these concepts are used in the language and imaginative settings of children's stories. These rhymes' engaging vocabulary, rhythmic patterns, and repetitions make them memorable and engaging to listen to, which may have an impact on young people's developing ecological consciousness.

The goal of this study is to make a significant contribution to the field of ecolinguistics, and early childhood education. The study intends to provide insight on the potential of language, particularly through nursery rhymes, as a catalyst for promoting good attitudes and a sense of self by revealing the complex relationships between language acquisition and environmental awareness in the early stages of learning.

Literature Review

"Natural ecology," as if people were not a part of the natural world, or a "symbolic ecology," as if symbols interacted with one another similarly to how organisms do, is less necessary when considering ecology. Of course, cognition and sociocultural influences are crucial, but they do not require consideration as a distinct "sociocultural ecology" or "cognitive ecology." Rather, they can be seen as variables impacting people's actions, and as such having an effect on the ecology of organisms that interact. For instance, as opposed to believing that a particular environmental law is contained within a "symbolic ecology's potential to impact real-world physical ecology through its repercussions for how humans handle environments that sustain life. (Stibbe, 2015)

Awny (2023) conducted research in order to examine *Wishtree* by Katherine Alice Applegate from an ecolinguistic standpoint, this article highlighted the conspicuous and prominent ways in which the non-Children aspects of nature—represented in the book by the tree Red, the crow Bongo, and the other birds and animals—are portrayed. Ecolinguistics focuses on the role of language in elevating the significance and prominence of the non-Children world, in contrast to other branches of linguistics that focus on the role of language in Children-to-Children communication without accounting for the larger environmental context. The study looks at whether the novel has the salient patterns that Stibbe (2015) discussed in his ecolinguistics framework and whether they are used for the same objective—that is, to highlight and exhibit non-Children animals.

Majeed (2022) conducted a study which evaluated the English textbooks for grades 9 and 10 from an ecolinguistic standpoint using Stibbe's framework. Although there are more categories in this framework, only three were used in this investigation. Erasure, metaphor, and adjectives are these three categories. Erasure, Adjectives, and Metaphors are assessed using corpus and qualitative study approaches. There are two processes in the formation of a corpus. These books were first downloaded in PDF format from the freebooks.pk website. Secondly, all of the PDF files were manually transformed into TXT formats so that general research could be conducted and the files could be changed and searched. AntConc software is utilised all along the way. The results show how often adjectives connected to ecolinguistics are used in grade-level of 9th and 10th class English textbooks. There were eighty adjectives in all. There were twenty-nine metaphors with a frequency of 9.666% and eleven passive voices with a frequency of 3.666%. The most often used tale is evaluation, which appears 26.666 percent of the time. According to this study, elementary and secondary schools should use methodical approaches to give children

the skills and information they need to understand their surroundings via assessment, erasure, and metaphors.

Gach (2015) investigated that how the notion of NATURE is represented linguistically in African American poetry. It has been demonstrated that nature, as a comparatively autonomous cultural and intellectual reality, embodies the customs and cultural and aesthetic ideals of a language society. The study is conducted as part of an investigation of nineteenth- and twentieth-century African American nature poetry. The techniques of cognitive and eco-critical discourse analysis are intended to read dynamic material in a way that highlights the key components of the idea NATURE that is distinctive to the African American community. The study's diachronic breadth facilitates the tracing of the notion of NATURE's inception and development, as well as the comparative examination of its constituent aspects throughout centuries in African American poetry. The study's findings demonstrated that African Americans' conception of nature—which is reflected in the dichotomy of ideas like "life and death," "hostility and refuge," "wilderness and paradise," etc.—is the result of ongoing struggles with white civilization as well as external historical and cultural influences.

Gaard (1997) discussed Ecofeminism and Wilderness and explored the relationship between eco-feminist theory and the idea of wildness. Gaard discussed the methodology of her study, which focuses on examining the connection between gender and the environment via a feminist viewpoint. The procedure entailed a close examination of ecological theory, wilderness-related cultural conceptions, and eco-feminist literature. In particular, Gaard looked critically at how gendered viewpoints marginalise and objectify women and environment in prevailing patriarchal narratives, which in turn affects how people see and utilize wilderness places. The study's findings highlighted the relationship between ecofeminism and wilderness preservation, highlighting the significance of identifying and combating gendered power dynamics and their ecological ramifications in environmental ethics and activism.

Glotfelty (1996) conducted *Eco-criticism Reader as Landmarks in Literary Ecology* which is a seminal work in the subject of eco-criticism. This groundbreaking study examined the connection between literature and the environment via an extensive collection of articles and literary passages. The method of gathering these works as an interdisciplinary approach that looked at how literature addresses ecological challenges and broadens our awareness of the natural world by including ideas from a variety of literary and environmental viewpoints. The outcome of this study was an interesting and varied anthology with contributions from a range of academics and authors that emphasizes significant advancements in eco-critical philosophy.

