



Grand Old Duke of York



Published by KidsWorldFun

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Oh the Grand old duke of York,
He had ten thousand men!
He marched them up to the top of the hill,
And he marched them down again!



And when they were up
they were up!!
And when they were
down they were down!
And when they were
only halfway up,
They were neither up
nor down!!

More about 'Grand Old Duke of York'

The Grand Old Duke of York is an ancient marching chant where the children are taught rhythm, movement and repetition. The song tells about Duke of York who took ten thousand men up and down the hill. Its words tend to be accompanied by body movements such as marching up and down to play the words. Such a rhyme is best to train coordination, motor skills and concept of direction (up and down). It may have historical precursors in the history of military English, but to the children of our time it is a rowdy or noisy rhyme. The teachers use it in the classrooms to make the kids active,

simultaneously, enhancing the sequence and listening skills. Its melody is catchy and it is a nursery classic all over the world.

FAQs with Answers

1. The Grand Old Duke of York. What is it?

A Duke, the troops up and down a hill.

2. Why is it fun for kids?

As they are permitted to walk and do it out.

3. What skills does it build?

Co-ordination, motor and sequence.

4. What age group suits it?

- Early primary and preschool children (3-7).

5. Is it just playful?

It is amusing and educative and it provides rhythm and direction.