



## Helping your child with in EYFS.

**Environmental sounds:**

- Go on a listening walk - when walking down the road make a point of listening to different sounds- cars revving, people talking, birds singing, dogs barking. When you get home try and remember all the sounds you heard. You could try taping the sounds to listen to again or try reproducing them yourselves using your voice or instruments
- Make sounds using a range of found props such as running a stick along a fence, tapping on the bin lids
- Invent a secret family 'knock' for entering rooms
- Play sound lotto. Commercial sound lotto can be purchased from many children's toy stores but making your own from your sound walk would be far more rewarding.



**Instrumental sounds:**

- Make your own musical instruments using cardboard rolls, tins, dried peas, beans, stones. Shake these loudly, softly, as you are marching, skipping, stamping. Play Guess what's inside the instrument
- Sing known songs loud and then soft, stretch words in known songs and add new words or sounds
- Listen to range of music with your child from rap to classical. Encourage your child to move in response to the variety of musical styles and moods



**Alliteration (words that begin with the same sound)**

- Alliteration is a lot of fun to play around with; your child's name can be a good place to start e.g. Say Gurpreet gets the giggles, Milo makes music, Naheema's nose, Carl caught a cat, Jolly Jessie jumped, Tina is talking, encourage other family members to have a go eg Mummy makes marvellous muffins
- Emphasise alliteration in songs and stories i.e. 'Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers'
- Play around with familiar songs to emphasise alliteration such as 'Old MacDonald had some sheep, shoes, shorts, with a sh,sh here and a sh sh there'
- Identify the odd one out e.g. cat, cup, boy, car
- Make up little nonsense stories together using lots of alliteration
- Collect items from the park, the garden and around the house that start with the same sound
- When shopping think about items you are buying and say 'A tall tin of tomatoes!' A lovely little lemon!' Encourage your child to do the same

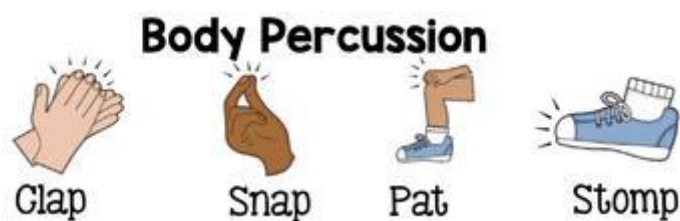
**Voice Sounds:**

- Repeat your infants vocalisations
- Make fun noises or nonsense words
- Say words in different ways (fast, slow, high, low, using a funny voice
- 'Sing' known songs using only sounds i.e. la, la, la and ask your child to guess the song
- Vary your tempo and pitch when reading stories
- Make voices for characters when reading stories
- Read or tell sound stories. Your local library or book store will be able to point out some very good books that encourage sound making as you read the story. This is huge fun and can involve all the family

**Rhythm and Rhyme:** • Get into the rhythm of our language; bounce your child on your knee to the rhythm of a song or nursery rhyme, march or clap to a chant or poem • Help your child move to the rhythm of a song or rhyme • Read or say poems, songs, nursery songs and rhyming stories as often as you can, try to use gestures, tap regular beats and pauses to emphasise the rhythm of the piece • Add percussion to mark the beats using your hands, feet or instruments • Try out some rhythmic chanting such as 'Two, four, six, eight, hurry up or we'll be late' or 'Bip bop boo, who are you?'

## Rhythm & Rhyme

**Body Percussion:** • Learn some action rhymes such as 'wind the bobbin up'. • Play some commercially produced tapes and CDs to clap along with familiar rhymes and to learn new ones. • Listen to the sounds your feet make when walking/running/skipping: slowly, softly, fast, stomping hard, in flip flops, boots, high heels • Different types of claps, Clap your hands softly, fast, make a pattern for your child to follow do the same clapping your thighs or stomping with your feet. Tap your fingers. Click your tongue • Invent a special family clap routine for when someone does something really well



**Performing** - Children love to show off any new skills or talents that they have. Performing is a great way of allowing them to do this and helps them to build confidence. Encourage your child to perform for you. Get involved! Perform with them. Sing songs together, have a go at using basic percussion instruments (drums, maracas, shakers, claves etc). You could make your own instruments (see below) and explore the sounds that they make. Use them to enhance your songs or you could use objects around your home (pans and spoons, plastic bins, spoons, bottles and dried beans etc.)

This website has some fantastic ideas for making your own instruments.

[make your own instruments](#)

**Creating and composing music** - You don't have to be an expert to create and compose music. Making music can be as simple as putting sounds together. From early years to adulthood, composing can be accessed at a range of levels. Young children can use the instruments mentioned above (see performing)



### Useful websites

Out of the Ark

[www.outoftheark.co.uk/oatam-at-home](http://www.outoftheark.co.uk/oatam-at-home)

Try: 'No Place Like...' to help you think about music in your home.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/ten-pieces/classical-music-kerry-andrew-no-place-like/z7k4f4j>

Try 'Connect It' for making music using body percussion.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/ten-pieces/KS2-anna-meredith-connect-it/zhyyb82>

Dippy the Explorer

<https://gmmusicHub.co.uk/events/>

Learn to sing our specially commissioned GM Music Hub Singing Challenge song - 'Dippy the Explorer'.

Ideas for activities linked to the song and Dinosaur music.

Creating music

<http://www.creatingmusic.com/>

<https://www.mydso.com/dso-kids/learn-and-listen> (learn and listen to instruments, info about composers, also you can make your own instruments)