

Action Songs

Singing songs with your child is an easy and fun interaction!

These are children's songs or nursery rhymes that have interactive actions such as finger play, hand and body movements and rhyming.

Songs are a playful way to learn language, develop shared attention, help memory skills, and help children follow instructions. Action songs and nursery rhymes are also great for supporting learning signs.

Children often enjoy 'filling in the gaps' if a word is missed out in a song, e.g. 'twinkle twinkle, little.....?'.

Here's some suggestions of songs to try – you can often find them on the internet if you don't know the tune, but remember to sing them together without the screen as well to help your child develop communication and interaction skills.

The Wheels on the Bus

The wheels on the bus go round and round
Round and round
Round and round.
The wheels on the bus go round and round
all day long



You can add any other verses you like!! Here's a few ideas but make some up with your child!

The wipers on the bus go swish, swish, swish...
The horn on the bus go beep, beep, beep...
The doors on the bus go open and shut...
The people on the bus go chatter, chatter, chatter...
The people on the bus go up and down...
The money on the bus goes, clink, clink, clink...
The driver on the bus says "quiet please"...
The babies on the bus go "wah, wah, wah"...

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Old MacDonald Had a Farm

Old MacDonald had a farm, e-i-e-i-o.
and on his farm he had a cow, e-i-e-i-o.
with a moo moo here, and a moo moo there
Here a moo, there a moo, everywhere a moo moo
Old MacDonald had a farm, e-i-e-i-o.



You can add any animals you like – try asking your child to suggest an animal!

Twinkle Twinkle

Twinkle, twinkle, little star, how I wonder what you are
Up above the world so high, like a diamond in the sky
Twinkle, twinkle little star, how I wonder what you are?



When the blazing sun is gone, when he nothing shines
upon
Then you show your little light, twinkle, twinkle, all the night
Twinkle, twinkle, little star, how I wonder what you are?

If You're Happy and You Know It...

If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands (*clap clap*)
If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands (*clap clap*)
If you're happy and you know it, and you really want to show it
If you're happy and you know it, clap your hands. (*clap clap*)



If you're happy and you know it, stamp your feet. (*stamp stamp*)
If you're happy and you know it, shout "Hooray!" (*hoo-ray!*)
If you're happy and you know it, do all three (*clap-clap, stamp-stamp, hoo-ray!*)

If You're Happy and You Know it is a brilliant song for adding in language –
you can choose absolutely anything you like!

Action Songs

Interactive Action Songs



These songs require physical contact and require children and adults to hold hands or clap together. Interactive action songs help children to develop a range of abilities for example fine and gross motor skills, hand eye co-ordination and communication skills such as listening, eye contact and co-operation.

Row, Row, Row Your Boat

Sit with your legs facing forward. Place your child in between your two legs, facing you, and hold hands. As you sing the song, pull them towards you and back.

Row, row, row your boat, gently down the stream
Merrily, merrily, merrily, merrily, life is but a dream.
Row, row, row your boat, gently up the creek
If you see a little mouse, don't forget to squeak!
Row, row, row your boat, gently down the stream
If you see a crocodile, don't forget to scream!
Row, row, row your boat, gently to the shore
If you see a lion, don't forget to roar!



Pat-a cake pat-a-cake

Pat your hands on your child's hands, or theirs on yours, as you sing.

Pat-a-cake, pat-a-cake, baker's man
Bake me a cake, as fast as you can.
Roll it and pat it, and mark it with B
And throw it in the oven, for baby and me.



Wind the Bobbin Up

Wind the bobbin up, wind the bobbin up,
Pull, pull, clap, clap, clap.
Wind it back again, wind it back again,
Pull, pull, clap, clap, clap,
Point to the ceiling, point to the floor,
Point to the window, point to the door,
Clap your hands together, 1, 2, 3,
Put your hands upon your knee.