Research Question

This study aims to challenge following questions as follows:

1. What effects does the incorporation of ideas from environmental perception into nursery rhymes have on children' language development?
2. How do these nursery rhymes contribute for children's language and cognitive development?
3. To what extent does exposure to nursery rhymes serve as a tool in ecological education in the early stage of children learning?

Methodology

This study has followed a qualitative content analysis on the chosen poems. The analysis has concentrated on the poems' emotional and psychological effects on readers' environmental consciousness as well as their ecological topics and linguistic choices. To guarantee a wide range of poetic expression, the research starts by choosing a sample of 50 poems that is representative of different historical periods, genres, and styles. These poems cover a broad spectrum of topics, from urban and industrial environments to nature and environmental problems.

The study begins with a detailed linguistic analysis of each poem, in which word choices and terminology are methodically classified and measured. The focus of this category is on terms and phrases that are related to nature, the environment, sustainability, and ecological consciousness. It is based on thematic relevance and ecological importance.. Through evaluations, the study then looks at the cognitive impacts of the lexicon that has been found on Children awareness. This multidisciplinary method makes it possible to thoroughly investigate how poetic language choices affect readers' awareness of the environment.

Overall, this research offers a comprehensive understanding of how poetry's vocabulary and words can influence environmental awareness and advance eco-linguistic studies by fusing a qualitative analysis of the language content of poetry with a quantitative evaluation of its effect on Children consciousness.

Analysis

1. Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star

Words related to Ecology/ Environment

Star, Sky, Night, Wonder, Moon ,Sun

Explanation/ Reason

"Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star" offers a multimodal experience in addition to make learning fun. It supports language development and cognitive comprehension in kids by assisting them in connecting words with visual representations. Exploration of the natural world and the night sky may also pique people's interest and enthusiasm for learning about the globe.

2. Row, Row, Row, Your Boat

Words related to Ecology/ Environment

Explanation/ Reason

It facilitates language development and memory retention in kids by teaching them to correlate words with visual representations.

3. The Wheels on the Bus

Words related to Ecology/ Environment

Tree ,Sun, Cloud, Rain, Town

Explanation/ Reason

"The Wheels on the Bus" focuses on aspects of daily life, such as transportation, rather than featuring animals or birds. Children's ability to link the rhyme to their own experiences is aided by this familiarity, which promotes linguistic and cognitive development. The rhyme's repeating quality helps with language learning and memory retention as well.

4. Five Little Ducks

Words related to Ecology/ Environment

Hills, Rivers

Animal / Birds Name

Ducks

Explanation/ Reason

"Five Little Ducks" offer children a multifaceted educational experience. The rhyme promotes social, emotional, and cognitive development by incorporating nature, emotional themes, and numerical ideas. In an enjoyable and participatory approach, the rhyme's aural input and the artist's visual interaction through drawing improve understanding and memory recall.

5. If You're Happy and You Know It

Parts of body/ Things/ Foods

Happy, Hands, Feet, Face

Explanation/ Reason

These all words transform the rhyme into a comprehensive, multisensory teaching tool that engages kids on an intellectual and physical level. Additionally, the diversity guarantees that kids with varying learning styles may still get something out of the exercise.

6. Old Macdonald Had a Farm

Words related to Ecology/ Environment

Quack (sound)

Animal / Birds Name

Cow, Pig, Duck

Places Name

Macdonald, Farm

Explanation/ Reason

For Children, "Old MacDonald Had a Farm" offers practical experiences. It incorporates intellectual learning about the environment and animals, visual involvement through sketching, and aural stimulation through rhyming. In a playful and engaging way, this multisensory method improves language learning, memory retention, and cognitive development.

7. Humpty Dumpty

Words related to Ecology/ Environment

Fall (as in the season)

Animal / Birds Name

Horses

Places Name

Wall

Explanation/ Reason

Children are engaged by the nursery rhyme "Humpty Dumpty" through a combination of human components and fundamental environmental principles. Drawing and classifying these components promotes an awareness of cause and effect, spatial relationships, and the links between humans and animals, all of which contribute to cognitive development.

8. Baa, Baa, Black Sheep



Words related to Ecology/ Environment

Wool

Animal / Birds Name

Sheep

Places Name

Lane

Explanation/ Reason

This multimodal method improves understanding and recall of information. A sense of belonging to the world and comprehension of commonplace objects and surrounds are also fostered by learning about animals and the environment.

9. Hickory Dickory Dock

Words related to Ecology/ Environment

Nature

Parts of body/ Things/ Foods Sheep

Clock

Animal / Birds Name

Mouse

Explanation/ Reason

"Hickory Dickory Dock" has a particular emphasis on topics relating to time and animals. With this focused approach, kids develop a better grasp of the natural and man-made components of their environment. The rhyme provides a memorable framework for education, enhancing the fun and engagement of learning new ideas.

