



## Singing

- ★ Songs help children develop listening skills and pay attention to the rhythms and rhymes of spoken language.
- ★ Most songs have a different note for each syllable. This helps children break down words so they hear individual sounds in a word.
- ★ Singing also slows down language so children can hear different parts of words and notice how they are alike and different.
- ★ Clapping along to rhythms helps children hear the syllables in words and helps them improve motor skills.
- ★ Singing also helps children learn new words and adds to their general knowledge.

### **Making Music with Words**

Music can help your child learn to read. Check out music CDs created especially for kids. Listen to music with your child. Sing along to the radio. Learning words to songs is one more way to help strengthen kids' use of language. Read non-fiction stories about the lives of real musicians. Take in a concert. School and community bands often hold concerts. Take your child to a performance and enjoy the music.

*Reading Is Fundamental*

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Many of the facts and tips that you will read throughout this packet are taken from the Every Child Ready to Read project from the American Library Association.

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