



HELLO PARENTS,

Music is a universal language that knows no borders nor boundaries. It evokes similar feelings and emotions in humans across the globe. Regardless of their cultural backgrounds, the children react to chords, beats and melodies with spontaneous swaying, bouncing, clapping or stomping. Music boosts all areas of child development: intellectual, social, emotional, motor, language and literacy. It helps the body and the mind work together. Singing songs and nursery rhymes helps children learn and memorize the sounds and meanings of words. Dancing to the music enhances children's physical development and allows them to practice self-expression. In this newsletter, you will find ideas that will motivate your child to explore music in many ways.

ACTIVITIES

INFANTS (3 – 18 MONTHS)

GOOD NIGHT BABY

MATERIALS:

[Click here](#) to listen to "Lullaby and Good Night"
"Lullaby and Good Night" lyrics:

*Lullaby and good night
Now the day time is over
Time to slip up to your dreamland
I will keep you safe and warm*

*Lullaby and good night
There is nothing to fear
Lullaby and good night
When you wake I'll be near*

DIRECTIONS:

- Sing this or other lullabies to your child during bed time routine.
[Click here](#) for more music for your baby.

TODDLERS (19 MONTHS – 2.5 YEARS)

DRUM AND LISTEN

MATERIALS:

- Baking sheet
- Plastic container
- Wooden spoon

DIRECTIONS:

- Place the materials on the floor and invite your child to explore them.
- You can sing or move to the beat with your child while drumming.
- Leave the materials accessible for your child so they can use them during the day.

[Click here](#) for more information on singing with toddlers.

[Click here](#) to listen to music.

PRESCHOOLERS (2.5 – 5 YEARS)

MUSICAL DRAWINGS

MATERIALS:

- CDs or radio · Paper · Markers or pencils

DIRECTIONS:

- Choose three pieces of music with different tempo, mood and style (you can use the samples of music below).
- Ask your child to close their eyes and listen to the music.
- Play the pieces again encourage your child to create their different pictures inspired by each piece.
- Ask your child how the music makes them feel.

[Click here](#) for fast and upbeat music on bass; [click here](#) for slow and relaxing music on classical guitar and flute; and [click here](#) for dramatic music for violin and orchestra.

JK/SK (4 – 6 YEARS)

YOUR BODY IS A MUSICAL INSTRUMENT

DIRECTIONS:

- Ask your child what sounds they can make with their lips, tongues, teeth, hands, feet and other body parts.
- Take turns creating new sounds using different parts of the body and copying each other.
- It is a great way to experiment with sounds.

[Click here](#) and [here](#) to learn how to make music with your body

SCHOOL-AGERS (6 – 12 YEARS)

BE A COMPOSER

MATERIALS:

- Paper · Markers

DIRECTIONS:

- Create a list of symbols and indicate the sounds they represent (for example, a star means "clap", a circle means "stomp your foot", a triangle means "hit the table", and a square means "snap your fingers").
- Explore the different sounds and test how they work together in a sequence.
- Once you create a sequence of sounds that you like, write them down using the symbols.
- When you finish composing your piece, play it to your family or friends.

[Click here](#) to watch the animated story behind the "Four Seasons" by Antonio Vivaldi.

Click on the name of the instrument to hear what its sounds like: [ganun](#) from Syria; [santur](#) from Iran; [ukulele](#) from Hawaii; [oud](#) from Middle East; [flute](#) from Japan, [nogni](#) from Mali; [erhu](#) from China; and [morin khuur](#) from Mongolia.



Immigration, Refugees
and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés
et Citoyenneté Canada

A TIP FOR TODAY

- Encourage your child to listen to different kind of music (pop, classical, folk, native, etc.)
- Repeat the songs often.
- Explore different musical instruments.
- Make different vocal sounds and encourage your child to copy you or make their own sounds.
- Move to the music.