

Let's Connect!

Early Communication and Signs for Babies

Program Overview:

- Week 1: Basic Tips and Intro to Signs
- Week 2: Connecting through Signs
- Today : Connecting through Music
- Week 4 : Connecting through Books

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Connecting through Music and Building Imitation Skills

Music and Singing are opportunities for connection at any age.

Build imitation skills :

- 0-6 months: facial expressions
- 7-12 months: basic gestures (like clapping) and sounds
- 12 months and more: signs, sounds, and words

Repeat the song over and over! Once familiar, wait at key moments to give a turn.

01 Row, row, row your boat



Row, row, row your boat
Gently down the stream
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!

02 If you're happy & 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 you hands (clap, clap)



Stamp your feet (stomp, stomp)



Touch your nose (tap, tap)



Shout "horray!" (put hands up in the air)

03 The wheels on the bus

The wheels on the bus go round and round
(move hands in a circle),
round and round, round and round
The wheels on the bus go round and round,
All through the town.

Verses:

The people on the bus go up and down...
(Bump your knees up and down)

The door on the bus goes open and shut...
(Open and close your hands)

The horn on the bus goes "Beep beep beep" ...
(Pretend to honk a horn)

The babies on the bus go "Wah wah wah!" ...
(Pretend you're crying)

The mummies on the bus go "Sh sh sh!" ...
(Put finger up to lips)

The wipers on the bus go "swish swish swish"
... (move hands side to side like wipers)



04 Make up your own song!

Pick songs with a **SIMPLE MELODY**

With words and actions that **REPEAT**

For example, to the tune of "Frere Jacques":
Eating apples, eating apples,
Eat, eat, eat (plus sign for "eat")



Keep using basic strategies

When you practice singing, use these basic strategies:

- Face-to-face
- Wait! Give a turn
- Repeat, repeat, repeat

What types of songs?

- Simple melody with lots of repetition: ex. *Frere Jacques*
- Words/gestures that are meaningful: ex. *Functional signs*
- Make up a song to a familiar tune: ex. *For daily routines: eating, nursing, diaper*
- Add sound effects & gestures: ex. *"wee!", dapping, etc.*