10. Its Bitsy Spidery

Words related to Ecology/ Environment

Tree, Sun, Rain, Water spout

Animal / Birds Name

Spider

Explanation/ Reason

A comprehensive learning experience is produced by the rhyme's use of terms related to nature and the environment along with an animal (a spider). In addition to learning about the weather, kids also get a rudimentary grasp of how various creatures behave, which helps with their cognitive and sensory development.

Children are able to emotionally connect with the characters through the use of a straightforward tale centered on the itsy bitsy spider, which increases engagement and helps with memory retention.

11. Jack and Jill

Words related to Ecology/ Environment

Hill, Water, Nature

Explanation/ Reason

The straightforward narrative of "Jack and Jill" presents a situation in a natural context, serving as a foundation for educating kids about their surroundings. Sketching these components



improves understanding of the natural environment and spatial awareness. The tale element also aids with memory recall and storytelling abilities.

12. Mary Had a Little Lamb

Words related to Ecology/ Environment

Snow

Parts of body/ Things/ Foods Sheep

Teacher

Animal / Birds Name

Lamb

Explanation/ Reason

The rhyme's story gives the words context, which promotes language development and understanding. The animal's presence in the rhyme also gives it a creative and emotional touch, which enhances the learning process.

13. Hey Diddle Diddle

Animal / Birds Name

Cat, Cow, Little Dog

Explanation/ Reason

Children's imaginations and inventiveness are stimulated by "Hey Diddle Diddle" because of its blend of heavenly elements, animals, and amusing characters. Children are encouraged to explore the world beyond their local surroundings by the poem, which also incorporates aspects of imagination. This improves language acquisition while arousing interest in the outside world and the variety of living things.

14. London Bridge is Falling Down

Words related to Ecology/ Environment

River

Parts of body/ Things/ Foods Sheep

Silver, Gold

Places Name

Bridge

Explanation/ Reason

"London Bridge is Falling Down" offers a singular chance to combine artificial and natural components. The poem promotes an awareness of the interaction between human constructions and the surrounding environment by acting as a bridge—pun intended—between the constructed environment and the natural world. Children are encouraged to investigate their surroundings and the creative processes that have shaped them through this all-encompassing approach.

15. The Alphabet Song ABC

Words related to Ecology/ Environment

Tree, Sun, Sky, Cloud

Explanation/ Reason

Even though the alphabet is the main topic of this specific rhyme, include environmental components enhances the learning process. Children learn more visibly when they draw, which strengthens the link between letters and actual objects.

16. Old King Cole

Parts of body/ Things/ Foods Sheep

Bowl, Pipe

Explanation/ Reason

There are no references to birds or animals in this specific poem. But this may also be a chance to talk about how some aspects of other genres of literature are missing. It helps kids discover that not all stories have the same features and to investigate a variety of subjects.

17. Ring a Ring o'Roses

Words related to Ecology/ Environment

Roses, Poises

Explanation/ Reason

This poem offers a chance to learn about the natural world via the representation of flowers, even if it doesn't specifically mention animals or birds. Children's creativity is encouraged and their visual-spatial abilities are strengthened via drawing and classifying rhyme's material. The rhyme's repetition helps with memory retention and language development as well.

18. Pat-a-Cake, Pat-a-Cake

Parts of body/ Things/ Foods Sheep

Cake, Oven

Explanation/ Reason

This specific rhyme offers a chance to talk about the relationship between natural materials, man-made items (like ovens), and baking even if it may not specifically mention animals or birds. By making connections between language and comprehension abilities and everyday events, this all-encompassing strategy helps children's cognitive growth.

19. Little Bo-Peep

Animal / Birds Name

Sheep (tails)

Explanation/ Reason

A gentle introduction to the natural world and the concept of animal care is provided by Little Bo-Peep. Sketching these components fosters children's empathy and inspires imaginative play by illustrating the relationship between a shepherd and her sheep. The rhyme's repetition helps with memory retention and language development.

20. Little Miss Muffet

Words related to Ecology/ Environment

Tuffet (A grassy mound)

Animal / Birds Name

Spider

Explanation/ Reason

In conclusion, incorporating natural and animal themes into the "Little Miss Muffet" visual aid enhances children's educational experience. It facilitates their ability to make connections between the rhyme's words and the outside world, which advances cognitive growth and cultivates an appreciation for the natural world and all of its inhabitants.

21. Three Blind Mice

Words related to Ecology/ Environment

Trees, Nature Path

Parts of body/ Things/ Foods

Craving Knife

Animal / Birds Name

Mice, Tails

Places Name

Farmer's Fields

Explanation/ Reason

Combining the rhyme's many elements enables kids to have a deeper comprehension of the story. It fosters creative thinking, memory retention, and cognitive abilities.

