



Co-funded by the  
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## ***Bobba at the beach - Intercultural awareness and understanding***

### **ACTIVITY 3: FIVE FRIENDS AT THE BEACH**

Objectives/ aims of activity (children will be able to):

- Explore cultural diversity through a shared childhood experience: fingerplays
- Encourage verbal and non-verbal communication skills
- Involve families and build bridges between home and school

Activity steps

- 1) The teacher introduces the finger rhyme “The five friends” (see below) using gestures only. Small faces drawn on each finger could represent “The five friends”. Children are encouraged to guess what the story might be about and imitate gestures. Next, the teacher reveals the full rhyme, supported by five small figures (one for each friend), country flags, and props such as a toy boat, a cork, or a pebble.
- 2) The finger rhyme can be expanded by integrating the names of children in the class and their countries of origin (e.g. This is Lina from Germany, she builds a castle by the sea. *Shaping a castle with both hands*) and language(s).
- 3) Together with the teacher, children place pushpins on a world map to show where each friend is from. A string connects each pin to the corresponding country's flag. This visual display highlights that while the children come from all over the world, fingerplays are a shared experience.
- 4) Parents are invited to the classroom to share fingerplays from their own childhood or cultural background. These can be recorded and added to the world map using QR codes, placed next to the flags. Together with the children, they can illustrate their own fingerplays or listen to and experience others from around the world. \*
- 5) Children can explore the fingerplay wall with rotating features each week (e.g. What was different or the same about the fingerplays we heard from other countries?)

Resources needed to carry out the activity

- Finger rhyme – Five friends at the beach

(Thumb)

This is Luca from Italy.

He builds a boat beside the sea.

(*Shaping a boat with both hands*)



(Index finger)

This is Lea from Luxembourg  
She rides the waves just like a cork.  
*(Hands up and down like floating)*

(Middle finger)

This is Noah from Switzerland  
He splashes water with both hands.  
*(Splashing motion)*

(Ring finger)

This is Zala from Slovenia  
She finds a pebble and says 'See ya'.  
*(Waving)*

(Little finger)

This is Eleni from sunny Greece  
She dances barefoot in the breeze.  
*(Wiggle fingers like dancing feet)*

(Both hands)

They laugh and play, hand in hand  
Five happy kids on the soft, warm sand.  
*(Two hands joining as a symbol of togetherness)*

\*Multilingual recordings should be encouraged to highlight language diversity

- 5 figures
- Flags
- Props (e.g. boat, cork, pebble)

Approximative time indication for activity: 15 minutes for each one