

Swan swam over the sea –
Swim, swan, swim.
Swan swam back again –
Well swum, swan.



What do caterpillars do?
Nothing much but chew and chew.
What do caterpillars know?
Nothing much but how to grow.
They just eat what by and by
will make them be a butterfly,
But that is more than I can do
however much I chew and chew.

caterpillar = Raupe
grow = wachsen
by and by = nach und nach
however much = wieviel auch



Jack and Judith, Jean and James,
Madge and George play jolly games.

jolly games = fröhliche Spiele

There was a little girl,
And she had a little curl
Right down the middle of her forehead.
When she was good,
She was very, very good –
But when she was bad, she was horrid.

curl = Locke
forehead = Stirn
horrid = schrecklich

Little Johnny, he's a fool:
When it's hot, he wants it cool,
when it's cool, he wants it hot –
Never pleased with what he's got.

pleased = zufrieden

A rabbit, a rabbit!
It robs our garden,
It nibbles our carrots –
Go grab it, go grab it,



Go catch it, go nab it.
Oh, that rascally rabbit!

rob = rauben
nibble = nippen
grab = ergreifen
catch = packen
nab = schnappen
rascally = schurkisch

When the wind blows,
the mill goes.
When the wind drops,
the mill stops.
Now the wind is blowing,
so the mill is going.
Blow wind, blow,
go, mill, go.

blow = wehen, blasen
mill = (Wind)mühle
drop = fallen (lassen)



If you ever, ever meet a grizzly bear,
You must never, never ask him where
He is going,
Or what he is doing.
For if you ever, ever dare
To stop a grizzly bear,
You will never, never meet another.
So take care.

ever = je
dare = (es) wagen
take care = Vorsicht!



Whether the weather is fine,
Or whether the weather is not,
Whether the weather is cold,
Or whether the weather is hot –
Whatever the weather,
We camp out together;
Now believe it or not.

whether = ob
whatever = was auch immer
together = zusammen
believe = glauben

There once was a girl from Peru
Whose Limericks stopped at line two.