

Daily tips for Playful Learning at Home



The Ugly Duckling



There is so much to learn as we grow up about ourselves and how we fit in. What kind of person am I, how do I play with others – what can I do if things don't go well or people don't like me.

The Ugly Duckling is a story about all this and more – there are all kinds of chats you can have with your child about it, or just enjoy the story or the song

What do I need?

A quiet and cosy place to tell the story with your child

You can access the story on the Book Trust website here:

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/have-some-fun/storybooks-and-games/ugly-duckling-and-friends/>

You can take this outside too, if you live near somewhere you can go safely that has ducks or swans

What do we do?

Find a quiet time to chat and enjoy the story

Your child may want to go through it a few times

There are a couple of games to play as well

For ideas for interacting with the story, use the “watch with top tips” version

Your child might like to retell the story, or draw some of the characters

Sing-a-long?

There is a nice sung version at

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=neX_E8Ozf88

You and your child could do the “quack!” sounds in the chorus

Or do a concert later for family

What will your child learn from this play?

- How stories and songs work
- Vocabulary and language
- About how people are different
- How to play with others and manage setbacks
- About birds and eggs hatching
- About growing up and how we change

How can you take it further?

- Pick up any themes from the story that your child is interested in and chat about them
- Show some photos of you (or your child) growing up and how you changed from small to big!
- Your child might want to find out more about eggs and ducks
- Help your child “write” their own version of the story – this may be just a drawing and you can add some words

*Play & talk together
Be careful with too many questions*

*Pause and wait for your child to respond
Copy what they say and add to it*