Act the Story

Hickory Dickory Dock
A Story Steps Script

We're sharing a Story Steps script for each story, alongside the videos so you can also bring the stories to life in your own way.

You might choose to always use the video, or you may sometimes prefer to lead the story yourself. While the videos include music and sound effects to enhance the atmosphere, acting out the story with these scripts offers its own unique benefits.

It gives you the flexibility to work outdoors, or in a space without an interactive whiteboard. You might want to act out the story with a smaller group while others are engaged in different activities. Plus, it offers another way of sharing the story with the whole group and getting your children used to acting out stories together.

However you choose to use these scripts, the goal remains the same, to invite children to explore, imagine, and move together.

How to Use This Script:

These scripts work just like the Story Steps videos, designed for the whole group to act out together.

Read a section of the story aloud, then use the purple prompts in brackets, to invite children to respond with actions or words.

Give the children time to respond and enjoy watching how they bring the story to life.

As with the acting out in Helicopter Stories, resist the urge to demonstrate the actions, just ask the children to move and see what happens. Children will find their own way to show the story; nothing they do is wrong.

Continue reading and acting, one section at a time.
The whole activity will take about 5 minutes.



Hickory Dickory Dock - A Story Steps Script

Hickory Dickory Dock,
The mouse ran up the clock.

Let's stand up and make ourselves into a tall grandfather clock.
Can you stretch your body up tall and straight, like an enormous clock?
Maybe one of your arms could be a long pendulum, swinging slowly from side to side.

Tick… tock…
Tick… tock…
Shall we all say that
Tick… tock…
Tick… tock…
Tick… tock…
Tick… tock…

Hickory Dickory Dock,
The mouse ran up the clock.

Now, we need to become the mouse.
Maybe we can crouch down low…
And Twitch our nose…
And twitch our whiskers
And wriggle our claws

And then we scurry around like a little mouse,
this way and that way.
And this way and that way.

Hickory Dickory Dock,
The mouse ran up the clock.



Hickory Dickory Dock - A Story Steps Script

Let's pretend that our little mouse has seen the clock
And we scurry over to it.

And then slowly, slowly, we start to climb up the tall grandfather clock.
Up… up… up…

Hickory Dickory Dock,
The mouse ran up the clock.
The clock struck one.
DONG!

Let's be the clock again. Stand up tall. Can you put both your arms up in front of your face, like the hands of the clock?

The clock struck one.
DONG!

Let's pretend that we're the mouse again and that we've scurried up to the top of the clock. Then we hear the clock strike one, and we freeze because we are very, very afraid. Can I see your scared little mouse faces?
You do look very scared.

The clock struck one.
DONG!
The mouse ran down,
Hickory Dickory Dock.

Suddenly, the mouse is running down the clock again
Let's scurry all the way back down.
Faster, faster!
Right the way down… until we reach the bottom.

