The Noble Duke of York
Oh, the noble duke of York, (bounce baby on your knee)
He had ten thousand men.
He marched them up to the top of the hill, (lift baby up high)
And marched them down again. (bring baby back down)
Oh, and when they’re up, they’re up. (lift baby up high)
And when they’re down, they’re down. (bring baby back down)
And when they’re only half way up, (hold baby only half as high)
They’re neither up nor down. (hold baby up, bring baby down)
He marched them to the left. (lean baby to the left)
He marched them to the right. (lean baby to the right)
He even marched them upside down. (gently turn baby upside down)
Now wasn’t that a sight! (bring baby back up)

Early Literacy Tip: Doing bouncing or clapping rhymes helps babies and toddlers feel the rhythm of the rhyme. This skill will help them pick up on syllables in words, which will help them learn to read.

Five Queens
There were five queens on a quest. (hold up baby’s hand)
To see who was the very best. (wiggle baby’s fingers)
The first queen went to take a test. (wiggle baby’s thumb)
The second queen said, I’ll go out west. (wiggle baby’s index finger)
The third queen climbed Mount Everest. (wiggle baby’s middle finger)
The fourth queen made a beautiful vest. (wiggle baby’s ring finger)
The fifth queen said, I’ll just take a rest. (wiggle baby’s little finger)

Finger Puppets
Use finger puppets to create your own story or retell one of your favorite fairy tale classics. Use the attached sheets to create your own!

My Very Own Folk and Fairy Tales
Write and put your own spin on myths, legends, “porquoi tales”, folk and fairy tales.
Read your stories to your family.

Fable: a short story, typically with animals as characters, conveying a moral.
Myth: traditional story, especially one concerning the early history of a people or explaining some natural or social phenomenon, and typically involving supernatural beings or events.
Legend: traditional story sometimes popularly regarded as historical but unauthenticated.
Porquoi Tales: a fictional narrative that explains why something is the way it is.
Folk: story originating in popular culture, typically passed on by word of mouth.
Fairy Tales: a children’s story about magical and imaginary beings and lands.
The Hiding Gnome Game
Use the templates attached to make the pieces for this game. Have your child color them, a good pre-writing activity.

To play the game:
Hide the gnome underneath one of the houses. Recite the rhyme below and ask your child to help find him. As they say their answers, lift up the houses until the gnome is revealed.

Oh my, oh dear, where has my little friend gone?
Won’t you come out and play along?
Where is he hiding, do you know?
Let’s take a look under the ______________ house. (let the children take turns guessing)

Jack & the Beanstalk
Read the attached tale of Jack & the Beanstalk, then challenge little engineers to build a parachute using household supplies to help Jack jump from the top of the beanstalk.

Supplies:
+ Coffee Filter
+ Plastic sandwich bag
+ Pipe Cleaners
+ Yarn
+ Paper
+ Toy or small figurine to add weight

Map Your Adventure
Every tale has a location. Create your own mystical and faraway land full of daring places or fascinating homelands. Will your map be home to mermaids and pirates or dragons and knights? Grab a piece of paper or poster board and get creative!

Don't forget your map and land will need a name!

Edible Fairy & Magician Wands Recipe (savingdollarsandsense.com)
+ 1 bag pretzel rods
+ 1/4 to 3/4 cup white chocolate chips (you could use any chips you’d like!)
+ 1-2 Tbsp coconut oil (shortening will work too)
+ sprinkles, candy, or anything else you’d like to decorate with

1) Pour chips and coconut oil in a small saucepan and heat until melted on low-medium heat, stirring continuously.
2) Once melted, spoon over pretzel rods and place on a wax-paper covered surface or a plate.
3) While they are still warm, decorate with sprinkles, candies, or whatever you’d like to decorate with.
4) Pop in the fridge to quickly harden your Fairy and Magician Wands.
5) Take out to eat and enjoy once they are hard, or about 10 minutes.

Mythical Creature Jokes
Share some of these jokes and riddles with your family, then write your own!

What do you call a wizard from outer space? A flying sorcerer!
How does a dragon see at night? With a knight light.
What should you say to a two-headed dragon? Bye-bye!
What do you get when a dragon sneezes? Out of the way
The Hiding Gnome Game
Color and cut out the gnome and houses. To expand trace and cut out more homes to hide the gnome.
Jack and the Beanstalk

One day, Mother sent Jack to sell the cow. Jack met a man and sold him the cow. The man gave Jack five magic beans.

Mother got mad when Jack showed her the beans. She needed money to buy food. Mother threw the beans out the window.

Jack ran to his room. He cried all night. The next day, Jack looked out the window. He saw a tall beanstalk!

Jack ran out to the beanstalk. It went high up into the sky. Jack climbed up the beanstalk. He saw a big castle at the top.

Jack went in the castle. He looked around. He saw a basket. It was full of golden eggs. Then Jack saw a goose. It was the goose that laid the eggs!

Just then, a giant came in. He saw Jack and roared, “Fee-fi-fo-fum! I’m going to eat you, little one!”

Jack was scared, but he moved fast. He grabbed the goose and the basket. Then down the beanstalk he went.

At the bottom, Jack cut down the beanstalk. Now the giant had no way to get to Jack!

Jack showed Mother the goose and eggs. She danced with joy. The goose would make them rich! Mother and Jack would never go hungry now!

Finger Puppets (woojr.com)
Color and print out