1. Aiken Drum

There was a man lived in the moon,
lived in the moon, lived in the moon,
There was a man lived in the moon,
and his name was Aiken Drum.

And he played upon a ladle,
a ladle, a ladle,
And he played upon a ladle,
and his name was Aiken Drum.
And his hat was made of good cream cheese,
of good cream cheese, of good cream cheese,
And his hat was made of good cream cheese,
and his name was Aiken Drum.

And he played upon a ladle,
a ladle, a ladle,
And he played upon a ladle,
and his name was Aiken Drum.
And his coat was made of good roast beef,
of good roast beef, of good roast beef,
And his coat was made of good roast beef,
and his name was Aiken Drum.

And he played upon a ladle,
a ladle, a ladle,
And he played upon a ladle,
and his name was Aiken Drum.
And his buttons made of penny loaves,
of penny loaves, of penny loaves,
And his buttons made of penny loaves,
and his name was Aiken Drum.
And he played upon a ladle,

Have students make up their own descriptions of Aiken Drum, such as "His eyes were made of pizza," "His coat was made of bacon," "His mouth was a banana."

2. Betty Botter

This is a tongue-twister. Have students race to see who can read it or say it fastest. This would be a good exercise for students to do while making butter. The recipe is in the "Recipes" section.

Betty Botter bought some butter.
"But," she said, "the butter's bitter.
If I put it in my batter,
it will make my batter bitter.
But a bit of better butter—
that would make my batter better."

So she bought a bit of butter,
better than her bitter butter.
And she put it in her batter,
and the batter was not bitter.
So 'twas better Betty Botter.
3. Bread and Cereals
Breads and cereals start from seeds
Of grasses farmers grow;
They’re all ground up and mixed with eggs
And other flavors for dough.

The crust of pies and dinner rolls,
And noodles of chicken soup,
Doughnuts, spaghetti, and Cream of Wheat
Are in the bread and cereals group.

4. Dairy Products
Dairy products are food from the farm
That came from pasture and co-op;
Milk from cows and eggs from hens
Are part of the dairy group.

We eat our eggs cooked soft or hard,
Scrambled, poached, or steamed;
From milk we make our cottage cheese,
Our yogurt, and ice cream.

5. Found a Peanut
Found a peanut, found a peanut,
Found a peanut just now,
Just now I found a peanut,
Found a peanut just now.

Cracked it open, cracked it open,
Cracked it open just now,
Just now I cracked it open,
Cracked it open just now.

It was rotten, it was rotten,
It was rotten just now,
Just now it was rotten,
It was rotten just now.

Ate it anyway, ate it anyway,
Ate it anyway just now,
Just now I ate it anyway,
Ate it anyway just now.

Got a stomach ache, got a stomach ache,
Got a stomach ache just now,
Just now I got a stomach ache,
Got a stomach ache just now.
Called the doctor, called the doctor,
Called the doctor just now,
Just now I called the doctor,
Called the doctor just now.
Penicillin, Penicillin,
Penicillin just now,
Just now I took Penicillin,
Penicillin just now.

Operation, operation,
Operation just now,
Just now an operation,
An operation just now.

Died anyway, died anyway,
Died anyway just now,
Just now I died anyway,
Died anyway just now.

Was a dream, was a dream,
Was a dream just now,
Just now it was a dream,
Was a dream, just now.

Then I woke up, then I woke up,
Then I woke up just now,
Just now I woke up,
I woke up just now.
Found a peanut, found a peanut,
Found a peanut just now,
Just now I found a peanut,
Found a peanut just now.

6. Goober Peas

Goober peas is another name for peanuts. Although peanuts are native to South America, they made their way into North America with slaves from West Africa, who planted them as a food crop to feed themselves. They called the nut “nguba,” which was the origin of the word “goober.”

Sitting by the roadside on a summer’s day
Chatting with my mess-mates passing time away
Lying in the shadows underneath the trees
Goodness how delicious eating goober peas.

Peas, peas, peas, peas
Eating goober peas
Goodness how delicious
Eating goober peas.

When a horse-man passes, the soldiers have a rule
To cry out their loudest, "Mister, here’s your mule?"
But another custom, enchanting-er than these
Is wearing out your grinders, eating goober peas.

Just before the battle, the General hears a row
He says "The Yanks are coming, I hear their rifles now."
He looks down the roadway and what d’you think he sees?
The Georgia Militia cracking goober peas.
I think my song has lasted just about enough.
The subject’s interesting but the rhymes are mighty rough.
I wish the war was over so free from rags and fleas
We’d kiss our wives and sweethearts, say good-bye to goober peas.

7. Hinky Dinky Double D Farm

Oh it’s beans, beans, beans
That make you feel so mean,
On the farm, on the farm,
Oh, it’s beans, beans, beans
That make you feel so mean,
On the Hinky Dinky ‘Double D’ farm.

Mine eyes are dim, I cannot see,
I have not brought my specs with me,
I have not brought my specs with me!

Peas, peas, peas, peas
Eating goober peas
Goodness how delicious eating goober peas.

When a horse-man passes, the soldiers have a rule
To cry out their loudest, "Mister, here’s your mule?"
But another custom, enchanting-er than these
Is wearing out your grinders, eating goober peas.