Using creative, visual, and aural elements, this method gives kids the opportunity to interact with the poem on several levels and provides a well-rounded educational experience.

22. Rock-a-bye Baby

Words related to Ecology/ Environment

Treetop, Wind, Bough

Explanation/ Reason

This rhyme offers a chance to talk about the ideas of wind, trees, and the outdoors even if it doesn't specifically mention animals or birds. In addition to improving children's visual and cognitive abilities, drawing these aspects encourages them to explore and appreciate their environment and starts talks about nature.

By connecting words to concrete events and things, this exercise helps children develop their language skills while igniting their sense of wonder and curiosity about the outside world.

23. Baby Bumble Bee

Words related to Ecology/ Environment

Sting, Yucky

Parts of body/ Things/ Foods

Honey

Animal / Birds Name

Bee

Explanation/ Reason

Children are drawn into the poem by its use of natural elements like honey and bees. Learning gains emotional depth when sensory experiences such as the "yucky" feeling are included. Emotional intelligence and memory retention can both be improved by this emotional connection. The connection between bee stings and safety also teaches kids to be mindful of their surroundings and to be careful.

Children may make a visual connection between these aspects by sketching and categorising, which strengthens their comprehension of the natural world and its inhabitants. This multimodal method promotes emotional awareness, cognitive abilities, and linguistic development.

24. Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed

Parts of body/ Things/ Foods

Bed, Head, Doctor

Animal / Birds Name

Monkeys

Explanation/ Reason

By connecting the rhyme to actual objects—such as a bed, head, or doctor—you may promote cognitive growth and strengthen the connections between words and their meanings.

Children may express their imagination and visualise the rhyme's settings via drawing, which encourages a love of storytelling and imaginative play.

Children participate in a multimodal learning experience that enhances their cognitive, linguistic, and emotional development when these components are incorporated into drawing exercises.

25. Five Little Speckled Frogs

Parts of body/ Things/ Foods

Log, Pool

Animal / Birds Name

Bugs, Frogs

Explanation/ Reason

Children may reinforce what they've learnt visually and tactilely by classifying and sketching aspects from the poem. Drawing helps with fine motor skills, memory recall, and cultivating an appreciation of the natural world and its people. The poem's rhythmic quality promotes both rhythm perception and language development.

26. Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes

Parts of body/ Things/ Foods

Head, Shoulder, Knees, Toes, Eyes, Ears, Mouth, Nose

Explanation/ Reason

Adding aspects of nature to well-known rhymes creates a multisensory experience. Children benefit from learning that is relevant and interesting by forming associations between bodily parts and objects in their environment. Even if there are no animals or birds in this particular rhyme, it offers a chance to broaden the learning process by include relevant aspects in the drawing exercise.

27. One, Two, Buckle My Shoes

Parts of body/ Things/ Foods

Door , Shoe

Explanation/ Reason

Children may reinforce their comprehension of language and the outside world in addition to having fun with a creative activity when they engage with the rhyme's aspects through categorising and sketching. This method cultivates a passion for education and language study.

28. Bingo

Parts of body/ Things/ Foods

Farmer

Animal / Birds Name

Dog

Explanation/ Reason

"Bingo" is a straightforward story of a farmer and his dog, giving kids a framework to investigate the concepts of farms, animals, and the environment. The rhyme's recurrence helps with memory retention, and its connection to everyday objects promotes language learning and cognitive growth.

29. The Farmer in the Dell

Parts of body/ Things/ Foods

Nurse, Wife, Child, Cheese, Farmer, Dell

Animal / Birds Name

Cow, Dog, Cat , Rat

Explanation/ Reason

Through classifying and sketching the components of "The Farmer in the Dell," kids interact with a range of ideas, including family, nature, and individuality. The rhyme is a multipurpose tool that helps young minds develop socially, emotionally, and cognitively.

30. The Itsy Bitsy Pumpkin

Parts of body/ Things/ Foods

Pumpkin , Spooky gate , Bats, Gates , Sheet, Gates

Explanation/ Reason

Incorporating that use rhymes from the Halloween story engage kids in a fun and creative way. In addition to improving language development, this fosters original thought and the capacity to link disparate ideas.

Recall that the secret is to give kids an engaging and joyful learning environment. Integrating educational pursuits with enjoyable pursuits like illustration and rhymes with themes might enhance a child's overall growth.

31. I'm a Little Teapot

Words related to Ecology/ Environment

Steam, Shout

Parts of body/ Things/ Foods

Teapot

Explanation/ Reason

Children are introduced to the notion of commonplace items and behaviours through "I'm a Little Teapot". It may not be specifically related to nature or animals, but by introducing new words and idioms, it helps language development. The rhyme's rhythmic and repeating structure helps with language learning and memory retention. It also promotes movement since kids want to imitate the activities in the rhyme, which helps them with motor skills and coordination.

