

Musical Sounds Teach Children Important Skills

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Music activities and experiences help children practice important skills, including thinking, language, motor coordination and understanding emotions.

Playing with sounds teaches children new thinking skills. When they play with anything that makes noise, they explore cause and effect: strike a pipe and it makes a sound; Strike a differently-sized pipe, and it makes a different sound, so they learn to try other materials to see if they respond the same way.

Research says that gestures accompanying vocal sounds varying in pitch and rhythm predated the spoken language, so children are wired to respond to the cadence and rhythm of language, and to associate sounds with words. Music and singing helps children practice words, understand the rhythmic structure of sentences, and learn by memorizing.

Humans are the only mammals who can synchronize music and movement by converting the sensation of sound to motor responses! Connecting movement of fingers, arms, legs, and the body to music helps children practice fine motor coordination.

Lastly, routines like cleaning up, taking naps, or ending the day, or transitions from one activity to another are easily signaled by music, and whether it's quiet or loud, or soft or energetic can get children "in the mood" for the next phase of their day.

Listening to music, singing songs, and playing instruments provide critical learning opportunities to children of all ages!

[Our wooden xylophone is on spring sale!](#)