Tuning into Music

Toddlers (1-2 years old)

Listen! Make! Move!

Try some music fun at home

- Sing to your toddler. Sing together. Sing in any language.
- Try bouncing rhymes and finger songs. Here are some examples: Where is Thumbkin?; Whoops, Johnny!; Zoom, Zoom, Zoom.
- Dance together while you listen to music.
- Make music by banging spoons on pots or shaking bells.
- Make a simple musical instrument. Here's an easy one: Partly fill a small clear plastic bottle with dried beans, buttons, jingle bells or other small objects. Tape the lid closed. Shake to make music.

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Toddlers are busy learning while they're having fun. By listening, making and moving to music with toddlers, you are helping them to:

- Learn more words
- Practice saying or singing words
- Improve their physical coordination
- Develop their memory as they repeat familiar songs
- Have fun with you!



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What you may notice

Toddlers don't always sing in tune, clap or dance in rhythm, or remember all the words in a song; they are just beginning to learn and practice these skills. They may be happy to watch and listen and that's okay. Toddlers like to hear the same songs over and over again, and the repetition helps them learn.

Enjoying listening, making and moving to music together will help make tuning into music a good experience for your toddler.

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