32. Five Little Pumpkins

Words related to Ecology/ Environment

Air, Wing, Light

Parts of body/ Things/ Foods

Pumpkins, Gate, Witches

Explanation/ Reason

Recall that while not all nursery rhymes feature birds or animals, they all support various facets of a child's growth. In this instance, the fall-related components and the visual depictions of pumpkins, gates, wind, and light are highlighted.

33. Rain Go Away

Words related to Ecology/ Environment

Rain, Day

Parts of body/ Things/ Foods

Children

Explanation/ Reason

Using visual aids to help children link words from the poem, this practise promotes vocabulary development. Furthermore, showing everyday situations like play and rain helps children understand and make connections to their experiences in the actual world. The artwork' lighthearted style also fosters emotional and creative growth.

34. Down By the Bay

Parts of body/ Things/ Foods

Watermelon, Home, Bay, Moose, Goose

Explanation/ Reason

Children learn to recognise and interact with their surroundings via the categorization and sketching of these aspects. The range of components—from fruits to animals—broadens vocabulary and improves observational abilities, which supports cognitive growth. The whimsical quality of the rhyme adds to the enjoyment of learning.

35. Ten in the Bed

Parts of body/ Things/ Foods

Bed, Roll voer

Explanation/ Reason

A short, repeating rhyme called "Ten in the Bed" helps with social interaction, number recognition, and sequencing. The relatability and cognitive engagement of the rhyme are



increased by including items from the child's immediate surroundings and establishing a character.

Recall that these components work best when they can establish a connection with a child's reality, which makes learning engaging and relevant. The poem helps young children's cognitive and emotional development by offering a fun setting for counting and social dynamics.

36. I Had a Little Turtle

Words related to Ecology/ Environment

Water, Bubbles

Parts of body/ Things/ Foods

Bathtub

Animal / Birds Name

Turtle

Explanation/ Reason

The plot may be made concrete and visually represented by classifying and sketching various aspects from the poem. This helps children's linguistic and cognitive development by improving understanding and memory recall.

Playing imaginative games, such as making up nursery rhymes, with the outdoors and animals promotes a child's cognitive, emotional, and sensory growth. For young brains, learning is made more relevant and pleasurable by the familiar setting of ordinary activities, such as taking a bath.

37. The Muffin Man

Words related to Ecology/ Environment

Nature

Animal / Birds Name

Lane

Explanation/ Reason

Despite lacking much information connected to nature or animals, the Muffin Man rhyme helps kids learn English because it introduces them to the idea of a "lane." In addition to improving phonological awareness and memory retention, the rhyme's rhythmic quality facilitates understanding.

Recall that the power of these exercises rests in their capacity to provide children with an engaging and joyful learning experience, encouraging a positive outlook on language development and the investigation of their environment.

38. This Old Man

Words related to Ecology/ Environment

Tree, Bone

Animal / Birds Name

Gog

Places Name

Home

Explanation/ Reason

The rhyme's use of animals and natural terms promotes vocabulary growth and sensory engagement. Through rhythm and repetition, children learn about their surroundings, connect words to particular things, and lay the groundwork for future language development. The rhyme's lighthearted quality makes learning fun and promotes favourable associations with language learning.

39. Little Bunny Foo Foo

Words related to Ecology/ Environment

Forest , Field , Trees

Animal / Birds Name

Mice, Bunny

Explanation/ Reason

Organising and sketching aspects from the poetry enables kids to connect words with illustrations. This multimodal technique improves cognitive abilities, memory retention, and language development. Furthermore, the poem's narrative style encourages youngsters to think creatively and tell stories.

40. The Grand Old Duke of York

Words related to Ecology/ Environment

Hill

Parts of body/ Things/ Foods

Men

Places Name

Up, Down

Explanation/ Reason

Despite the absence of animals or birds, this rhyme gives kids a chance to practise movement, spatial awareness, and fundamental number comprehension. The rhyme's repetition improves general cognitive abilities by supporting language and memory development.

41. I See the Moon

Words related to Ecology/ Environment

Moon, Stars, Sky

Parts of body/ Things/ Foods

Bless

Explanation/ Reason

Children learn to correlate words with visual representations when they categorise and sketch these aspects. Language development, memory retention, and cognitive abilities are all aided by this relationship. Emotional health is also enhanced by the poem's calming and compassionate style.

42. Teddy Bear, Teddy Bear

Words related to Ecology/ Environment

Sun, Stars, Light

Places Name

Ground

Explanation/ Reason

By improving their vocabulary, observational abilities, and creativity, children's cognitive growth is aided by the process of drawing and classifying these rhyme-based aspects. The rhyme's rhythmic quality helps with memory retention and language learning as well.

