

Using Music and Rhymes

Music and rhymes are a fantastic way to engage your child and teach them a variety of new words and sounds. Music and rhymes also encourage children to watch, listen, imitate and make requests. They are also a great way to introduce the way words sound and enable children to explore the concept of rhyme.

Music and Rhymes are powerful as they immediately engage children and are repetitive in nature. This allows children the chance to hear key-words over and over again.

Tips

- ◆ Use songs and rhymes with your child from birth.
- ◆ Follow your child's lead. Sing the songs and rhymes that your child loves the most!
- ◆ Use actions that match what you are singing or saying.
- ◆ Go slow so that your child has a chance to copy you.
- ◆ Give your child plenty of praise for imitating actions or words even if they're not perfect.
- ◆ Think of songs and rhymes that match the activity you are doing.
- ◆ Make up your own songs and rhymes. Try to include your child's name to make them even more exciting.

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Using Songs and Rhymes

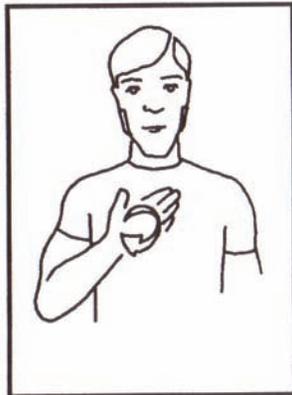
Key-word Signs

Using signs aids understanding by giving your child a visual cue. Remember to get your child's attention before you speak to them.

- Always say the word you are signing
- Only sign key-words
- Use signs all the time



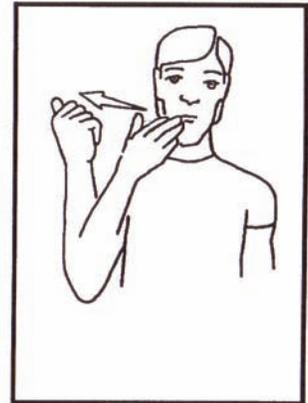
TO SING - Move tips of extended dominant index and middle fingers upwards from corner of mouth in two shallow arcs.



TO LIKE - Move open dominant hand in small circles on chest.



TO DANCE - Extend index and middle fingers of both hands, fingers pointing down. Drop formation in two short downward arcs.



BEAUTIFUL - Place open dominant hand at corner of mouth. While moving away from the body close to a fist with thumb extended

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