



Singing Pack



Early literacy tip:

Singing slows down language and allows children to hear the smaller sounds in words. This helps them sound out words when they learn to read.

Books:

- *The Farm that Mac Built* by Tammi Sauer
- *Pokko and the Drum* by Matthew Forsythe
- *The Wheels on the Bus* by Jane Cabrera

Activities:

- Musical Instrument Set
- Otamatone

Suggestions for how to interact with these books and activities:

- Use your instruments to shake or tap out the syllables in words. Start by modeling your names. Then try it with other common words. For instance, if the word is butterfly, you would tap or shake three times for “but-ter-fly.” Slowing language down helps your child recognize words are made up of smaller parts.
- While reading the book *Pokko and the Drum*, pull out an instrument of your choice and play your instrument at the appropriate times in the book. Practice following directions by doing what the book tells you to do. When the drumming gets louder, play louder and when the drumming stops, get very quiet and then stop.
- After you read *The Wheels on the Bus* by Jane Cabrera, sing it through slowly the second time while pointing to the words. This allows children to hear the smaller parts in words that helps them later on when they’re learning to read.
- Practice learning about opposites with your child as they play the instruments in your bag. Tell them to play the instrument fast or slow, loud or soft, up in the air or down on the ground.



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Practice at home:

Practice singing nursery rhymes with your child. Nurseryrhymes.org is a great resource for finding the words to your favorite nursery rhymes like Row, Row, Row your Boat, Twinkle Twinkle Little Star, or If you're Happy and you Know. Sing as slow as you need to make sure they're hearing each word correctly and repeating it back to you.