43. The Hokey Pokey

Words related to Ecology/ Environment

Sun, Air

Places Name

Ground, Dance Floor

Explanation/ Reason

An engaging rhyme that promotes coordination and physical exercise is the Hokey Pokey. Children may better comprehend the context of the dance by drawing and classifying environment-related objects, which helps them make the link between words and movements. Furthermore, the lack of particular animals permits inventive interpretation and the inclusion of diverse animal motions throughout the dance, encouraging the development of motor skills and imaginative play.

44. The Bear Went over the Mountain

Words related to Ecology/ Environment

Mountain ,Valley , Trees , Sky , River , Grass

Animal / Birds Name

Bear

Explanation/ Reason

For children, classifying and sketching these components offers a multisensory experience. It enhances their cognitive and imaginative faculties, promoting the growth of language, the ability to observe others, and a love of the natural world.

Using classification and sketching to interact with this poetry improves linguistic proficiency while fostering an inquiry and fascination of the natural world.

45. The Ants go Marching

Words related to Ecology/ Environment

Rain

Animal / Birds Name

Ants

Places Name

Ground

Explanation/ Reason

Children can make the connection between the words and their visual representations by classifying and sketching these aspects. Children's cognitive, observational, and verbal

development are all improved by this multimodal approach. The rhyme's repetition also aids in language learning and memory retention.

46. Ten Little Fingers

Words related to Ecology/ Environment

Tree , Flower , Sky, Sun , Grass, Moon, Stars , Rain, Cloud , Butterfly

Animal / Birds Name

Cat, Dog, Bunny

Explanation/ Reason

Sorting and sketching these components offers a multimodal educational experience. Rhyming provides aural stimulation, while sketching engages the visual sense and fosters language development and a stronger sense of connection to the surroundings.

Reciting rhymes about birds, animals, and the natural world enhances a child's educational experience and advances their general emotional and cognitive growth.

47. I Hear Thunder

Words related to Ecology/ Environment

Rain, Thunder , Raindrops . Wet

Explanation/ Reason

This poem encourages a young reader's awareness of the environment and its changes by concentrating on weather-related themes. Children who draw these components learn about the sights and noises connected with rain and thunder, which improves their sensory awareness, vocabulary, and emotional connection.

48. Down in the Jungle

Words related to Ecology/ Environment

Jungle , River , Tree , Sun, Bushes

Animal / Birds Name

Elephant, Monkey, Crocodile, Tiger

Explanation/ Reason

Sorting and classifying these components from the poem offers a multimodal educational experience. In youngsters, the combination of visual connection through sketching and auditory engagement through rhyming promotes vocabulary learning, creative thinking, and cognitive development. It also establishes the framework for a more comprehensive comprehension of the natural world.

49. The Hokey Pokey

Words related to Ecology/ Environment

Tree , Sun , Sky , Earth

Explanation/ Reason

"The Hokey Pokey" is less concerned with material pertaining to animals or the natural world and more with body language and spatial awareness. It may not immediately advance our understanding of the natural world, but it does help with the development of motor abilities,

coordination, and rhythm awareness. The songs' recurrence aids with memory retention and language development as well.

It's crucial to remember that not all children's songs or nursery rhymes address a wide variety of subjects. Whether it's encouraging physical exercise, improving linguistic abilities, or exposing kids to the natural world, each has a distinct function in a child's growth.

50. Hush, Little Baby

Words related to Ecology/ Environment

Moon, Star, Diamond, Grass

Animal / Birds Name

Goat , Horse , Dog, Mocking bird

Explanation/ Reason

A multimodal learning experience is produced by classifying and sketching various components. The variety of themes enhances the child's comprehension of nature and the animal kingdom, while the repetition of words and picture assists in memory retention.

Results and Discussion

Environmental Words	103 words in 50 Nursery Rhymes
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An important impact on ecological learning throughout the early phases of children's language development has been found by analysing fifty nursery rhymes. Environmental terms like "sky," "stars," "sun," "clouds," and "moon" are included to create a rich language landscape that relates kids to the natural world. Total 103 words of environment are found in 50 nursery rhymes. These words inspire awe and curiosity about the surroundings in addition to improving vocabulary. Food-related products such as "cake" communicate ideas about nutrition and the relationship between humans and the environment. Nursery rhymes that feature food might indirectly encourage conversations about the origins of food and the value of having a positive relationship with the natural world. Names of animals and birds, such "dog," "cat," "elephant," "rat," and "monkey," have a major impact on ecolinguistics. Children are exposed to a range of species, which promotes an early awareness of biodiversity. These animal names can also be used as starting points for more extensive conversations on ecosystems, animal habitats, and the interdependence of all living things.

Language learning is improved by the repeating of these food-related, environmental, and animal/bird words in nursery rhymes. Rhymes use repetition and rhythmic patterns a lot, which makes learning about them memorable and interesting. This repetition enhances linguistic and cognitive abilities in addition to helping with vocabulary growth.

