

IDEAS TO ENCOURAGE LANGUAGE AS YOU LISTEN TOGETHER TO MUSIC

Listen to Music Together



1. Relax and take time to listen to all kinds of music together, Try not to be judgmental.
2. Talk about the different types of music. *Is the music fast? Is the music slow? Is it soft? Is it loud?*
3. Try to match the rhythms of the music by tapping on legs, tapping feet, dancing or even beating a pot with a wooden spoon.
4. Pretend to be different animals that match the mood of the music. Talk about why the animal matches the music.
5. Dance with your child to the rhythms of the music. Snuggle your child close as you move together. When the music is fast, move fast. When the music is slow, move slowly. Talk about why you moved a particular way.
6. Talk about the words you hear in songs. *Why do you think the words were chosen? What might be the meaning of the song?*
7. Make up words to classical or wordless, orchestral music.
8. Draw a picture depicting the meaning or mood of a song or musical piece.
9. Discuss where music may have been created. Talk about that place.
10. Discuss when music may have been created. Talk about that time period.
11. Make rhyming words or silly words for songs you hear.
12. Listen for the rhyming words within children's songs.
13. Make your own kind of music.
14. Make up songs while driving in the car. Take turns saying a line to a song.
15. Make up songs about particular happenings in your lives. Sometimes this makes scary situations more tolerable, especially if you can find something positive.
16. Play different musical instruments.
17. Create musical instruments from objects around the house. Many different objects can be used to make rhythm.
18. Create your own kind of "Stomp" show or band - making up rhythms.
19. Be quiet and listen carefully for everyday sounds. *Can you hear patterns? Can you hear rhythms?* After several minutes, discuss what was heard.
20. Enjoy the music together. Music expands the brain and our very well being!

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