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We’d kiss our wives and sweethearts, say good-bye to goober peas.

Oh it’s beans, beans, beans
That make you feel so mean,
On the farm, on the farm,
Oh, it’s beans, beans, beans
That make you feel so mean,
On the Hinky Dinky ‘Double D’ farm.

Mine eyes are dim, I cannot see,
I have not brought my specs with me,
I have not brought my specs with me!

Oh it’s corn, corn, corn
That make you feel forlorn,
On the farm, on the farm,
Oh, it’s corn, corn, corn
That make you feel forlorn,
On the Hinky Dinky ‘Double D’ farm.

Mine eyes are dim, I cannot see,
I have not brought my specs with me,
I have not brought my specs with me!

Oh it’s meat, meat, meat
That knocks you off your feet,
On the farm, on the farm,
Oh, it’s meat, meat, meat
That knocks you off your feet,
On the Hinky Dinky ‘Double D’ farm.

Mine eyes are dim, I cannot see,
I have not brought my specs with me,
I have not brought my specs with me!
Oh it’s pie, pie, pie
That makes you want to cry,
On the farm, on the farm,
Oh, it’s pie, pie, pie
That makes you want to cry,
On the Hinky Dinky ‘Double D' farm.

Mine eyes are dim, I cannot see,
I have not brought my specs with me,
I have not brought my specs with me!

Oh it’s soup, soup, soup
That makes you want to droop,
On the farm, on the farm,
Oh, it’s soup, soup, soup
That makes you want to droop,
On the Hinky Dinky ‘Double D' farm.

Mine eyes are dim, I cannot see,
I have not brought my specs with me,
I have not brought my specs with me!

Oh it’s peas, peas, peas
That make you want to sneeze,
On the farm, on the farm,
Oh, it’s peas, peas, peas
That make you want to sneeze,
On the Hinky Dinky ‘Double D' farm.

Mine eyes are dim, I cannot see,
I have not brought my specs with me,
I have not brought my specs with me!

8. Little Miss Muffet

(Help your students understand this familiar rhyme by making cheese. The recipe and more information about cheese is in the lesson “Say Cheese.”)

Little Miss Muffet sat on a tuffet,
Eating some curds and whey.
Along came a spider,
And sat down beside her,
And frightened Miss Muffet away.

9. Market Day

Monday morning is market day,
I go to the market for
One fish, for two fish,
And bring them back home to eat.

Monday morning is market day,
I go to the market for
Three eggs, for four eggs,
And bring them back home to eat.

Monday morning is market day,
I go to the market for
Five plums, for six plums,
And bring them back home to eat.

Monday morning is market day,
I go to the market for
Seven cakes, for eight cakes,
And bring them back home to eat.

Monday morning was market day,
I went to the market to
Buy food, but ate it,
Now I’ve got a tummy ache.
10. Peanut Butter and Jelly

First you take the peanuts
And you crunch 'em,
You crunch 'em
First you take the peanuts
And you crunch 'em,
You crunch 'em

For your peanut, peanut butter
And jelly
Peanut, peanut butter
And jelly

Then you take the grapes
And you squish 'em,
You squish 'em
Then you take the grapes
And you squish 'em,
You squish 'em

For your peanut, peanut butter
And jelly
Peanut, peanut butter
And jelly

Then you take the bread
And you spread it,
You spread it
Then you take the bread
And you spread it,
You spread it

For your peanut, peanut butter
And jelly
Peanut, peanut butter
And jelly

Then you take your sandwich
And you eat it,
You eat it
Then you take your sandwich
And you eat it,
You eat it

'Cause its good, peanut butter
And jelly
Good, peanut butter
And jelly

First you take the peanuts
And you crunch 'em,
Then you take the grapes
And you squish 'em,
Then you take the bread
And you spread it,
Then you take your sandwich
And you eat it

'Cause its good, peanut butter
And jelly
Good, peanut butter
And jelly!

11. A Peanut Sat on a Railroad
Track

Tune: Polly Wolly Doodle

A peanut sat
On a railroad track,
His heart was all a-flutter,

Round the bend
Came number ten.
Toot! Toot! Peanut butter!
SQUISH!

12. Picking Apples
Tune: Frère Jacques

Picking apples, picking apples,
'Til we're done, 'til we're done,
Picking all the apples,
Picking all the apples,
Til we're done, 'til we're done.

Climb a ladder, climb a ladder,
In a tree, in a tree
Hello, everybody;
Hello, everybody,
Look at me, look at me.

Making applesauce, making applesauce
Swish, swish, swish, swish, swish, swish
Pouring the applesauce,
Pouring the applesauce
In a dish, in a dish.

Eating applesauce, eating applesauce,
Yum, yum, yum; yum, yum, yum.
Eating all the applesauce,
Eating all the applesauce.
Now we're done, now we're done.

13. Pumpkins
For pottage and puddings
and custards and pies,
Our pumpkins and parsnips
are common supplies,
We have pumpkins at morning
and pumpkins at noon.

If it were not for pumpkins
we should be undoon.
—Pilgrim verse, circa 1630

13. Tomato Ketchup
If you do not shake the bottle
None'll come and then a lot'll.
—Anonymous