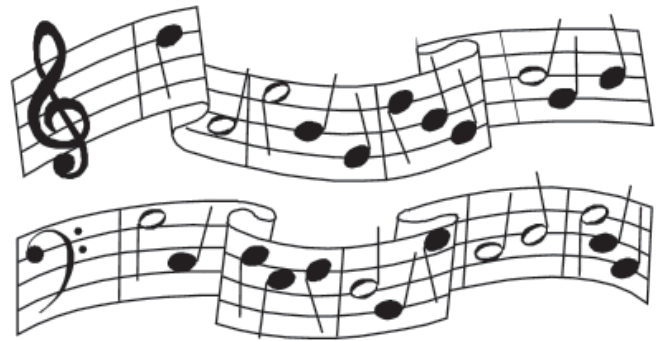


# Songs and Fingerplay

## Early Building Blocks of Communication

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- 🎵 *At first I may pay attention or listen carefully.*
- 🎵 *Next I will rock, clap and dance to the music.*
- 🎵 *Then I will use a few of the actions or gestures in the song.*
- 🎵 *Soon I will make vowel sounds or try to hum the tune.*
- 🎵 *Sometimes I will babble and practice some sounds.*
- 🎵 *Soon I will sing a few of the words.*
- 🎵 *Then I will sing a few of the phrases.*
- 🎵 *Someday I will sing the whole song.*



*Songs and fingerplays are a great way to draw attention to speech sounds, words and gestures:*

- 🎵 They are fun
- 🎵 Everyone can be included
- 🎵 Children can learn to copy
- 🎵 Actions and gestures can help teach the meaning of words
- 🎵 Rhythm and rhyme help children to remember the sounds, words and actions
- 🎵 Through repetition, children develop listening skills and learn new words and phrases

### *Remember:*

Connect the sounds, words and actions in songs with everyday activities and events. For example, sing and talk about “Old MacDonald’s Farm” when you see real or toy farm animals in books, videos and real life.



Change a song to make up your own song to link with your child’s daily activities. For example, to the tune of “Mulberry Bush”, sing: “This is the way we...

...brush our teeth...”  
...put on shoes...”  
...phone grandma...”