

I Taught My Child Today...

by enjoying music together.



Ideas to Promote Musical Experiences

- Put on music and dance to a jazzy tune.
- Expose your little one to many types of music. Keep the volume soft to medium.
- Play music with the sounds of nature at naptime or bedtime. This will be relaxing and help with falling asleep. It is also soothing to a fussy baby.
- Sing to your infant or toddler. It doesn't matter how well you sing. They love to hear the rhythms, patterns and tones of your voice.
- Sing lullabies and sway to the beat.
- Assist your toddler to make music by banging or patting on a drum or a cooking pot turned upside down, by tapping sticks together or shaking a small, closed container with a small amount of cereal in it.
- Make up a song by using your own words to an old familiar tune. Add clapping and chanting for variety.
- Take toddlers to a family friendly outdoor concert.

With parents as first teachers for their infants and toddlers, the amount of teaching and learning taking place during shared musical activities is enormous. Little ones are bonding with family members. They are learning new vocabulary words as part of literacy development. They are responding emotionally to soothing sounds and new sounds, energetic beats, mathematical rhythms and patterns. Coordination develops as they add movement to the music. They learn new concepts through the singing of songs. Most of all they have musical fun together. Music is a creative teaching tool.

Resource: www.babycenter.com

Infancy Leadership Circle/Erie:

A Project of New York Zero-to-Three Network —Raising Voices For Babies