STORYLAND CLASSICS

FREE PRINTABLE ACTIVITY PACK

There Was an Old Woman Tossed Up in a Basket

A traditional Mother Goose nursery rhyme



For ages 4–8 ✦ Pre-K through 2nd grade

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✦ THE RHYME ✦

The Old Woman in a Basket

A Mother Goose rhyme about a sky-high old woman with a very important job



There was an old woman tossed up in a basket,
Seventeen times as high as the moon;
Where she was going I couldn't but ask it,
For in her hand she carried a broom.

"Old woman, old woman, old woman," quoth I,
"Where are you going to up so high?"
"To brush the cobwebs off the sky!"
"May I go with you?" "Aye, by-and-by."

Listen along. Scan to watch the Storyland Classics read-aloud, or visit *storylandclassics.com/basket*. Say the rhyme together until children can join in on every line.

TALK ABOUT IT

1. Where was the old woman going?
2. What was she carrying in her hand?
3. Why did she need a broom up in the sky?
4. If you could ride in her basket, what would you see?

ACT IT OUT

One child is the old woman, holding a pretend broom high. Everyone else calls "Old woman, old woman!" and she answers, sweeping the sky. Then the whole class sweeps away the cobwebs together!

> **Rhyme tip:** Ask the boy's question in a curious voice and answer in a cheerful old-woman voice. Children love taking the two parts.

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✦ COLOR IT ✦

Up, Up to the Moon

Color the old woman, her basket and broom, the moon and stars, and the boy watching from below.



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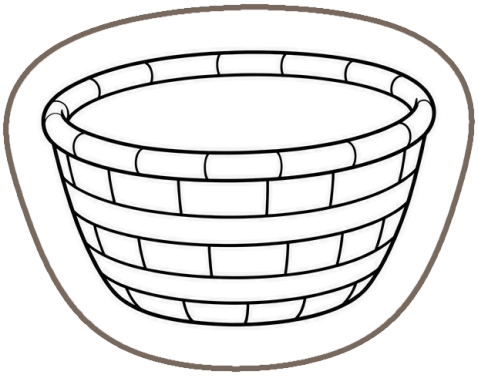
✦ CUT & PASTE CRAFT ✦

Into the Night Sky

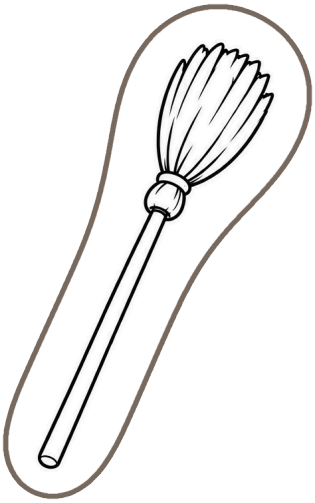
Color the pieces and cut them out. Then paste them in the night sky on the next page.



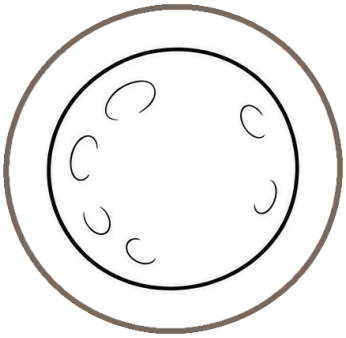
Old woman



Basket



Broom



Moon



Boy



House

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✦ CUT & PASTE CRAFT ✦

The Night Sky

*Paste the house at the **bottom** and the boy **next to** it. Put the old woman **in** her basket, **high above** the house. Give her the broom, and put the moon in the **top** corner.*



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✦ READING FUN ✦

Put the Rhyme in Order

Cut out the four lines. Say the rhyme, then paste each line in the right box.

1

2

3

4

✂ - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - cut on the dotted lines - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -



“To brush the cobwebs off the sky!”



There was an old woman tossed up in a basket,



“May I go with you?” “Aye, by-and-by.”



“Old woman, old woman, old woman,” quoth I,

Need a hint? The picture on each strip matches that line.

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✦ RHYME TIME ✦

Words That Rhyme

Rhyming words sound the same at the end, like I, high and sky.

1. These words are from the rhyme. Draw a line from each word to the picture that rhymes with it. *(Grown-ups: read the words aloud.)*

high	 fly
broom	 jacket
sky	 pie
basket	 moon

2. Circle the words that rhyme with *sky*.

high moon pie broom fly star my

3. Finish the rhyme. Write a word from the box on each line.

moon broom high sky

Seventeen times as high as the _____ ;

For in her hand she carried a _____ .

“Where are you going to up so _____ ?”

“To brush the cobwebs off the _____ !”

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✦ LISTEN & COUNT ✦

Count the Words

Words are the pieces of what we say. How many words can you hear?

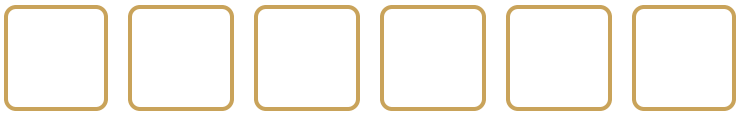
Say each one out loud. Clap once for every word. Color one box for each clap, then write how many words you heard.

an old woman



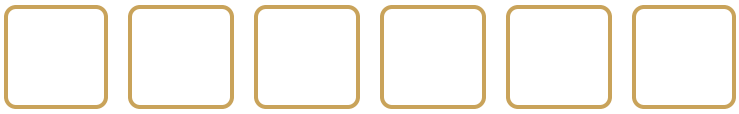
= ___ words

She flew up high.



