

Basic Foundations

Three to Five — Music

Music is “the universal language.” Through music, children learn respect for other cultures. Music can help children broaden their understanding of each other.

(Mitchell, A. and David, J. (Eds.), 1992; Palmer Hap, 2001)

Music Appreciation



Young children are learning when they —

- * Smile or laugh when music is played—at a very young age, children decide what type of music they enjoy and are not afraid to show excitement when listening.
- * Sing along to familiar songs—learning the words is important to a child. They want to enjoy the song in every way.
- * Clap hands and begin to clap in rhythm—children will start clapping, and in time, without realizing it, they have learned the rhythm.
- * Move in various ways to enjoy the music—they will dance, sway, tap toes, jump, and hop to the music alone or with others.



Adults are being supportive when they —

- * Make music an integral part of the day—listening to music with your child is important. They need to see and hear that you appreciate music, too.
- * Use a variety of music—children need to be introduced to all types of music such as classical, jazz, pop, country and especially children’s music.
- * Delight in music with young children—it encourages your child to want to listen to music if they see how much you enjoy music also.
- * Recognize the individual differences reflected in each child’s musical preferences—not all children will like the same type of music or the music you prefer to listen to. Give them plenty of opportunities to listen to the types of music they enjoy.

Websites for Fun and Ideas—

www.fun.familyeducation.com

www.preschoolexpress.com

www.abchomepreschool.com

www.nurseryrhymes4u.com

Based on the
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for Young Children from Birth to Age 5
Developed by the Indiana Department of Education
and Family and Social Services Administration,
Division of Family Resources, Bureau of Child Care

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