Additionally, the creative and lighthearted use of these terms in nursery rhymes contributes to the development of favourable attitudes towards the natural world. Learning about environmental concepts may inspire children's creativity and excitement, which can help them develop a good ecological conscience. From an ecolinguistic standpoint, these nursery rhymes help promote early ecological literacy by skillfully incorporating terminology connected to environment into young children's linguistic and imaginative realms. From the earliest stages of language acquisition, the rhymes give kids a chance to explore and comprehend their relationship with the

environment, which in turn fosters a feeling of responsibility and appreciation for the natural world.

1. Effects as incorporation of ideas from Environmental Perception into nursery rhymes have on Children' Language Development.

Enhanced Acquiring of Vocabulary: Environmental Terms Expand Vocabulary Nursery rhymes that use terms like "sky," "stars," "sun," "clouds," and "moon" introduce kids to a wide variety of environmental terminology. Their vocabulary is enriched as a result of this exposure, which is consistent focus on the value of exposure to a variety of language inputs for efficient vocabulary growth.

Contextual Usage in Rhymes Facilitates Understanding: Contextual Learning and Cognitive Development Contextual learning is supported by the qualitative examination of the environmental words used in rhymes. According to ecolinguistics philosophy, learning happens more successfully when language is provided in context, which promotes cognitive growth and deeper comprehension.

Rhythmic Patterns Enhance Memory: The rhythmic patterns and repetitions inherent in nursery rhymes, as observed in ecolinguistics analysis, contribute to enhanced memory retention. This rhythmic quality aids children in remembering and internalizing new words and concepts related to the environment.

Semantic Associations and Conceptual Frameworks:

Building Semantic Associations: Exposure to words related to nature, food, and animals, such as "cake," "monkey," "elephant," etc., facilitates the building of semantic associations. Ecolinguistics analysis emphasizes the role of semantic relationships in language understanding, and nursery rhymes serve as a medium to construct conceptual frameworks related to the environment.

Imaginative Language Exposure:

Creativity and Imagination in Rhymes: The creative use of language in nursery rhymes stimulates imagination. According to ecolinguistics analysis, the interaction between language and imagination is crucial for cognitive development. Nursery rhymes provide a platform for imaginative exploration of environmental concept. The relationship between language and imagination is essential for cognitive growth. Nursery rhymes offer a creative outlet for investigating environmental ideas.

Early Eco-Linguistic Pattern Exposure:

Promoting Patterns of Eco-Linguistics: The formation of ecological literacy is aided by early exposure to the eco-linguistic patterns seen in nursery rhymes. Early exposure to language patterns is crucial for laying a solid linguistic foundation.

In conclusion, by offering complex, contextual, and creative language experiences, the integration of environmental concepts into nursery rhymes is consistent with theories from the field of linguistics. These interactions provide a thorough comprehension of environmental themes and advance the larger objectives of early childhood education while having a favourable effect on children's language development.

2. Nursery Rhymes Contribution for Children's Language and Cognitive Development

Through a variety of methods that involve both language and cognitive processes, nursery rhymes have a major positive impact on children's language and cognitive development. An

examination of how these rhymes promote language and cognitive development is provided below:

1. Knowledge of Phonology:

Nursery rhymes frequently have rhymes in their words and patterns, which help to develop phonological awareness. Children's sensitivity to language's sound structure is improved when they can identify and mimic rhyming words, which is an essential step towards developing reading abilities.

2. Expanding Synonyms:

Rich Vocabulary Exposure: Children are exposed to a wide variety of words through nursery rhymes. Words pertaining to the natural world, animals, and daily tasks broaden their lexicon and improve their cognitive abilities.

3. Memory Retention: Repetition and Rhythmic Patterns: Nursery rhymes' rhythmic patterns and repetitious style help people remember things. The words, phrases, and sequences are simple for kids to recollect, which helps with memory and recall development.

4. Syntax and Grammar Development: Modeling Proper Syntax: Rhymes for children offer illustrations of proper syntax and grammar use. Children learn language norms through exposure to well-structured sentences, which enhances their ability to produce and comprehend language on their own.

5. Improvement of Cognitive Skills: Imagination and Creativity: Nursery rhymes inspire creativity and imagination because of their inventive and sometimes amusing content. Cognitive abilities including problem-solving, critical thinking and creative expression are fostered by this involvement.

6. Narrative and Sequencing Skills: Storytelling and Sequence Learning: A lot of nursery rhymes narrate brief stories or depict events in a certain order. Children learn about cause and effect, temporal sequencing, and storytelling structures via this experience, which helps them improve their narrative abilities.

7. Social and Emotional Development: Social issues and Emotional Expression: Nursery rhymes frequently communicate social issues and emotions. By investigating these topics, kids may enhance their emotional intelligence by learning about feelings, forming empathy for characters, and growing in social awareness.

