



Early Years Home music ideas from Coventry Music's Early Years team



Dear Parents and Carers

Here at Coventry Music we understand that you will want to continue, wherever possible, to provide your children with a varied, interesting and engaging selection of activities while they are not at school or unable to attend their regular Early Years Childminder, Playgroup or Nursery. Please consider including music within your day as musical learning ignites all areas of child development. Singing with your children while they are at home will promote skills such as listening, turn-taking and co-operation. It is also a great tool to get children moving, encourages creativity and sparks imagination and it has been proven to improve vocabulary and speech acquisition.

Above all though, music is a wonderful way of expressing oneself and conveying emotion. Singing releases endorphins, the brain's 'feel-good' chemicals and we all need a bit of this at the moment. I have made a list of a few songs that you may be able to sing with your little ones at home – keep checking the website as I will be updating these song suggestions – the next group of songs to be added will include songs about weather, transport and food. In addition to singing with your child you could also

- Make up actions to your favourite songs
- Have a go at making your own musical instruments at home or, simply using wooden spoons or saucepans, find the heartbeat of the music (which we call the pulse) within each song, and tap along
- Choose familiar tunes like 'Twinkle Twinkle Little Star' or 'Frere Jacques' and try and make up your own words to fit in with an activity you have enjoyed with your child
- Children are used to having songs in their nurseries/playgroups/schools to signify certain times of the day or particular activities – you could try and make up a tidy up song, a washing hands song, or a lunchtime song
- Encourage your child to listen to various different styles of music from different times periods in history, different countries and different genres
- Use the items you have to hand like your child's toys, any pieces of material you may have, play dough or water to encourage musical play.
- Encourage your child to teach you a song they know
- Include older siblings – they might enjoy it more than you first think!

| NUMBER | GENERAL | SPRINGTIME |
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| <p>1,2,3,4,5 once I caught a fish alive 6,7,7,8,9,10 then I let it go again. Why did you let it go? Because it bit my finger so Which finger did it bite? This little finger on the right. https://youtu.be/9DhrqXCVHVk</p> | <p>Wind the bobbin up Wind the bobbin up Pull, pull, clap, clap, clap, Wind it back again Wind it back again Pull, pull, clap, clap, clap Point to the ceiling, point to the floor Point to the window, point to the door Clap your hands together 1,2,3 Put your hands upon your knee https://youtu.be/WwdxJnAA6CI</p> | <p>There's a tiny caterpillar on a leaf (wiggle wiggle) There's a tiny caterpillar on a leaf (wiggle wiggle) There's a tiny caterpillar, tiny caterpillar There's a tiny caterpillar on a leaf (wiggle wiggle) She will eat the leaves around her till she's full (munch munch) etc...</p> |
| <p>5 little ducks went out one day Over the hills and far away Mother duck said' "Quack quack quack quack" And only 4 little ducks came back. (and so on) https://youtu.be/pZw9veQ76fo</p> | <p>When Goldilocks went to the house of the bears Oh what did her blue eyes see? A bowl that was huge, a bowl that was small and a bowl that was tiny and that was all She counted them 1,2,3 <i>Same again for chair</i> <i>Same again for bed</i></p> | <p>A cocoon is what she's spinning for her home (spin spin) etc... Then she'll be a butterfly and fly away (flap flap) etc... So this tiny caterpillar went like this (wiggle, wiggle, munch, much, spin, spin, flap, flap) https://youtu.be/A-zQ82yN68I</p> |
| <p>5 currant buns in a baker's shop Round and fat with a cherry on the top Along came '.....' with a penny to pay Bought a currant bun and took it away. https://youtu.be/-mi79hRcSXI</p> | <p>When Goldilocks ran from the house of the bears Oh what did her blue eyes see? A bear that was huge, a bear that was small and a bear that was tiny and that was all They growled at her grrrr... grrrr... grrrr! https://youtu.be/PFXE3zvXbjc</p> | <p>Chick, chick, chick, chick, chicken Lay a little egg for me Chick, chick, chick, chick, chicken I want one for my tea I haven't had an egg since breakfast And now it's half past three so...</p> |
| <p>5 cheeky monkeys jumping on the bed One fell off and bumped his head Mummy called the doctor and the doctor said, "No more monkeys jumping on the bed!" (and so on) https://youtu.be/0j6AZhZf7A</p> | <p>When all the cows were sleeping And the sun had gone to bed Up jumped the scarecrow and this s what he said I'm a Dingle dangle scarecrow With a floppy floppy hat I can shake my hands like this I can shake my feet like that</p> | <p>Chick, chick, chick, chick, chicken Lay a little egg for me https://youtu.be/BUBq5RslYDq</p> |
| <p>5 little men in flying saucer Flew round the world one day They looked left and right And they couldn't stand the sight So one man flew away (and so on) https://youtu.be/7_1-TrP9jwA</p> | <p>When all the hens were roosting And the moon behind the cloud Up jumped the scarecrow and shouted very loud</p> | <p>There's a worm at the bottom of the garden And its name is Wiggly Woo There's a worm at the bottom of the garden And all that it can do Is wiggle all night and wiggle all day Whatever else the people do say There's a worm at the bottom of the garden and its name is wiggly woo. https://youtu.be/XKQemb4mEmE</p> |
| <p>1 potato, 2 potato, 3 potato 4 5 potato, 6 potato, 7 potato more https://youtu.be/efMHLkyb7ho</p> | <p>I'm a dingle dangle scarecrow...</p> | |