= ___ words

a big round moon



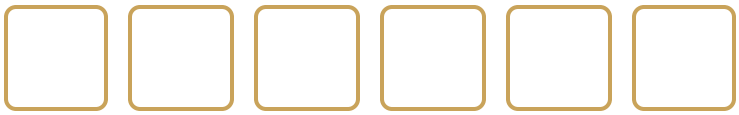
= ___ words

Brush the sky.



= ___ words

May I go with you?



= ___ words

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✦ READY TO WRITE ✦

Pencil Warm-Ups

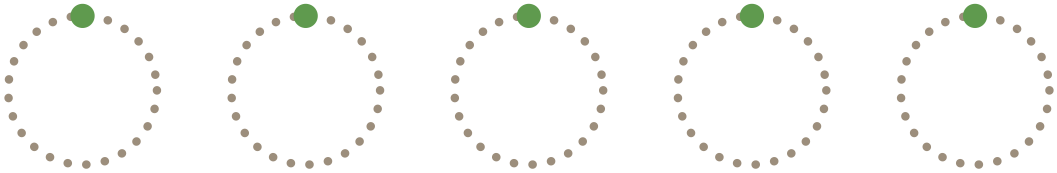
Hold your pencil with a pinch grip: thumb and pointer finger pinch, middle finger underneath.

Start at the **green dot**. Trace each dotted line with your pencil. Go from left to right, and from top to bottom.

BROOM BRISTLES: STRAIGHT DOWN



FULL MOON: ROUND AND ROUND



BASKET WEAVE: ZIG AND ZAG



WIND IN THE SKY: WAVY LINES



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✦ HANDWRITING ✦

Trace & Write

Practice writing words from the rhyme. Start at the top line and go down.

1. Trace over the gray letters. Then write the word on your own in the space beside it.

moon

broom

high

sky

2. Copy the line from the rhyme in your best handwriting.

To brush the cobwebs off the sky!

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✦ PUZZLE TIME ✦

Word Search

Find the words from the rhyme. Words go across and down. Check off each word when you find it.

S	G	H	I	G	H	E	V	R	V
R	J	U	S	T	A	R	M	O	E
F	W	O	M	A	N	W	D	U	L
C	O	B	W	E	B	M	Y	S	T
W	G	J	E	M	T	J	T	C	T
U	H	M	B	A	S	K	E	T	H
M	O	O	N	A	B	R	O	O	M
J	L	H	H	O	U	S	E	I	B
B	O	Y	O	I	N	J	O	F	N
D	F	S	K	Y	A	G	F	J	D

☆ ☆ ☆

☐ Woman ☐ Basket ☐ Moon ☐ Broom ☐ Sky

☐ High ☐ Star ☐ Cobweb ☐ Boy ☐ House

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✦ FOR GROWN-UPS ✦

Answer Key

TALK ABOUT IT

1. Up to the sky, seventeen times as high as the moon.
2. A broom.
3. To brush the cobwebs off the sky.
4. Answers will vary.

PUT THE RHYME IN ORDER

1. There was an old woman tossed up in a basket,
2. “Old woman, old woman, old woman,” quoth I,
3. “To brush the cobwebs off the sky!”
4. “May I go with you?” “Aye, by-and-by.”

RHYME TIME

1. high – pie, broom – moon, sky – fly, basket – jacket
2. high, pie, fly, my
3. moon, broom, high, sky

COUNT THE WORDS

an old woman = 3, She flew up high. = 4, a big round moon = 4, Brush the sky. = 3, May I go with you? = 5

WORD SEARCH

S	G	H	I	G	H	E	V	R	V
R	J	U	S	T	A	R	M	O	E
F	W	O	M	A	N	W	D	U	L
C	O	B	W	E	B	M	Y	S	T
W	G	J	E	M	T	J	T	C	T
U	H	M	B	A	S	K	E	T	H
M	O	O	N	A	B	R	O	O	M
J	L	H	H	O	U	S	E	I	B
B	O	Y	O	I	N	J	O	F	N
D	F	S	K	Y	A	G	F	J	D

BRING THE RHYME HOME

Watch the read-aloud at *storylandclassics.com/basket*, and find more nursery rhymes, stories, poems and free guides at **storylandclassics.com**.

Extend the fun: sweep the floor “like the old woman,” make a paper-plate moon, or count to seventeen together, one jump for each number.

Love this free pack? Please subscribe to our YouTube channel **@StorylandClassics** to help us keep making them free for everyone! Scan the code or visit *storylandclassics.com/youtube*.

KINDERGARTEN SKILLS IN THIS PACK

- **Listening & rhyme:** recognize rhyming words; count the words in a phrase (CCSS RF.K.2, RF.K.2a)
- **Print concepts:** left-to-right, top-to-bottom tracking; put the rhyme’s lines in order (RF.K.1a)
- **Pre-writing & handwriting:** pinch grip, lines, circles and diagonals, tracing and copying letters (L.K.1a)
- **Position words:** left, right, next to, in front of in the craft directions (L.K.1e)
- **Speaking & listening:** talk-about-it questions after the read-aloud (SL.K.2, RL.K.10)

These activities support kindergarten skills like those practiced in CKLA Kindergarten Skills Unit 1. Storyland Classics is not affiliated with Amplify or the Core Knowledge Foundation.

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