

## Sing-a-long With A Story

Singing songs, exploring instruments and moving to music are all fantastic fun for children. But that's not all . . . they are great ways to develop vocabulary, coordination, an understanding of rhyme, an awareness of rhythm and are a simple way of having quality time with your little ones.

During June 2012 we are featuring three fantastic books that encourage you to *Sing-a-long With A Story*. Each book can be read as a story but as a bonus they all come with a CD that puts their story to music. We hope these songs inspire you to get musical with your children.

Music and movement activities can be easily incorporated into library and play group Story Time sessions and they are great fun for mum and dad to share with their children at home.

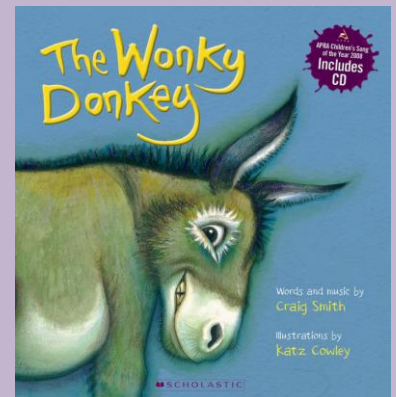
Here are some ideas to get you started:

Provide opportunities to explore and experiment with voice, instruments and sound.

- Have fun 'playing' with your voices. Make your voices high/low, loud/soft and fast/slow.
- Find or make instruments that sound high and low.
- Have fun with your instruments. Encouraging children to play fast and slow and loud and soft is great for their auditory discrimination as well as learning how to follow instructions.
- What things make sound? Go on a treasure hunt finding things that you can use to make music. Try rustling leaves and banging wooden blocks, your imagination is the limit as to what objects can make sound.
- Pots and pans and wooden spoons make an excellent band. Consider investing in some cheap saucepans from a charity or bargain shop and use them for a permanent outdoor musical experience.
- Make your own musical instruments out of recycled materials.

Think about offering your child the different roles of composer, performer and audience member.

- Copy the movements and music that the children create.
- Move around the room together to a steady beat.
- Encourage children to actively listen to music.



### Notes

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You can:

- Clap to the beat
- Talk about what instruments you hear
- Discuss if the music is fast/slow etc...
- Sing along to the chorus.

Do you have a repertoire of songs and rhymes that you can spontaneously sing with children? Aim to learn and add a new song or rhyme each week to your collection.

- *Play School* provides a wonderful array of songs and rhymes presented in a fun and meaningful way. Watching quality television with your children and discussing what you are watching helps children gain something from the experience. Don't be afraid to write down the names of the songs or the words to the songs so you can share them again later.

What types of music do you and your children listen to? If you have had enough of listening to the same children's CD's over and over why not introduce them to some other genres, there is a whole world of pop, classical, country, jazz etc . . . to explore.

We are sure that your children are aware of the printed word in books and that these words make a story. But what about musical notation? You don't have to be able to read music yourself to introduce your children to musical symbols.

## RESOURCES

Over the years LBBC has developed a variety of resources to help you share rhymes, songs and play with your little ones. We have linked our favourite ones here.

Find out all about the orchestra with our Learning Time resource based on the book *The Flying Orchestra*

[http://www.thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/sites/thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/files/files/title\\_resource/the\\_flying\\_orchestra\\_learning\\_time.pdf](http://www.thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/sites/thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/files/files/title_resource/the_flying_orchestra_learning_time.pdf)

Help the musicians find their instruments with this free printable

[http://www.thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/sites/thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/files/files/title\\_resource/the\\_flying\\_orchestra\\_activity\\_time.pdf](http://www.thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/sites/thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/files/files/title_resource/the_flying_orchestra_activity_time.pdf)

Instructions for making drums, shakers and cymbals can be found here

[http://www.thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/sites/thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/files/files/title\\_resource/donald\\_loves\\_drumming\\_activity\\_time.pdf](http://www.thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/sites/thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/files/files/title_resource/donald_loves_drumming_activity_time.pdf)

Our *Donald Loves Drumming* Learning Time resource has lots of great musical activities to share with children

[http://www.thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/sites/thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/files/files/title\\_resource/donald\\_loves\\_drumming\\_learning\\_time.pdf](http://www.thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/sites/thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/files/files/title_resource/donald_loves_drumming_learning_time.pdf)

Make your own bus so you can sing *The Wheels on the Bus* together

[http://www.thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/sites/thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/files/files/title\\_resource/the\\_wheels\\_on\\_the\\_bus\\_activity\\_time\\_no\\_2.pdf](http://www.thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/sites/thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/files/files/title_resource/the_wheels_on_the_bus_activity_time_no_2.pdf)

Then use these wonderful prop templates for acting out *The Wheels On The Bus*

[http://www.thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/sites/thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/files/files/title\\_resource/the\\_wheels\\_on\\_the\\_bus\\_activity\\_time.pdf](http://www.thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/sites/thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/files/files/title_resource/the_wheels_on_the_bus_activity_time.pdf)

Make your own Jack and Jill and watch them roll down the hill

[http://www.thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/sites/thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/files/files/title\\_resource/gen\\_rolling\\_kids.pdf](http://www.thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/sites/thelittlebigbookclub.com.au/files/files/title_resource/gen_rolling_kids.pdf)

