

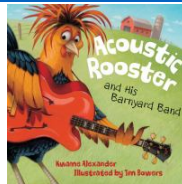
Fun with Music Activity Guide



Music is all around us! We sing lullabies to babies, watch toddlers create rhythms by banging on pots and pans and we all dance along to our favorite songs. Studies show that musical experiences for young children actually increase their brain development, especially their language and reading skills, while also building motor skills allowing the mind and body to work together.

It's easy to explore music with your young child at home. Singing songs with your child helps slow down language and helps them hear the smaller sounds that make up words. Make a simple rhythm instrument by filling an empty jug mug or plastic beverage bottle with dried beans, rice or pasta. Decorate the outside of the bottle with stickers and make sure the cap is secured with child proof tape. Play some favorite tunes and have a family dance party!

Enjoy some jazzy fun with this read-aloud-[Acoustic Rooster and His Barnyard Band by Kwame Alexander](#)



Want to learn more? Check out these titles from the Saint Paul Public Library!

[Salsa Lullaby by Jen Arena](#)

[Astrid & Apollo and the Happy New Year by V.T. Bidania](#)

[Bowwow Powwow by Brenda Child](#)

[Drum Dream Girl by Margarita Engle](#)

[I Will Dance by Nancy Bo Flood](#)

[Accordionly by Michael Genhart](#)

[Salam Alaikum by J Harris](#)

[I Got the Rhythm by Connie Schofield-Morrison](#)

[The Wheels on the Tuk Tuk by Surishtha Sehgal](#)

[Libba by Laura Veirs](#)