8. Cultural Awareness: Cultural Context and Diversity: A variety of cultural features and viewpoints are frequently reflected in nursery rhymes. Children's perception of the world around them is expanded and their cultural awareness is fostered by exposure to many cultural situations.

9. Foundational Reading Skills:

Prerequisite Knowledge: Early exposure to rhyme, rhythm, and linguistic patterns establishes the foundation for pre-reading abilities. Understanding rhymes' word sounds and structures is a prerequisite to understanding written language.

10. Improved Focus and Attention span:

Engaging Content: Nursery rhymes draw youngsters in and encourage prolonged focus because of their captivating and rhythmic quality. Many different types of cognitive tasks benefit from this increased attention span.

Essentially, nursery rhymes are versatile instruments that integrate language and cognitive development. Their inventive, rhythmic, and repeating qualities provide an ideal learning atmosphere that supports a variety of abilities essential to kids' general language and cognitive development.

3. Exposure to Nursery Rhymes serve as a tool in Ecological Education in the Early Stage of Children Learning

For young children, exposure to nursery rhymes is a useful and entertaining method of teaching about the environment. Nursery rhymes have a substantial impact on ecological education, and this impact may be evaluated based on a number of important factors:

1. Overview of Environmental Ideas:

Early Exposure to Terms Related to Nature: Terms like "sky," "stars," "sun," "clouds," and "moon" are frequently used in nursery rhymes. Children who are exposed to these phrases are given an early exposure to environmental ideas and are encouraged to develop a connection with the natural world.

2. Awareness of Biodiversity:

Including Animal and Bird Names: A lot of nursery rhymes include names for birds and animals, such "dog," "elephant," "monkey," and "cat." This feature raises children's understanding of biodiversity by introducing them to the diversity of the animal kingdom and their habitats.

3. Attitudes in the Positive Environment:

Imaginative and fun settings: Nursery rhymes' imaginative and fun settings foster good connections with the surroundings. Youngsters frequently view nature as a joyful and inquisitive source, which promotes favourable attitudes towards the environment.

4. Patterns in Ecolinguistics:

Linguistic Exposure to Eco-linguistic Patterns: Nursery rhymes can raise awareness of ecolinguistics through their use of language patterns. Youngsters learn vocabulary related to the environment, which prepares them for a comprehension of ecological principles based on language.

5. Experiencing Nature through the senses:

Rhythmic and Sensory Engagement: A comprehensive learning experience is facilitated by the rhythmic and sensory engagement that nursery rhymes offer. Children's sensory relationship with nature is strengthened when rhymes and creative settings combine to provide aural stimulation and visual involvement.

6. Cultural Views of the Environment: Cultural Setting and Themes in the Environment Nursery rhymes frequently convey societal viewpoints on the environment. Children learn about the various cultural settings that rhymes explore and how they relate to and view nature in different ways.

7. Base for Eco-Conscious Discussions:

Rhymes as Sowers for Environmental Discussions: The rhymes serve as sowers for environmental discussions. Nursery rhymes can serve as a springboard for conversations about nature, animals, and the value of environmental stewardship among parents, educators, and careers.

8. An Early Overview of Sustainability

Food-related Items and Environmental Responsibilities: A number of nursery rhymes contain references to "cake," which presents an opportunity to talk about food sources and sustainability. These conversations aid in the early comprehension of environmental responsibility in relation to food production.

9. Advantageous Learning Connections:

Positive Learning Associations with Nature: Learning and nature are positively associated thanks to nursery rhymes. Children are encouraged to see the environment as an exciting and vital component of their educational journey by this positive reinforcement.

10. Incorporation into Formal Curriculum: Integration with Formal Environmental Education to support formal environmental education, nursery rhymes might be incorporated into school curriculum. The smooth transition from unstructured exposure to more organised learning of ecological ideas is ensured by this integration.

In conclusion, exposing young toddlers to nursery rhymes is an effective way to teach them about the environment. Nursery rhymes offer a comprehensive framework for promoting environmental knowledge, good attitudes, and a sense of responsibility towards the natural world through its linguistic, creative, and cultural components.

Conclusion

Thorough examination of nursery rhymes through the lens of ecolinguistics demonstrates their significant influence on the development of children. The study clarified how the inclusion of environmental, food-related items and animal/bird phrases acts as a dynamic accelerator for children's language and cognitive development through a qualitative examination of 50 nursery rhymes. These rhymes' integration of language and ecological ideas, in line with the tenets of ecolinguistics not only expands vocabulary and encourages creative thinking but also establishes a foundational element for ecological literacy. Nursery rhymes emerge as effective instruments for introducing young minds to environmental awareness, establishing good attitudes, and forming a feeling of responsibility towards the natural world because they offer a holistic and imaginative learning experience. This study emphasizes nursery rhymes' ability to serve as a link between language and ecological education, highlighting its critical significance in forming the environmental awareness and appreciation of the next generation.

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