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| <p>Peter hammers with one hammer One hammer, one hammer Peter hammers with one hammer All day long (and so on) https://youtu.be/iFmiz3cvCcY</p> <p>When I was one I played the drum The day I went to sea I jumped aboard a pirate ship and the captain said to me We're going this way, that way, forwards, backwards, Over the Irish sea A bottle of rum to fill my tum And that's the life for me!</p> <p>When I was two I buckled my shoe... When I was three I grazed my knee... When I was four I knocked on the door... When I was five I learned to dive... https://youtu.be/iFmiz3cvCcY</p> | <p>https://youtu.be/CtRgy-8Q0SE</p> <p>I'm a little teapot short and stout Here's my handle Here's my spout When the tea is ready hear me shout Tip me up and pour me out. https://youtu.be/ZxOaZzoPIJ4</p> <p>Oh The grand old Duke of York He had ten thousand men He marched them up them up to the top of the hill And he marched them down again And when they were up, they were up And when they were down, they were down And when they were only half way up They were neither up nor down. https://youtu.be/cPZDzc-tmu0</p> <p>Tommy Thumb, Tommy Thumb Where are you? Here I am, here I am How do you do? <i>Repeat for Peter Pointer</i> <i>Repeat for Middle Man</i> <i>Repeat for Ruby Ring</i> <i>Repeat for Baby Small</i> <i>Repeat for fingers all</i> https://youtu.be/Nj3QkN6mHbM</p> <p>Head, shoulders, knees and toes Knees and toes Head, shoulders, knees and toes Knees and toes And eyes and ears and mouth and nose Head, shoulders, knees and toes Knees and toes <i>Then repeat but missing out head</i> <i>Then repeat but missing out head and shoulders</i> <i>Then repeat but missing out head, shoulders and knees</i> <i>Then repeat but missing out head, shoulders, knees and toes</i></p> | <p>The farmer plants the seeds The farmer plants the seeds Hi ho the dairy-o The farmer plants the seeds <i>Repeat for The sun comes out to shine</i> <i>Repeat for The rain begins to fall</i> <i>Repeat for The seeds begin to grow</i> <i>Repeat for The vegetables are here</i> <i>Repeat for The farmer digs them up</i> <i>Repeat for Now it's time to eat</i> https://youtu.be/cRhG0dqWllo</p> <p>Peter Rabbit had a fly upon his nose Peter Rabbit had a fly upon his nose Peter Rabbit had a fly upon his nose So he flipped it and he flapped it And the fly flew away Floppy ears and curly whiskers Floppy ears and curly whiskers Floppy ears and curly whiskers So he flipped it and he flapped it And the fly flew away https://youtu.be/h8jrmf5xqlA</p> <p>Little birdies in the air Sing like birdies everywhere Little birdies like to sing Sing a song of Spring, Spring, Spring</p> <p>Little birdies in the trees Hear them singing in the breeze Little birdies on the wing Sing a song of Spring, Spring Spring</p> <p>Oh when those birdies come to town Tweet tweet tweet they flap around They sing and dance on birdie feet Tweet tweet tweet that Springtime beat</p> <p>Little birdies come along Sing your favourite Springtime song Little birdies time to sing Sing that song of Spring, Spring, Spring</p> <p><i>Call and response middle section</i> <i>Repeat from beginning</i> https://youtu.be/njojasDTi4</p> |
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| | <p><i>Then repeat with all of the words out back in.</i></p> <p>https://youtu.be/fvEtwhui1k0</p> <p>Down in the jungle where nobody goes I saw an elephant washing his clothes With a rub-a-dub here and a rub-a-dub there That's the way an elephant washes his clothes Diddly-eye-di boogie woogie woogie Diddly-eye-di boogie woogie woogie Diddly-eye-di boogie woogie woogie That's the way an elephant washes his clothes</p> <p><i>Repeat for crocodile</i> <i>Repeat for snake</i> <i>Repeat for monkey</i> <i>Repeat for lion</i></p> <p>https://youtu.be/rVqIZ_-akvw</p> | |
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Please don't think you have to be a virtuoso musician to effectively deliver musical learning wherever you are. You are probably doing most of this already without even thinking about it. Above all, enjoy sharing music within your homes.

Here some links to other music activities you may interested in.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/school-radio/nursery-rhymes-songs-index/zhwgdqwx>

<https://www.soundabout.org.uk/>

<http://www.musicandmovement.org.uk/learning-resources>

<https://www.outoftheark.co.uk/ootam-at-home/>

Happy singing everyone!

Vicky Clayton
Music Engagement Officer (Early Years Co-Ordinator)
Coventry Music



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