



Did you know...



Music is a great tool for the development of language and listening skills. By participating in music activities, your child can expand their vocabulary and improve their attention span, concentration, and memory.

Singing helps children develop phonological awareness, which is the ability to hear the smallest sounds in letters and words. When you sing, syllables are broken apart and children can hear letter sounds and rhymes clearly.

You don't have to be a great singer to sing with your child. If you don't know melodies or words of familiar children's songs, there are a lot of websites you can refer to. You can also check out CDs and songbooks from your local library.



Here's how...

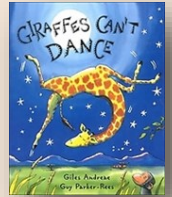


- ✦ Sing together — anytime or anywhere.
- ✦ Encourage your child to move to the music. Allow them to do this in their own way.
- ✦ Teach your child songs that you remember from your childhood.
- ✦ Make a game of listening to and repeating words, rhythms, or sounds. Listening will develop the ability to hear the sounds and patterns in letters and words.
- ✦ Make homemade instruments for your child to play as you sing or listen to music (see page 2).
- ✦ Clap the parts of the words as you sing them:
Twink-le Twink-le lit-tle star...

Read



Giraffes Can't Dance, **by Giles Andreae**



Gerald would love to join in with the other animals at the Jungle Dance, but everyone knows that giraffes can't dance... or can they?

Choosing Books



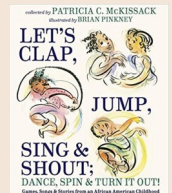
Books that Rock:

I've Got the Rhythm, by Connie Schofield-Morrison

Squeak, Rumble, Whomp! Whomp! Whomp!:
A Sonic Adventure, by Wynton Marsalis

Groovy Joe: Dance Party Countdown, by Eric Litwin

Let's Clap, Jump, Sing & Shout;
Dance, Spin & Turn It Out! by
Brian Pinkney (2018 Summer
Reading Illustrator)



Sing, talk, read, write, and play over the summer!

Visit your local public library to borrow some books, music CDs, and more. Most libraries offer storytimes and provide a place to meet other parents and let your child play. Library programs are free! Be sure to sign up for summer reading, where prizes can be earned for reading to your child.

This year's theme is



Talk



After reading a story, ask your child to go back and show you his favorite picture. Ask him why it is his favorite, and have him explain what is going on in the illustration.

Write



Help your child make a book of a favorite song: Staple several pages of paper together, and write one verse or sentence on each page, in large printed letters. Let your child illustrate it. Point to the words as you sing along together.



Play



Make homemade instruments with your child and play along with your favorite songs:

Drum: coffee can with lid or oatmeal tub

Maracas (shakers): water bottles or juice cans filled about 1/3 full with rice or dry beans. Seal the top with paper and tape.

Tambourine: Put a small handful of dry beans inside two aluminum pie pans or sturdy paper plates. Seal together with duct tape and shake.

Rhythm sticks: Hit two wooden spoons or pencils together.

Here is a fun action rhyme to use with your new maracas (shakers):

We're Going to Shake Our Shakers

<https://youtu.be/pyUa748xZAM>

“Birth2Six” YouTube Channel by Washington County Cooperative Library Services

Sing



Here We Go Looby Loo

Here we go looby loo,
Here we go looby light,
Here we go looby loo,
All on a Saturday night.

You put your right hand in.
You take your right hand out.

You give your hand a shake, shake, shake,
And turn yourself about.

Repeat...

You put your left hand in...

You put your right foot in...

You put your left foot in...

You put your right hip in...

You put your left hip in...

You put your whole self in...



You can hear this song at
[http://bussongs.com/songs/
here-we-go-looby-loo.php](http://bussongs.com/songs/here-we-go-looby-loo.php)



At your library...



Sign your child up for the library's summer reading program, where your family can attend fun programs, check out books and music, and earn prizes for reading. Libraries rock!