

# History of nursery rhymes

Want to find out the story behind the nursery rhyme? Check out this site to find out the history behind the most common nursery rhymes.

[http://nurseryrhymes.allinfoabout.com/boy\\_blue.html](http://nurseryrhymes.allinfoabout.com/boy_blue.html)

## Who will wake up little boy blue?

Little Boy Blue, come blow your horn,  
The cow's in the meadow, the sheep's in the corn.  
Where is the boy who looks after the sheep?  
He's under a haycock, fast asleep.  
Will you wake him? No, not I,  
For if I do, he's sure to cry.

## A shepherdly quote from Shakespeare

Shakespeare's King Lear, Act III, Scene VI:

"Sleepest or wakest thou, jolly shepherd?  
Thy sheep's in the corn;  
And for one blast of the minikin mouth  
Thy sheep shall take no harm."

(What is Shakespeare saying here?)

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## Golden Threads

by Dawn Wink

**G**olden threads, hilos de oro, of authors' voices weave throughout the tapestry of history, glinting and sparkling amidst the other worn threads - voices from the past lead us again and again to the real treasures to be found in literature and history. Treasures throughout history, acting as a shepherd, un pastor, guiding us toward courageous acts of teaching and learning.

So much of today's literature and focus in education focuses on reading that is one-dimensional, requiring none of the critical reflection that makes reading a joy! Reading becomes shallow when the focus is on reading words for the sake of decoding the sounds, instead of tapping into the rich depths of meaning, the subtleties of language, and the historical bearing a piece of literature brings with it. Many of Shakespeare's plays are histories, weaving lessons for humanity throughout. The plays bring to life the complexities of human nature. King

Lear's need for flattery steered him to give all of his riches to the two ungrateful daughters, while disinheriting the daughter who truly loved him. In Henry the 5th portrays the virtue of a king who does not pridefully and arrogantly take pride in his successes, but rather serves his people and gives thanks to God for good fortune. In a scene before the battle, the Henry walks alone reflecting on a king's responsibilities and his disgust for pompous ceremony. Shakespeare's writing reflects his perception of a crooked path the search for gold without human decency causes.

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The gold I want is not in a treasure chest that someone decides to hoard. I also can't find it in the many books that are filled with pictures and words, but without meaning, relevance, or reflection. The wise voices of the past reach out across the centuries to speak to us whenever we chance to come across their

crusade of words, diligently crafted with love, to convey messages through story. As we read with our children, as we read to ourselves, let us heed these whispers over the centuries. These whispers shepherding us toward true gold.

