

## **One Inch Tall**

If you were only one inch tall, you'd ride a worm to school.  
The teardrop of a crying ant would be your swimming pool.  
A crumb of cake would be a feast  
And last you seven days at least,  
A flea would be a frightening beast  
If you were one inch tall.

If you were only one inch tall, you'd walk beneath the door,  
And it would take about a month to get down to the store.  
A bit of fluff would be your bed,  
You'd swing upon a spider's thread,  
And wear a thimble on your head  
If you were one inch tall.

You'd surf across the kitchen sink upon a stick of gum.  
You couldn't hug your mama, you'd just have to hug her  
thumb.  
You'd run from people's feet in fright,  
To move a pen would take all night,  
(This poem took fourteen years to write--  
'Cause I'm just one inch tall).

## **Fun with Shel Silverstein's "One Inch Tall"**

- Read the poem (in file) with your child.
- Give your child an inch ruler or a small paper clip (these are generally 1 inch in size).
- Find as many things around the house, your room or in the yard that are about one inch long.
- Ask your child or have your child write what he could do if he were one inch tall that he can't do now. What could he do at home? At school? Outside? How about 2 inches? 6 inches? What would you not be able to do that you can do now?
- Your child could write their own poems from a different point of view, for example "ten feet tall" or "one mile long."
- Extension: Have your child use things around the house to build a house for a 1-inch tall person. Take a picture and email to your teacher!